

# Sunday Prayer at Home

## 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)





## **Introduction and Act of Repentance**

### ***Presider:***

We give God what we do not give any earthly ruler, our adoration and worship. That's why we connect with one another in prayer today. We praise God together as the Creator of the whole universe, and as the King of all peoples. Jesus, the Son of God, leads us in our prayer. So, let us begin with prayer to Jesus: (Pause)

**Lord Jesus**, you are kind and full of compassion, Lord, have mercy

**You are** trustworthy in all you say, and loving in all you do, Christ, have mercy

**You raise up** the fallen, and strengthen the weak, Lord, have mercy

### **Opening Prayer**

**Let us pray** (*for strength and joy in serving God*)

God of life and love, our inspiration! Give us strength and joy in serving you as followers of Jesus Christ. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever .



**All:** AMEN

### ***Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah (45:1, 4-6)***

*God's people will return from exile in Babylon. It will happen through Cyrus, the King of Persia. Cyrus is seen as a sign of God's love for his people, and of the kingship of God over all peoples*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him – and the gates shall not be closed: 'For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me, so that all may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me: I am the Lord, and there is no other.'

The word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

***Responsorial Psalm : (95:1, 3-5, 7-10)***

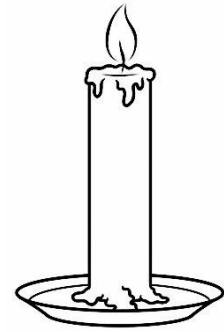
***All:***

O sing a new song to our God  
Sing to God all the earth  
Tell among the nations God's glory  
And God's wonders among all the peoples

Our God is great and worthy of praise  
to be feared above all gods  
the gods of the nations are naught  
It was You who made the heavens

Give to God, you families of peoples,  
give to God glory and power  
give to God the glory of God's name  
Bring an offering and enter God's courts

Worship our God in the temple  
O earth, tremble in the presence of God  
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is most high'  
God will judge the peoples in fairness



***Reader:***

***A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (1 Thessalonians 1:1-5)***

*Paul expresses his concern for the Christians of Thessalonica*

From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of love in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

The word of the Lord

***All:*** Thanks be to God

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia  
Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life  
Alleluia

### *A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (22:15-21 )*

*This is a story about the enemies of Jesus trying to trap him into something they can use against him.*

When the chief priests and Pharisees had heard the parables, they realized that Jesus was speaking about them. Then they went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them 'Whose head is this, and whose title?' They answered, 'The emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.'

The gospel of the Lord

*All:* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

### **Faith-sharing:**

- Do you avoid all talk about religion or politics? Why? / Why not?
- Are you amazed/shocked that as time went on, some people turned against Jesus and even hated him?
- What does the consistent honest and integrity of Jesus in the gospels mean to you?
- What are our main social responsibilities to our fellow-citizens?
- What are the main responsibilities of governments to the people they govern?
- When are citizens entitled to protest against, and to oppose their governments?
- How is payment of taxes necessary and good?
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## **Prayer of the Faithful**

**Presider:** Let us pray that we may not be afraid to stand up and be counted, in a world that often ignores or rejects the values of Jesus Christ

**Reader:**

**For our political** and civic leaders. May they respect the freedom of religion and the freedom of conscience. Lord, hear us (pause)

**For our church leaders.** May they have the courage to speak out on issues of truth and justice, especially for poor and neglected persons. Lord, hear us (pause)

**For all those** who are suffering in the cause of right. Lord, hear us (pause).

**For all of us** praying together today. May our lives back up our beliefs. Lord, hear us (pause).

**For all sick members** of our community and especially N and N., and for all victims of Covid-19, and for their carers. May they experience constantly the presence of God. Lord, hear us (pause).

**For those** who have died, and especially N. May they rejoice for ever in the company of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Lord, hear us (pause)

## **Parish Prayer**

God, Creator and Life-giver we thank you for the gift of one another in our Parish of St Paul Apostle. Bless us and our families with the power of your Spirit. Inspired and motivated by St Paul's courage and commitment to the person of Christ, may we continue to be open to change and challenge! Make us passionate and courageous in our mission of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ

***Presider:***

Lord God, grant us in all our tasks your help, in all our dangers your protection, in all our doubts your guidance, and in all our sorrows your consolation. We pray our pleas today through Jesus Christ our Lord .

***(All)*** Amen

**COMMUNION**

**Anima Christi Prayer** (Spiritual Communion)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me;  
Body of Christ, save me;  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me;  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me;  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me;  
O good Jesus hear me;  
Within your wounds hide me;  
From all harm protect me;  
At the hour of my death, call me;  
And close to you bid me;  
So that with your saints,  
I may praise you forever and ever. Amen



**CONCLUSION**

***Presider:*** May the Lord bless us, keep us from evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
Go and tell the good news of Jesus to everyone everywhere.

***All:*** Thanks be to God

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