



**St John  
Vianney**  
Parish Morisset



### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C SUNDAY 22ND MAY 2022**

*In today's Gospel, Jesus' parting gift is peace; he urges us to be neither troubled nor afraid.*

*Unfortunately, two thousand years later, human beings show a strong preference for chaos. We seek peace; we struggle for peace — and yet we have a hard time believing in the peace that God yearns to give us.*

*As we celebrate the Sixth Sunday of Easter today, we are called to live our faith with creativity, discernment and courage. The first Christians, responded not by fear and defense of the status quo at all costs, but modelled themselves on the radical inclusiveness, compassion and solidarity of the Master. The Church was transformed beyond the original company that Jesus had gathered, and yet remained faithful to his core values.*

*Today, we are called to be the new Jerusalem, the Church that shines with hope, humility, mercy and service. This is the Church Pope Francis is leading us towards. Let us pray that guided by a future to unfold before us, we may not be afraid to embrace the unknown pathways.*

*Let us be inspired by the way the first century Christians applied the teachings and examples of Jesus to their particular context*



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](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)  
**Morisset Parish Web site:** [www.vianneymorisset.org](http://www.vianneymorisset.org)  
**Morisset Parish Facebook :** <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>  
**Morisset Parish Instagram :** [https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish\\_morisset/](https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/)  
**Morisset Parish Bulletin Items:** [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

#### **UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :**

Sunday	22nd May 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	24th May 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Sunday	29th May 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	31st May 9.30am Mass— Morisset

#### **TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE WE ENCOURAGE**

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

We are able to safely seat 100 people at Morisset We still have a pre-book option available for our services but it is not compulsory (You need to do this each week). Please arrive 15mins early if you book and notify us of any cancellation. When the seating capacity of the Church is reached the overflow will be accommodated in the Callinan Centre for live streaming. 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 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR C**

There is great reassurance for us in John's Gospel today. Like last week, it is part of Christ's discourse with his disciples at the Last Supper. However, since it was written 60 years after Christ's Resurrection and Ascension, it does not convey the expectation of Christ's imminent return, as does Mark's Gospel.

Christ told his disciples that he was going away but he would return, foreshadowing not only his Death and Resurrection, but also his Ascension and the Second Coming.

We are still waiting but Christ's reassurance and promise are still there for us. We have certainty because we have celebrated the Resurrected Christ. Christ keeps his promises! We are assured that, if we keep his word, the Father and the Son will make their home in us. This indwelling presence of God is in us because of the Holy Spirit. Christ promised that the Advocate would be with us, to teach us and to remind us of all that he had taught.

When issues arose in the early Church over the acceptance of the uncircumcised, the apostles and elders listened, discussed and prayed before they announced their decision.

They were able to say, "It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burdens beyond these essentials".

The guidance of the Spirit is there for us too, as individuals, when we have to make choices. It is there for the Church in Australia and as a whole. At the moment we are at a crossroads: we can either keep to our same old ways or, as the Pope has told us, look to the signs of the times. What has worked in the past is not necessarily right for the present. We are praying that the Spirit will be with us as we seek a new way of doing things in the Sacramental programme; we pray that the Spirit will be with us through the deliberations of the Plenary Council and in our Synod discussions as we seek to be a more Christ-centred Church and a more synodal Church, where everyone has a voice.

The last great gift that Christ gave us was his peace, "a peace the world cannot give". Obviously, when we see the dreadful things events unfolding in Ukraine, this peace is not an absence of war. Rather, it is an inner reality that arises out of our experience of Christ's salvation and the presence of the Spirit within us. Despite how hard things might be at times, it is there for us,

We know what we need to do: love one another as Christ loved us, listen to God's word and be attentive to the prompting of the Spirit.

Pam Melvey

## **2022 TWEC DINNER**

This year's dinner will be held Friday 24 June from 6.30pm at the Therry Centre, East Maitland. We invite you to enjoy a meal, share stories of the Josephite spirit within the diocesan community and imagine the next chapter of the Tenison Woods Education Community story together. Seats at the dinner are \$60 per person which includes drinks, canapés, main course and dessert. Tables of 10, small group and individual bookings are welcome. For details and bookings go to <https://2022twec.eventbrite.com.au>. Attendee names and dietary needs can be entered at checkout. For queries please contact Sharon Murphy on 4979 1134 or [sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au)

## **MEETING OF FAMILIES FORMATION EVENTS OVER JUNE**

### **ONLINE 7.00PM-8.00PM**

#### **1 June- Belonging, Being and Becoming at St Nicholas-**

Presented by Caroline McGuinness (Trainer and Assessor, St Nicholas Pathways)

*Participants will be introduced to the philosophy and framework that guide practice in St Nicholas education and care settings. We will explore how educators work with young children in their journey to belong, be and become.*

#### **8 June- Educating the whole child to support learning and wellbeing-**

Presented by Renee Tyczynski (Professional Officer [psychologist], Catholic Schools Office)

*Learn about how Catholic schools support student wellbeing by ensuring a safe, supported, inclusive environment, where students are engaged in their learning, form positive relationships and develop skills for their future within a faith-based community.*

#### **15 June- Social connections and improving senior's wellbeing**

- Presented by Nicola Rosenthal (Regional Manager, Catholic Healthcare)

*Join with us as we explore the importance of social connections, and five keyways seniors can improve their wellbeing. The presentation will also discuss mental illness, grief and loss in later life and which support services are best suited for older Australians.*

#### **20 June- Relationships Matter-**

Presented by Robyn Donnelly

*Marriage and Relationship Educator- Pastoral Ministries)  
The session provides participants with an understanding of patterns of behaviours that drain our emotional bank accounts and can cause the relationship to go into meltdown or disconnection of the parties. Participants can reflect on 7 areas that create strong sound relationships starting at the foundations this includes research around rituals and shared meaning, so your relationship stays connected to get through areas of disagreements or conflict.*

To register go to [www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events)

## **CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE PRESENTS: 'HOW DO WE KNOW CHRIST NOW?'**

A free online conference (via zoom) will be held on Friday June 17 2022, 9.30am - 12.30pm with a variety of workshops. This conference will focus on the critical question: 'How do we know Christ now?' and explores how we know the same Christ more authentically and powerfully today.

It will be led by the staff of CTC from across the disciplines and use a dialogical approach with opportunities for discussion and experiential engagement.

### **Workshops (11.30am - 12.30pm)**

1. 'Deep Incarnation' and Hope for the Transformation of the World led by Very Rev. Dr Kevin Lenehan
2. Profound Experiences as Encounter: Christian Spirituality for Today led by Dr Rina Madden
3. Exploring Mindfulness and Christian Contemplative Practices led by Dr Cullan Joyce
4. God the Artist Communicates to Us First, Before God the Lecturer: A Workshop Uncovering the Presence of God in Art led by Rev. Dr Elio Capra SDB

To register go to [www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events)



### **FAMILY FIRST**

Imagine your parish has invited you to be a part of a focus group on 'families' under the Identity and Community Foundation. The leading question is 'What constitutes a family?'

HELENE O'NEILL PUBLISHED MAY 17, 2022

You think hard, but then realise that today, families fall into a myriad of categories. But opinions aside on the makeup of families, one thing is certain - families are the bedrock of our society underpinned by love.

Well this happened to me. The focus group I participated in tossed round ideas of family based on gender, numbers that make up a family, perceptions, societal expectations, and even religious beliefs. But one thing the group agreed on, is that solid relationships result in building solid families whatever the situation. Work families, parish families, sporting families and fractured families are all part of the social fabric of our communities.

Pope Francis on Twitter tells us that, "There is no perfect family. We have no perfect parents, we are not perfect, do not get married to a perfect person, neither do we have perfect children. We have complaints about each other. We are disappointed by one another. Therefore, there is no healthy marriage or healthy family without the exercise of forgiveness. Forgiveness is vital to our emotional health and spiritual survival. Without forgiveness, the family becomes a theatre of conflict and a bastion of grievances. Without forgiveness, the family becomes sick. Forgiveness is the sterilisation of the soul, cleansing the mind and the liberation of the heart" (Twitter December 2018).

For the past 20 years, Families Australia has celebrated National Families Week and invited families from across the country to celebrate being together through a range of activities and events. The celebrations began yesterday and run through to Friday May 20. All details are available on <https://nfw.org.au>

But National Families Week is a warmup to Pope Francis' World Meeting of Families (WMOF). He is calling us here in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle to be a part of a global celebration.

A potted history outlines that the World Meeting of Families 2022 is the tenth meeting and was scheduled to take place in Rome, Italy. It would have been the third such gathering at this location, following on from the first ever event of its kind in 1994 and a second time in 2000. The event was originally due to be held between 23 and 27 June 2021.

On May 17, 2019 Pope Francis announced, in a statement which was made public by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, that he had picked "Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness" to serve as the theme for the 2021 World Meeting of Families.

Heeding advice, on 20 April 2020 Pope Francis postponed the 2021 World Meeting of Families to June 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Vatican claimed it was postponed, "Due to the current health situation and its consequences for the movement and gathering of young people and families."

The WMOF is a great opportunity for Catholics on the local level to renew their commitment to family ministry in solidarity with diocesan communities from around the world and the Diocese of Rome. There will be local events happening all over our Diocese, reflections and moments of prayer to coincide with the gathering in Rome.

Whatever your role in the Diocese, you are invited to conduct or participate in an event between June 22-26 to involve your community members and build upon family connections.

On the Diocesan website, there is information about the World Meeting of Families and you can check out the events that will occur during the week in your area. Please feel welcome to add your own event or enquire about existing events.

Between the end of National Families Week (20 May) and World Meeting of Families beginning on 22 June, why not spend some time with your family and community planning out a range of events that will strengthen connections and inspire and engage your family too.

Here are a few starters that will help you discover creative, fun and engaging activities to connect with your family and even spark some faith-filled conversations:

Words have the power to lift spirits, especially to those family members who feel cut off or isolated. Why not write a message from the heart to show you care?

Place a gratitude jar in the home or workplace to create a visual reminder of the blessings in our lives. Invite people to write three things they are thankful for and place them in the jar.

Head out in nature as there is something spiritually positive in experiencing a sense of peace as you take a long loving look through creation. Engage your senses – see, listen, smell and touch- then reflect on what you have experienced.

Be a part of the intricate web of creation. Get out in the garden, plant some seeds then imagine what the garden will look like when full of beautiful flowers and rows of vegetables

Preparing and cooking food together is an act of love and a great way of expressing care for others. We connect when we share a meal. Encourage children to get involved in cooking by choosing simple and easy-to-make recipes. Laugh and talk as you cook, then enjoy the fruits of your togetherness.

Make praying together with a visual experience. We can then see the world of children who are too young to read and write through a different lens. Children can share their prayers through colour and prayer.

Love a good sing-along? Perhaps a family night where you showcase the diverse gifts and talents God has blessed each member with will provide many light-hearted moments.

The dates 22-26 June are a great way to reconnect through fun, food, family, faith and even fitness. Pope Francis is encouraging us all to work together to become one community in Christ. Catch you at an event throughout that week!





### **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR ROSTERED MINISTRIES**

With the commencement of our new Sacramental Process and the re-opening of our Cooranbong Church for services, in July 2022.

We are calling all current rostered ministry volunteers, as well those who would like to recommence rostered ministries or anyone who like to start their call to serve in rostered ministries to complete a new online sign-up form.

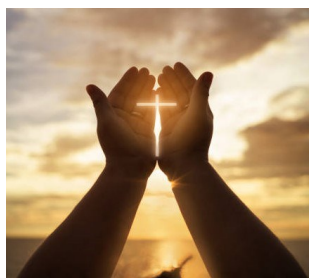
On the sign up form you will be able to let us know which ministries you would like to do, and what services you would like to be rostered for, hence it is important that everyone who would to be a volunteer for our rostered ministries complete a sign up form, even if you are on the current roster as we will be starting July a fresh.

To complete the online Rostered Ministries Sign-Up form just click on the button on the Parish Website Homepage or the link at the bottom of our news item in the Mass App or use this QR Code below.

If you are new to volunteering in our parish you will also need to complete the Diocese's online Volunteer Registration at: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/people/volunteer/>

Our weekend services will change in July 2022 to the following:

- A Family Mass / Liturgy will be held at 5pm on Saturday evenings in our Morisset Church and will coincide with the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month. (i.e. if Sunday is the 1st day of the month the Family Mass will be held on the last day of the previous month)
- Mass / Liturgy at Cooranbong will be at 5pm on Saturday evenings in our Cooranbong Church and will coincide with the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the Month.
- Sunday Mass / Liturgy will be held at 9.30am on Sunday mornings in our Morisset Church.



### **ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZÉ**

Will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill  
On the First Sunday each month starting June 5th, 2022 at:  
5.00pm – 6pm followed by a shared supper.

### **SAFEGUARDING TRAINING COURSE 2**

This mandatory training will take place in the Callinan Centre on Thursday, 9th JUNE 2022.

It will commence at 10.00am and is expected to take 3.5 to 4 hours with a break for lunch.

If you volunteer now or intend to in the future in any of the following positions this applies to you.

\*Coordinators for ministries. \*Funeral Ministry. \*Pastoral Team Members. \*Sacramental Team Members

\*Extraordinary Ministers of Communion in hospital, aged care and persons homes.

\*Hospitality- Covid Marshal and hospitality servers. (Not ushers). \*Counters.

\*Gardeners, groundkeepers and mowers.

Any other volunteers are welcome to attend.

More details will follow in time. With thanks Juliet

### **"LET ME SEE AGAIN"**

Facilitated by Catholic Mission, this one hour scripture reflection and dialogue, we will delve deeper into the meaning of the story of Jesus' encounter with Bartimaeus and explore applications to our life and work. This session will provide time for personal reflection, dialogue and an invitation to deep listening to each other.

There will also be time for you to consider how to apply your learning and insights to your role in your school or ministry.

Date: Thursday 26 May

Time: 3:30pm - 4:30pm

To register go to:

[www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events)

### **GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SEMINAR**

Newcastle Catholic Charismatic Renewal invites all people to the GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT Seminars/Workshops run by the Missionaries of God's Love (MGL) Sisters.

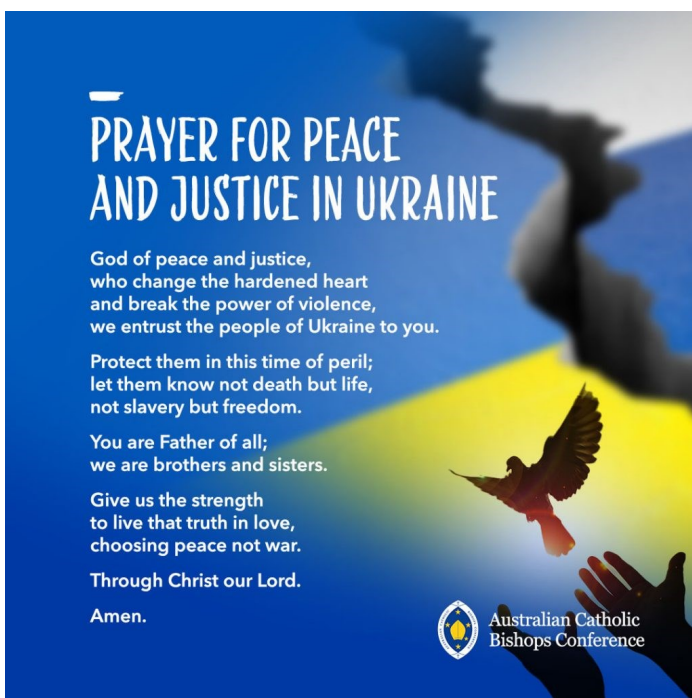
Date: Saturday 21/5/22 and Saturday 28/5/22

Time: 10am-4pm at the Holy Cross Church Hall

Address: 30 Oakland St Glendale.

Cost: donation.

Please contact Wayne Caruana on 0466 631394 for further information



### **SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1ST COLLECTION**

The 1st collections in 2020-21 are 67% of the 2018-19 1st collection, which is a 33% reduction. The first two quarters of 2021-22 show the decline continuing. 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.

### **DISCOVER THE DIOCESE'S NEW APP!**

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's new app is available now! Mass times, news and events, and parish giving will be just a tap away.

As part of the new app, you are also able to select your Church and receive customised alerts. To view your latest Parish updates, simply scroll down the home page and click on the notices that interest you for more details.

You can download the app for free from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Just search for 'Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle' and click install on your mobile or tablet! To learn more about the app, visit [www.mn.catholic.org.au/mass-times-app](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/mass-times-app)

<b><u>WEEKEND ROSTERS</u></b>			
		<b><u>THIS WEEK</u></b>	<b><u>NEXT WEEK</u></b>
<b><u>Presiders</u></b>	9.30	Mass	H White
<b><u>PROCLAIMER:</u></b>	9.30	M Foo	J France
<b><u>PSALMIST:</u></b>	9.30	M Foo	U France
<b><u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u></b>	9.30	M Foo	U France
<b><u>GIFTS</u></b>	9.30	H White K Amon	XXXX
<b><u>SERVERS</u></b>	9.30	M Melvey	XXXX
<b><u>AV:</u></b>	9.30	J France	T Alexander
<b><u>SOUND/ VIDEO:</u></b>	9.30	L & G Hutchinson	L & G Hutchinson
<b><u>COVID TEAM</u></b>	9.30	J Hutchins M Foo P Herbert P Melvey	H White T Alexander R Hay J France
<b><u>CLEANING</u></b>	9.30	COVID TEAMS	COVID TEAMS

### **UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES**

OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS— 24TH MAY  
SAINT BEDE THE VENERABLE— 25TH MAY  
SAINT GREGORY VII— 25TH MAY  
SAINT MARY MAGDALENE DE PAZZI— 25TH MAY  
SAINT PHILIP NERI— 26TH MAY  
SAINT AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY— 27TH MAY  
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD— 29TH MAY  
THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY— 31ST MAY  
SAINT JUSTIN— 1ST JUNE  
SAINTS MARCELLINUS AND PETER— 2ND JUNE

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

Sue Alexander, John Francisco, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Koby Smith, Patricia Jones.

#### **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/>**





# SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year C

Sunday 22 May 2022

## The Introductory Rites

### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, on which we gather today, 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 Christ  
who has redeemed us  
and raised us to new life.

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.  
United with the whole Church,  
we celebrate the joy of Easter  
and keep 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  
who has raised us to new life.

*A brief period of silence follows.*

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you ask us to keep your word: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, your Spirit lives among us: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you give us the gift of peace: 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.*

Almighty God,  
may the joy of the risen Lord  
bring us unity and peace.  
Send your Spirit into our hearts  
and help us to remember  
everything that Jesus has taught us.  
We make this prayer through Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
for ever and ever.

All:

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

**Acts 15:1-2. 22-29**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.*

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and

after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

‘The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.’

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

The word of the Lord.

*All reply:*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4**

**(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!**

1. O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**
2. Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

**Rv 21:10-14, 22-23**

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

*He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.*

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were



three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

*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 John.

*All:*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Jn 14:23-29**

*The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him  
and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own:

it is the word of the one who sent me.

I have said these things to you

while still with you;

but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,  
whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you everything  
and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you,

my own peace I give you,

a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

You heard me say:

I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father,  
for the Father is greater than I.

I have told you this now before it happens,  
so that when it does happen you may believe.’

*Reader:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:*

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*All are seated.*

## Reflection on the Word

Q. How do you understand, 'we shall come to (them) and make our home with (them)'?

Q. In what way is the Holy Spirit an Advocate of Jesus?

Q. How do people act on the inspiration of the Holy Spirit?

Q. How can you strive to bring about the peace of Christ in your immediate community?

## 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:** Sisters and brothers, with Christ our gift of peace, let us turn to God with our intentions.

**Reader:** That the Holy Church will make Christ's love visible to all humanity.

*(pause)*

In your glory:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That world leaders and governments will strive for true peace and justice.

*(pause)*

In your glory:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who are troubled or afraid will be comforted by Christ's gift of peace.

(pause)

In your glory:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who work in advertising and the media will be mindful of the power and impact of the words they choose.

(pause)

In your glory:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That the sick will be comforted through God's gracious blessings, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your glory:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who have died will be raised to new life with the Spirit, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your glory:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: God our Father, you give us the greatest gift of love. Hear our prayers and help us to no longer be troubled or afraid, but to embrace your gift of peace and remain faithful to your loving word. 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:

Through the resurrection of his Son  
God has redeemed us and made us his children.  
May the Lord bless us with joy  
and fill us with fruits of the Spirit.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

**Amen.**

## Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace. Alleluia.

All:

**Thanks be to God.**

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