

# TODAY'S MASS

3rd September 2023

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5

**Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.  
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of mercy to all who call to you.**

## THE COLLECT

God of might, giver of every good gift,  
put into our hearts the love of your name,  
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,  
you may nurture in us what is good  
and, by your watchful care,  
keep safe what you have nurtured.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 20:7-9  
You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let  
myself be seduced;  
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.  
I am a daily laughing-stock,  
everybody's butt.  
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl  
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!  
The word of the Lord has meant for me  
insult, derision, all day long.  
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,  
I will not speak in his name any more.'  
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,  
imprisoned in my bones.  
The effort to restrain it wearied me,  
I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Ps 62:2-6.8-9. R. v2

**R) For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R)**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. **(R)**

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R)**

For you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast. **(R)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you,  
in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living  
bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model

yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let  
your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the  
only way to discover the will of God and know what is good,  
what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Cf. Eph 1:117.18  
**May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see  
what hope his call holds for us.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-27

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was  
destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands  
of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death  
and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside,  
Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you,  
Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and  
said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my  
path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a  
follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross  
and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose  
it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What,  
then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his  
life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father  
with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one  
according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacred offering, O Lord,  
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,  
that what it celebrates in mystery  
it may accomplish in power.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 30: 20

**How great is the goodness, Lord,  
that you keep for those who fear you.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,  
we beseech you, Lord,  
that, being the food of charity,  
it may confirm our hearts  
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.  
Through Christ our Lord.

