

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,  
and there is none that can resist your will.  
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,  
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;  
you are the Lord of all.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.  
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.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Genesis 2:18-24

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate." So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

"This at last is bone from my bones,  
and flesh from my flesh!  
This is to be called woman,  
for this was taken from man."

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 127

**RESPONSE:** *May the Lord bless us  
all the days of our life.*

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **R.**
2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **R.**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!  
May you see your children's children.  
On Israel, peace! **R.**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 2:9-11

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and

through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your word is truth, O Lord,  
consecrate us in the truth.  
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
As long as we love one another  
God will live in us  
and his love will be complete in us.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Mark 10:2-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*(For shorter form read between > <)*

> Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" "Moses allowed us", they said, "to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce." Then Jesus said to them, "It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide." Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, "The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too." <

People were bringing little children to him for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the sacrifices instituted by your commands  
and, through the sacred mysteries,  
which we celebrate with dutiful service,  
graciously complete the sanctifying work  
by which you are pleased to redeem us.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*The Lord is good to those who hope in him,  
to the soul that seeks him.*

Or

*Though many, we are one bread, one body,  
for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant us, almighty God,  
that we may be refreshed and nourished  
by the Sacrament which we have received,  
so as to be transformed into what we consume.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand?  
But with you is found forgiveness,  
O God of Israel.*

**COLLECT**

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,  
at all times go before us and follow after  
and make us always determined  
to carry out good works.  
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.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Wisdom 7:7-11

A reading from the book of Wisdom.  
I prayed, and understanding was given me;  
I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.  
I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;  
compared with her, I held riches as nothing.  
I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer,  
for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,  
and beside her silver ranks as mud.  
I loved her more than health or beauty,  
preferred her to the light,  
since her radiance never sleeps.  
In her company all good things came to me,  
at her hands riches not to be numbered.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 89

**RESPONSE:** *Fill us with your love that we may rejoice.*

1. Make us know the shortness of our life  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?  
Show pity to your servants. **R.**
2. In the morning, fill us with your love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Give us joy to balance our affliction  
for the years when we knew misfortune. **R.**
3. Show forth your work to your servants;  
let your glory shine on their children.  
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:  
give success to the work of our hands. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 4:12-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.  
The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any  
double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place  
where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow;  
it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing  
can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes  
of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,**

**for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.  
Alleluia!**

Or

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Mark 10:17-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.  
*(For shorter form read between > <)*

> Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt  
before him and put this question to him, "Good master, what  
must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do  
you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the  
commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery;  
You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must  
not defraud; Honour your father and mother." And he said to him,  
"Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days." Jesus looked  
steadily at him and loved him, and he said, "There is one thing you  
lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the  
poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."  
But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was  
a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, "How hard it is  
for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" The  
disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, "My  
children," he said to them, "how hard it is to enter the kingdom of  
God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle  
than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." They were more  
astonished than ever. "In that case", they said to one another,  
"who can be saved?" Jesus gazed at them. "For men", he said,  
"it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible  
for God." <

Peter took this up. "What about us?" he asked him. "We have  
left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "I tell you solemnly,  
there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father,  
children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who  
will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters,  
mothers, children and land – not without persecutions – now in  
this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful  
with the sacrificial offerings,  
that, through these acts of devotedness,  
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**The rich suffer want and go hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.**

Or

**When the Lord appears, we shall be like him,  
for we shall see him as he is.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord,  
that, as you feed us with the nourishment  
which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,  
so you may make us sharers of his divine nature.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;  
turn your ear to me; hear my words.  
Guard me as the apple of your eye;  
in the shadow of your wings protect me.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant that we may always conform our will to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.  
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.

*Amen.*

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 53:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.  
If he offers his life in atonement,  
he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life  
and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over  
he shall see the light and be content.  
By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,  
taking their faults on himself.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM** Psalm 32

**RESPONSE:** *May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.*

1. The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. **R.**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **R.**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 4:14-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest  
who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let  
go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a  
high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us;  
but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are,  
though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching  
the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find  
grace when we are in need of help.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
no one can come to the Father except through me.  
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Son of Man came to serve,  
and to give his life as a ransom for many.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Mark 10:35-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*(For shorter form read between > <)*

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus.  
"Master," they said to him, "we want you to do us a favour." He  
said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" They said  
to him, "Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at  
your left in your glory." "You do not know what you are asking"  
Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or  
be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?"  
They replied, "We can." Jesus said to them, "The cup that I must  
drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be  
baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand  
or my left, these are not mine to grant: they belong to those to  
whom they have been allotted."

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with  
James and John, so > Jesus called them to him and said to them,  
"You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it  
over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is  
not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become  
great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants  
to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man  
himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life  
as a ransom for many." <

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Grant us, Lord, we pray,  
a sincere respect for your gifts,  
that, through the purifying action of your grace,  
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*Behold, the eyes of the Lord  
are on those who fear him,  
who hope in his merciful love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.*

Or

*The Son of Man has come  
to give his life as a ransom for many.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, O Lord, we pray,  
that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things,  
we may be helped by what you give in this present age  
and prepared for the gifts that are eternal.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
increase our faith, hope and charity,  
and make us love what you command,  
so that we may merit what you promise.  
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.

*Amen.*

**FIRST READING** Jeremiah 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!  
Hail the chief of nations!  
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:  
"The Lord has saved his people,  
the remnant of Israel!"  
See, I will bring them back  
from the land of the North  
and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
all of them: the blind and the lame,  
women with child, women in labour:  
a great company returning here.  
They had left in tears,  
I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
I will guide them to streams of water,  
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.  
For I am a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM** Psalm 125

**RESPONSE:** *What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.*

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **R.**
2. The heathens themselves said: "What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!"  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **R.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **R.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and

sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the light of the world, says the Lord,  
anyone who follows me  
will have the light of life.*

*Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Our Saviour Christ Jesus abolished death,  
and he has proclaimed life through the Good News.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Mark 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and say, "Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me." And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, "Son of David, have pity on me." Jesus stopped and said, "Call him here." So they called the blind man. "Courage," they said, "get up; he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, "What do you want me to do for you?" "Rabbuni," the blind man said to him, "Master, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has saved you." And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Look, we pray, O Lord,  
on the offerings we make to your majesty,  
that whatever is done by us in your service  
may be directed above all to your glory.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
and exult in the name of our God.*

Or

*Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,  
as a fragrant offering to God.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray,  
perfect in us what lies within them,  
that what we now celebrate in signs  
we may one day possess in truth.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;  
be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help,  
O Lord, my strong salvation!*

**COLLECT**

Almighty and merciful God,  
by whose gift your faithful offer you  
right and praiseworthy service,  
grant, we pray,  
that we may hasten without stumbling  
to receive the things you have promised.  
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.

*Amen.*

**FIRST READING** Deuteronomy 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.  
Moses said to the people: "If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

"Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart."

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM** Psalm 17

**RESPONSE:** *I love you, Lord, my strength.*

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.  
There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all

by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words are spirit, Lord,  
and they are life:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Mark 12:28-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.  
One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." The scribe said to him, "Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice." Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to question him any more.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May these sacrificial offerings, O Lord,  
become for you a pure oblation,  
and for us a holy outpouring of your mercy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.*

Or

*Just as the living Father sent me  
and I have life because of the Father,  
so whoever feeds on me  
shall have life because of me, says the Lord.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May the working of your power, O Lord,  
increase in us, we pray,  
so that, renewed by these heavenly Sacraments,  
we may be prepared by your gift  
for receiving what they promise.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Let us all rejoice in the Lord,  
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints,  
at whose festival the Angels rejoice  
and praise the Son of God.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration  
the merits of all the Saints,  
bestow on us, we pray,  
through the prayers of so many intercessors,  
an abundance of the reconciliation with you  
for which we earnestly long.  
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.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Apocalypse 7:2-4. 9-14

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty it was to devastate land and sea, "Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, "Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words: "Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen."

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, "Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?" I answered him, "You can tell me, my lord." Then he said, "These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb."

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 23

**RESPONSE:** *Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.*

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm. **R.**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things. **R.**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 John 3:1-3

A reading from the first letter of St John.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.  
Surely everyone who entertains this hope  
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,  
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

"How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for their heritage.  
Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.  
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:  
they shall be satisfied.  
Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown them.  
Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.  
Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called sons of God.  
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May these offerings we bring in honour of all the Saints  
be pleasing to you, O Lord,  
and grant that, just as we believe the Saints  
to be already assured of immortality,  
so we may experience their concern for our salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of  
righteousness,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

As we adore you, O God, who alone are holy  
and wonderful in all your Saints,  
we implore your grace,  
so that, coming to perfect holiness in the fullness of your love,  
we may pass from this pilgrim table  
to the banquet of our heavenly homeland.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**