

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, MUMBLES

HOME PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAYS

4th Sunday of Lent (B), 14 March 2021

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.

**Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.**

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:

**O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.**

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:

**Our sins had made us exiles from God's judgement.
But just as God sent Cyrus, the King of Persia, to
bring his people back from Babylon, so in his great
love he sent Jesus Christ, his Son, to bring us back
to the new Jerusalem, "to live the good life as from
the beginning he had meant us to live it".**

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:

**O God, who through your Word
reconcile the human race to yourself in a
wonderful way, grant, we pray,
that with prompt devotion and eager faith
the Christian people may hasten
toward the solemn celebrations to come.
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.**

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:	2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 136(137):1-6
Second Reading:	E[phesians 2:4-10
Gospel Acclamation:	Jn3:16
Gospel:	John 3:14-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

"The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life
in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his
only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost

but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned
already,
because he has refused to believe in the name of
God's only Son.
On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
that though the light has come into the world
men have shown they prefer darkness to the light
because their deeds were evil.
And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it,
for fear his actions should be exposed;
but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the
light,
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is
done in God.'

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: When we were dead in our sins, God brought us to life in his Son, lifted up on the Cross for us. Through that crucified Redeemer, let us draw near to our loving Father.

Leader: Let us pray for the Church on her pilgrimage in this world, especially the suffering Church of silence. Lord, in your mercy
Response: Hear our prayer

Reader: Let us pray for mercy and justice among peoples of different creeds and cultures.

Lord, in your mercy
Response: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for those among us who are putting off making their confessions because of fear, laziness or pride. 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 parishioners, that they may be strengthened through the power of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy
Response: Hear our prayer.

Reader: In thanksgiving to the Lord, we pray for parishioners who mark their birthdays this week: Dave Clarke. May the Lord bless and keep him. Lord, in your mercy
Response: Hear our prayer.

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.