

REFLECTIVE MUSIC: *Be Still and Know that I am God*

PRAYER FOR THE ROAD AHEAD

Romero Prayer – A Future Not Our Own

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No programme accomplishes the church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results,

but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

This is what we are about:

We plant seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCLUDING HYMN: *The Summons (J. Bell)*

Orlagh in the City 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



WELCOME AND STILLING EXERCISE

OPENING MUSIC *The Servant Song*

PENITENTIAL RITE

The Creator of the Universe calls us

To leave the darkness behind

And live in the light.

Lord, have mercy

All: Lord have mercy

Our Lord Jesus Christ who lived

And died and rose again

Greets us this day.

Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy

The One who danced at Creation's birth

Calls us now into presence.

Lord, have mercy

All: Lord have mercy

When we repent of our sins, God forgives us and sets us free.

May we, in our turn, forgive others, and forgive

ourselves and so come to our God

in peace.

All: Amen.

GLORIA

Glory be to God in heaven:

Let all people hear the call.

Peace to those who honour God

Who bear good will and love to all.

Gracious ruler, loving creator,

We adore and give you praise.

Hear our song of glad thanksgiving

For your grace, your loving ways.

Praise to you, O Jesus Christ,

The Son, the Lamb,

who once was slain.

Now you are alive forever,

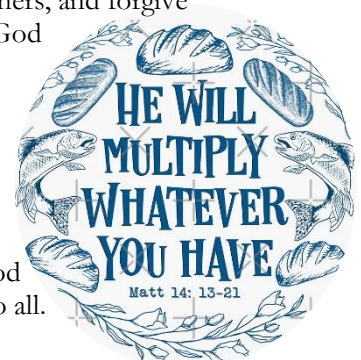
Help us all God's life to gain.

You alone are blessed and holy:

Jesus Christ, beloved Son.

Sharing glory with the Spirit

And with the Eternal One.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-3

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.

With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

The Word of the Lord

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me' he said.

He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining; twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 144(145)

RESPONSE: *You open wide your hand, O Lord;
you grant our desires.*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. R/.

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. R/.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. R/.

Second Reading: Romans 8:35,37-39

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.



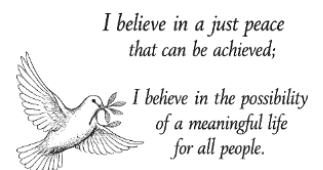
MUSIC: Alexis Ffrench – Bluebird

LECTIO Share how the Word speaks to you in your life in this moment, allowing space for all to speak if they wish.

CREED

I believe in one God who did not create a world incapable of change;
Who does not govern according to a natural order of rich and poor, of the expert and the ignorant, of rulers and subjects.
I believe in God who willed conflict in life, and wanted us to change the present state of things through our work, through our politics.

I believe in Jesus Christ who rises again and again in our lives so that we will be free from prejudice and arrogance,
from fear and hate and carry on his revolution and make way for his kingdom.
I believe in the Spirit that Jesus brought into the world.
I believe in the brotherhood and sisterhood of all nations.
I believe that what our earth becomes is up to us
- a vale of tears starvation and tyranny,
- or a city of God.
I believe in a just peace that can be achieved;
I believe in the possibility of a meaningful life for all people.
I believe this world of God's has a future.



INTERCESSIONARY PRAYERS AND OUR FATHER