

# OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, MUMBLES

## HOME PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAYS

Fourth Sunday of Eastertide, 3 May 2020

*This home prayer service can be used by a single person (sole participant) or by family members at home. Where there are two or more persons, a family member leads the prayer service (including reading the reflection). Where possible, the participant(s) should have the prayer service around a table with a lighted candle, a crucifix and a Bible (or missal).*

### ENTRANCE SONG (OR ANTIPHON)

*An opening song may be sung or the following antiphon is recited. All stand.*

**The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made,  
alleluia.**

*We begin with the sign of the Cross:*

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

*A leader or the sole participant says:*

**Blessed be the God of all consolation,  
who has shown us his great mercy.  
Bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

*Response: Blessed be God for ever.*

### INTRODUCTION

*Where there are two or more persons in the house, the leader introduces the celebration in these or similar words:*

**Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, we celebrate  
the Resurrection of the Lord. Our service is our  
Alleluia, our song of praise to the Risen Christ  
who is our life and whose triumph over death we  
proclaim to all the world.**

### PENITENTIAL ACT

*The sole participant or leader introduces the penitential act saying:*

**Let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare  
ourselves for this celebration.**

*A brief pause for silence follows.*

**I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to  
do, through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

*The sole participant or the leader says:*

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

*Response: Amen.*

### COLLECT

*The sole participant or leader says the Collect Prayer:*  
**Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.**

*Response: Amen.*

### READINGS

*After each reading a brief silence is observed. It is desirable to take all the readings with the responsorial psalm, all of which are available in the Sunday Missal. Where all readings of the Sunday cannot be taken, the Gospel (printed below) is read. The one who reads the Gospel, if not a priest or deacon, does not say "The Lord be with you" but begins with "A reading from the holy Gospel according to..."*

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41  
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22(23)  
Second Reading: 1 Pt 20:20-25  
Gospel Acclamation: Jn 10:14  
Gospel: John 10:1-10

### A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,  
I am the gate of the sheepfold.  
All others who have come

are thieves and brigands;  
but the sheep took no notice of them.  
I am the gate.  
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:  
he will go freely in and out  
and be sure of finding pasture.  
The thief comes  
only to steal and kill and destroy.  
I have come  
so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

### **The Gospel of the Lord**

#### **REFLECTION**

*The sole participant or leader reads a homily prepared by the priest; or may give a short reflection on the scripture readings of the day. The reflection is followed by a period of silence.*

#### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*The creed is said:*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, 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.

#### **GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**

*The General Intercessions are said.*

*Leader:* The Lord is the shepherd who knows each one of his flock by name. Let us offer our prayers to God, trusting in his personal love for us.

*Reader:* That the holy Catholic Church may extend the victory of the risen Christ by serving those who walk in the valley of darkness. Lord, in your mercy

*Response:* Hear our prayer.

*Reader:* That men and women who struggle for human rights may never follow false leaders or ways of violence. Lord, in your mercy

*Response:* Hear our prayer.

*Reader:* Let us pray that those who are sick with the coronavirus may regain their health through quality medical care and may those who have died from the virus find eternal rest with God. Lord, in your mercy

*Response:* Hear our prayer.

*Reader:* Let us pray for our sick and housebound that they may be comforted by their fidelity to the Good Shepherd. Lord, in your mercy

*Response:* Hear our prayer.

*Reader:* In thanksgiving to the Lord, we pray for parishioners who mark their birthdays this week: Chris Law, Andrea Lehane, Win O'Donoghue. May the Lord bless and keep them. Lord, in your mercy  
*Response:* Hear our prayer.

[*Other petitions may be added, after which the Our Father is introduced in these or similar words*]:

*Reader:* Let us pray to our Father in the words Our Saviour taught us: **Our Father, who art in heaven...**

#### **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*After a brief period of silence, the Prayer of Spiritual Communion is said by all.*

**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.**

*A song of thanksgiving may be sung after the prayer of spiritual communion.*

#### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*The sole participant or leader says the concluding prayer:*

**May your healing work, O Lord, free us, we pray, from doing evil and lead us to what is right. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The sole participant or leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the Sign of the Cross while saying the following:*

**May almighty God bless us, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**