



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C SUNDAY 17 JULY 2022

This Sunday the Gospel contrasts Martha's activity and Mary's quiet devotion to the Lord. It reminds us that those drawn to a ministry of service need to spend time in prayer, and those drawn to contemplation need to ground their prayer in action. It also challenges us to live our lives not enslaved by superficial concerns, but rooted in the values of the Kingdom.

Martha and Mary are not the only ones debating the virtues of service and contemplation. Church history is filled with conflicting views about which way is best. Finally, Vatican II proclaimed a universal call to holiness, stating unequivocally that all states of life are of equal importance. Our call is not in question. How we live out our call is the issue

Martha and Mary serve together as partners in a living church, bringing the presence of Jesus to the real world, adapted to the suffering and needs of real people

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France	Sat & Sun

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Juliet Hutchins, Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Geoff Mulhearn
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST: Fr John Purnell
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosanna Suckling

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (*except public holidays*)
 (Due to COVID we ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)
Morisset Parish Office email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Morisset Parish Web site:: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>
Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/
Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Saturday	16th July 5pm Family Mass— Morisset
Sunday	17th July 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	19th July 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Saturday	23rd July 5pm Mass— Cooranbong
Sunday	24th July 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	26th July 9.30am Mass— Morisset

TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

WE ENCOURAGE

**MASK WEARING
PHYSICAL DISTANCING
HAND SANITISING,
STAY HOME IF SICK**

We still have a pre-book option available for our services but it is NOT compulsory. Please arrive 15mins early if you book and notify us of any cancellations. To pre-book use the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Eventbrite Website <http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> or call the Parish Office between 9am and 2pm .

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Reflection for the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C – 17th July, 2022

Women feature prominently in our readings today, as does the theme of hospitality, but let us take the readings in the order in which we hear them.

Abraham addressed the unexpected visitors as “MY Lord”, perhaps sensing they were actually a manifestation of God. He offered them his hospitality. Sarah did not join the guests as they ate, yet God’s promise that, by this time the next year, Sarah will have borne a son, although she was well past child-bearing age, was fulfilled in the birth of Isaac. Even when things may seem impossible to us, God fulfils his plan.

Paul’s letter to the Colossians also emphasises the fulfillment of God’s plan in Christ. Paul sees his mission as sharing God’s message: “The mystery of Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim.” As baptised Christians, we, men and women alike, share this mission.

Today, as we view the struggles of the Plenary Council to discern the way forward, especially with regard to the role of women in the mission of the Church, perhaps Luke’s Gospel can give us some insight. We hear of the two sisters – Martha, who was busy providing hospitality to her guest, and Mary, who chose to sit at Christ’s feet to listen to him. The fact that Christ was there alone with the two women, who were not of his family, was remarkable in itself, as he was breaking the social taboos of the time. When Martha chides Mary for not helping, Christ tells her, “Martha, you worry and fret about so many things but few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better path.” Although the women of his time were not permitted to be taught the Torah or to touch the Scriptures, Christ defended Mary’s right to be taught by him, to be his disciple. It was not that he was belittling Martha’s hospitality, but rather putting things in their proper perspective. Our care for others, our welcoming and hospitality are all ways we can show our love but, in our busy lives, we need to make listening to God our priority. We need to find the proper balance. Perhaps at Mass today, we can make the effort to put our worries aside and just quietly concentrate on what God is saying to us.

In the first 30 or 40 years of the early Church, women played an equal role in leadership and ministry; women deacons were active in our church until the 12th century. In a recent homily Father Richard Leonard reminded us that as far back as 21 May 2000 the Pope told a group of Bishops from the USA: “the genius of women must be ever more a vital strength of the Church of the next millennium, just as it was in the first communities of Christ’s disciples.” Pope Francis, himself, is encouraging a more equal role for women in the Church. He has said, ‘That women in society must be involved in decision-making is not only right for reasons of equality, but also for the specific insights that women bring to the process. This “feminine genius” will prove most valuable, as women increasingly play major roles in the solution of the serious challenges the world is facing.’

The presence of God is already with us, in the mystery of Christ. We do not know how or where or when we may encounter God; it may be in the most unlikely person or place or time. Christ told us that “Whatever you did to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to me .” (Matt 25:45)

Let us be open then to allowing all members of our communities, male or female, to be able to use their gifts, whatever they may be, in the service of Christ.

Pam Melvey

PLENARY COUNCIL:

On this cold Sunday night, I consider the question we were given at our Masses this weekend: Who is my neighbour? I am considering this in light of my having written an essay this weekend for the Scripture unit I am studying in the Graduate Certificate of Mission and Culture, at the end of the week of the Plenary Council, on this Seafarers Sunday during the rain and floods, and at the end of NAIDOC week. No doubt, a lot can happen in a week.

This past week, the Second General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia (July 3-9, 2022) was held, and I am conscious that on Day 3 the deliberative vote on some of the motions for Part 4 – *Witnessing to the Equal Dignity of Women and Men*, failed to pass. Women, some men, and clergy stood silently, a move which disrupted the proceedings.

One of the rejected motions mentioned “ensuring that women are appropriately represented in decision-making structures of Church governance at the parish, diocese or eparchy, and national level, and in Church agencies” and “ensuring, through formal policies and intentional practice, that the experiences and perspectives of women are heard, considered and valued”.

This sense of pain, discontent and hurt was followed by the re-drafting of five motions supporting equal dignity of women and men in the Church, which on Friday, passed both the consultative and deliberative votes at the Plenary Council. It was noted that the Holy Spirit was both a comforter and a disrupter.

Excerpt from Tuesdays with Teresa



PARISH FINANCE REPORT:

Recently a Parish Finance Report was delivered at Sunday Mass.. The following is taken from that report:

The Parish has two sources of income:

1. Parishioner Contributions and
2. Parish Property Resources - that is two residential properties and Cooranbong Cemetery.

PARISHIONER CONTRIBUTIONS

Over the past four years our income from * Planned Giving has decreased by 25%. *Sunday Second Collection has decreased by 75%. This coincides with the decline of Mass attendance due in some part to Covid.

PARISH PROPERTY RESOURCES

Income has decreased overall by 33%.

Presently we consider one residential property to be a viable source of income for approximately 20 years. While the other less than 3-5years.

Income from the Cemetery in the past year was only \$4000.00

OPERATING COSTS have been curtailed and have remained stable with only a slight variation of 5-10% up and down over the past four years. We have not undertaken any major maintenance or improvements recently.

RESERVE FUNDS Prior to Covid 19 we fortunately established Reserve or Emergency accounts in both a Church account and a Cemetery account to hold us in good stead for the future. The funds in the Cemetery account are unlikely to be available for our use as recent changes to the Cemetery and Crematorium Act may require us to maintain these funds for the perpetual care and maintenance of the Cooranbong Cemetery for years into the future. We are waiting on legal advice as reported last week.

Funds in the Church Reserve account will remain intact for now.

Presently we are holding our own financially and envisage the following in the immediate future.

- * Further rises in operating costs considering predicted inflation.
- *Further decreases in income from Parish Property Resources.
- * Hopefully an increase in Parishioner Contributions as more people return to services here at Morisset and at Cooranbong.

Lastly thank you from the Parish Leadership for your contributions that has kept us going. Regarding the first collection, this has certainly improved but we are unaware of the impact this is making to the position of the Central Clergy Fund or what is proposed going forward.

Liturgy Matters: Formation – Choosing life not death!

For the liturgy to become all it is meant to be for our life, it will take all of us, letting go of our 'if only's', working with what we've got to fit square pegs into round holes and to be united in hope and prayer.

📧 [LOUISE GANNON RSJ](#) 📧 PUBLISHED JULY 12, 2022

One of my favourite movie lines is 'Houston, we have a problem!'

You might recognise it from the movie about the real life and death situation of the Apollo 13 mission to the moon.

It's an amazing story of how hundreds of people with diverse gifts and areas of expertise worked together to clutch life and triumph from the jaws of death and devastation. One person alone could not have saved the astronauts. Only everyone working together with what they had could do it. They had to let go of all their 'if only' thoughts. They had to acknowledge the shortcomings of the design of the two spaceships and literally make square pegs fit into round holes. And these hundreds of people who were fully, consciously and actively engaged in the work to save Apollo 13 were supported by a world united in hope and prayer that the astronauts would be saved.

There's a lot in this story that can help us reflect on Church and on the liturgy which sustains our life and mission.

Pope Francis' recent Apostolic Letter **Desiderio Desideravi** is addressed to all of us and is focused on 'the liturgical formation of the People of God.' It can be viewed on the [Vatican website](#) or see below.

The letter could be imagined as a long ecclesial version of the statement, '**Houston, we have a problem**'.

The letter is motivated by desire. 'I desire to reach you all ..., ' to offer us some 'prompts and cues' for our reflection and contemplation of the liturgy which is a fundamental dimension of the life of the Church. (a.1)

Pope Francis invites us into a deep reflection on the liturgy and the Church. The liturgy is a gift given to us. God desires us to be there, to gather at the table of Word and Sacrament. The powerful beauty of the liturgy is that it is a place of encounter with Christ where we share in the power of his Paschal Mystery. (a. 6, 10, 11, 21, 24)

Christian faith is either an encounter with Him alive, or it does not exist. (a. 10)

In perfect continuity with the Incarnation, there is given to us in virtue of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit, the possibility of dying and rising in Christ. (a. 12)

The liturgy is not a cult or rite that exists in a separate one-hour-a-week box that we step out of once we leave the church building. Pope Francis invites us to look deeply, for the whole Church to know and experience the liturgy as a truth and power to be lived.

I want the beauty of the Christian celebration and its necessary consequences for the life of the Church not to be spoiled by a superficial and foreshortened understanding of its value ...' (a. 16)

He speaks of 'astonishment' and 'wonder'. I find those words challenging when I reflect on my presence at and experience of the liturgy.

He talks about symbols and our capacity to engage them as doors to the sacred. Symbols are the language of the liturgy. Here is another challenge to consider.

Pope Francis' reflection leads him to pose a series of key questions:

How are we to recover the capacity to live completely the liturgical action? (a. 27)

How do we continue to let ourselves be amazed at what happens in the celebration under our eyes? (a. 31 para 2)

How can we become once again capable of symbols? How can we again know how to read them and be able to live them? (a. 45)

So ... Houston we have a problem!

The response Pope Francis identifies is 'the need for a serious and vital liturgical formation' that includes all of us.

He invites us to reflect on this need, stating that his treatment

of 'the very rich theme of liturgical formation' is not exhaustive, offering only some starting points. To get us started he identifies two aspects that need to be distinguished: **formation for the Liturgy and formation by the Liturgy**, where the first depends on the second which is essential. (a. 34)

From all that we have said about the nature of the Liturgy it becomes clear that knowledge of the mystery of Christ, the decisive question for our lives, does not consist in a mental assimilation of some idea but in real existential engagement with his person. In this sense, Liturgy is not about "knowledge," and its scope is not primarily pedagogical, even though it does have great pedagogical value. (Cf. Sacrosanctum Concilium, n. 33) Rather, Liturgy is about praise, about rendering thanks for the Passover of the Son whose power reaches our lives. The celebration concerns the reality of our being docile to the action of the Spirit who operates through it until Christ be formed in us. (Cf. Gal 4:19) The full extent of our formation is our conformation to Christ. I repeat: it does not have to do with an abstract mental process, but with becoming Him. This is the purpose for which the Spirit is given, whose action is always and only to confection the Body of Christ. (a 41)

The Pope goes on to reflect on **the art of celebrating the liturgy**, a most important consideration if we, the entire People of God, are to be formed **by** the liturgy. (a. 48ff) Pope Francis' reflections continue to push us to go deeply, beyond the either/or dichotomies we see and experience, to the theological/God sense of the liturgy we celebrate together. He is speaking about formation for everyone and specific liturgical ministers. As the letter draws to a close he says ... *I would like this letter to help us to rekindle our wonder for the beauty of the truth of the Christian celebration, to remind us of the necessity of an authentic liturgical formation, and to recognize the importance of an art of celebrating that is at the service of the truth of the Paschal Mystery and of the participation of all of the baptized in it, each one according to his or her vocation. Christian life is a continual journey of growth. We are called to let ourselves be formed in joy and in communion. (a. 62)*

The need for ongoing liturgical formation is the elephant in the room in most of our communities – parishes and schools alike.

At the moment several parish communities have expressed a desire for liturgical formation that will enliven the liturgy and therefore the life of their community. We live in an exciting moment and Pope Francis is pushing us to 'abandon our polemics and listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.' (a. 65 para 2.) You'd swear he has been at our Diocesan Synod and the Plenary Council!

It's time for all of us to open our eyes and hearts to the need to engage in continuing formation. It's a birth/baptism to death thing. As Pope Francis reflects, it is not the time for a naïve spiritualism that dismisses things as a 'mystery' beyond us. It is indeed always beyond us, and that's why we are always in need of the liturgy and formation! And at the same time, it is a mystery we are called to incarnate in our daily lives and in the life, worship and mission of the Church. That's huge and it requires that we understand what we are doing together and that we do it well.

APOSTOLIC LETTER FROM OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS – 'THE LITURGICAL FORMATION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD'.

You can access Pope Francis' recently released Apostolic Letter on the Vatican Website. <https://tinyurl.com/yc7as9>

ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH COUNCIL – CHURCH CRAWL

The Ecumenical and Interfaith Council would like to warmly invite you to join us for a Church Crawl, to be held on **Saturday 23 July from 9.30am to 3.45pm.**

We will visit four Newcastle Churches in the one day, Christ Church Cathedral, Sacred Heart Cathedral, the Lutheran Church and a Russian Orthodox Church.

It will be an opportunity to *unlearn, learn, and relearn* by hearing about the faith of others, asking questions and getting to know others. [Registration is now open.](#)

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/church-crawl-tickets-318631875517>

School Principal

Dear Colleagues

I am writing to inform you that myself and Fr Greg Barker have accepted the recommendations of the interview panel for the appointment of Mrs Freda Pascoe to the position of Part Time Acting Principal at St John Vianney at Morisset (two days per week). Freda will work with Simon Devlin the current Principal who is transitioning to retirement.

Freda is currently the Assistant Principal at St Patrick's Summer Hill leading curriculum and well-being. She has held this position for the past seven years. Previous to this she was the Religious Education Coordinator at St Finbar's Sans Souci for five years.

This role is acting and part time until the end of the year.

We congratulate Freda and wish her well as she takes up this role in the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle

With thanks

Gerard

GERARD MOWBRAY

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS, CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1ST COLLECTION

We wish to thank those who have continued to support the Clergy and are asking for those who are not doing so to consider making contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2ND COLLECTION

We wish to thank everyone who has continued their support of our Parish during these very different times. You can support our Parish at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CDF 96014 Morisset Parish BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number, or you can use the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

<u>WEEKEND ROSTERS</u>			
		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>Presiders</u>	5PM 9.30AM	Mass Mass	Mass Mass
<u>PROCLAIMERS:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	L Hutchinson K London	L Hutchinson J France
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	G Hutchinson J Vipan	G Hutchinson J Shamley
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	P Herbert J Andersen P Melvey A Dussin	P Melvey M Melvey J Vipan K London
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J France V Paulo	J France M Melvey
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Vipan D Joyce	F Dunn U France
<u>SOUND / VIDEO</u>	5PM 9.30AM	R McArdle J France	U France J France
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Andersen TBA	TBA TBA
<u>COVID TEAM</u>	5PM 9.30AM	H White P Robertson L McRae L McRae	H White P Melvey R Hay J France
<u>COVID CLEANING</u>	5PM 9.30AM	All available Covid team members	All available Covid team members
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	XXXX L Hutchinson G Hutchinson	K Dunn B Hutcheson P Robertson

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE— 22ND JULY
 SAINT JAMES— 25TH JULY
 SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE— 26TH JULY
 SAINTS MARTHA, MARY AND LAZARUS— 29TH JULY
 SAINT ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGUORI— 1ST AUGUST
 SAINT DOMINIC— 3RD AUGUST
 SAINT JOHN VIANNEY— 4TH AUGUST
 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD— 6TH AUGUST
 SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS (MARY MACKILLOP) - 8TH AUGUST
 SAINT LAWRENCE—10TH AUGUST

Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

Yvonne Beecroft, Bernadette Martin, John Francisco, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Koby Smith.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

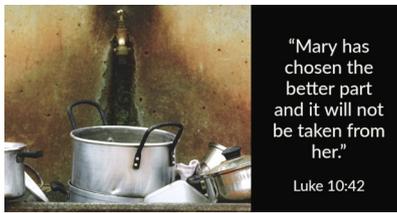
My Jesus,
 I believe that You
 are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
 I love You above all things,
 and I desire to receive You into my soul.
 Since I cannot at this moment
 receive You sacramentally,
 come at least spiritually into my heart.
 I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
 myself wholly to You.
 Never permit me to be separated from You.
 Amen.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding (ph: 4979 1390 or email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au), or visit their website for further information (www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au).





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Sunday 17 Jul 2022

The Introductory Rites

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People, who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.
We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

Litany Of Praise

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you gather us to hear your Word: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you welcome us to your table: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you call us to be your disciples: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

Lord Jesus,
lead us along the true path,
so that we, through our faith,
may come to know the Father.
We make this prayer through
our Risen Lord Jesus.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Gen 18:1-10

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not bypass your servant.

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not

pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.' Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue. **(R.)**
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Col 1:24-28

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints.

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Lk 10:38-42

Martha took up the duties in the house. Mary chose the better part.

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

Q. How would you characterise the different attitudes of Martha and Mary?

Q. How does the theme of hospitality fit with another theme of this gospel: care for the out-cast?

Q. Why is it so important for Christian communities to be welcoming?

Q. What conclusions could be drawn from a poorly-informed interpretation of this text?

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: Dear friends, let us bring our intentions before the Lord, who we trust in love.
Reader: That the Universal Church will instil true adoration to Jesus Christ in Christians all over the world.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That Christian women will be inspired by Martha and Mary's discovery of Jesus in their midst.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who are overwhelmed by life may find hope through the presence of Christ.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That through silent reflection, our parish community will listen to Christ's calling as Mary did.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick and housebound will find a renewed heart and spirit, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will live forever in the presence of the Lord, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, your kindness and love is revealed to us in Jesus. Hear our prayers and help us to live prayerful lives as we rejoice in the mystery of Christ present to us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite

Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us
and protect us
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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