

# OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, MUMBLES

## HOME PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAYS

Second Sunday of Eastertide (Divine Mercy Sunday), 11 April 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.*

**Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure,  
spiritual milk,  
that in him you may grow to salvation, 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:*

**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:*

**We come together today like the first group of  
believers, united heart and soul, and celebrating  
our victory over the world through our faith in  
Christ, the son of God.**

### 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:

**God of everlasting mercy,  
who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast  
kindle the faith of the people you have made your  
own, increase, we pray, the grace you have  
bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly  
understand in what font they have been washed,  
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,  
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.  
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:	Acts 4:32-35
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 117(118):2-4,15-18,22-24
Second Reading:	1 John 5:1-6
Gospel Acclamation:	Jn20:29
Gospel:	John 20:19-31

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

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

## **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:* As witnesses of the resurrection, the apostles were sent forth to continue the work of Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray for the mission of the Church and the needs of the world.

*Leader:* Let us pray that, led by the successors of Peter and the apostles, the Church will boldly proclaim the truth of Easter. Lord, in your mercy

*Response:* Hear our prayer

*Reader:* Let us pray that those who guide the economy of nations will distribute resources fairly among all peoples. Lord, in your mercy

*Response:* Hear our prayer.

*Reader:* Let us pray that people weighed down by guilt will find the peace of the Holy Spirit, sent among us for the forgiveness of sins. 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: Joe Blackburn. 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.**