

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

Year B

Sunday 14 March 2021

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| **ENTRANCE HYMN**  **4 CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT**  **(see the words on another page)**  **GREETINGS**  **PENITENTIAL ACT**  **No GLORY in Lent**  **COLLECT**  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,  one God, for ever and ever.  we, who are **Amen**    **FIRST READING** 2 Ch 36:14-16,19-23  *God's wrath and mercy are revealed in the exile and release of his people*  All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.  Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, ‘Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.’ | And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: ‘Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, “The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up.”’  **The word of the Lord.**  **Thanks be to God.**  **RESP PSALM** Ps 136(137):1-6  *Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!*  By the rivers of Babylon  there we sat and wept,  remembering Zion;  on the poplars that grew there  we hung up our harps. **R.**  For it was there that they asked us,  our captors, for songs,  our oppressors, for joy.  ‘Sing to us,’ they said,  ‘one of Zion’s songs.’ **R.**  O how could we sing  the song of the Lord  on alien soil?  If I forget you, Jerusalem,  let my right hand wither! **R.**  O let my tongue  cleave to my mouth  if I remember you not,  if I prize not Jerusalem  above all my joys! **R.**  **SECOND READING** Ep 2:4-10  *You have been saved through grace*  God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.  This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of | your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God’s work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.  **The Word of the Lord.**  **Thanks be to God.**  **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Jn 3:16  Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,  that all who believe in him might have eternal life.  Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  **GOSPEL** John 3:14-21  The Lord be with you.  And with your spirit.  A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John  Glory to you, O Lord.  *God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved*  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. |

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| 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.’  **Gospel of the Lord.**  **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**  **HOMILY**  **PROFESSION OF FAITH**  **Apostle’s Creed**  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.  **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**  Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you…  **Blessed be God for ever.**  Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you…  **Blessed be God for ever.**  Pray, brethren **(**brothers and sisters**)**,  that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, The almighty Father.  **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name,**  **for our good** **and the good of all his holy Church.** | **PREP GIFTS HYMNS**  **52 WILL YOU LOVE ME**  **(see the words on the third page)**  **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERING**  We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy,  O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world.  Through Christ our Lord.  **Amen.**  **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**  The Lord be with you.  And with your spirit.  Lift up your hearts.  We lift them up to the Lord.  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  It is right and just.  **Holy, Holy, Holy**  Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  Hosanna in the highest.  Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  Hosanna in the highest.  **THE MEMORIAL ACCLAM**    At the Saviour’s command  and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:  Our Father, who art in heaven,  hallowed be thy name;  thy kingdom come,  thy will be done  on earth as it is in heaven.  Give us this day our daily bread,  and forgive us our trespasses,  as we forgive those who trespass against us;  and lead us not into temptation,  but deliver us from evil.  Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  For the kingdom, the power and the glory are your now and for ever. | **SIGN OF PEACE**  Lord Jesus Christ,  who said to your Apostles:  Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  look not on our sins,  but on the faith of your Church,  and graciously grant her peace and unity  in accordance with your will.  Who live and reign for ever and ever.  Amen.  The peace of the Lord be with you always.  And with your spirit.  Let us offer each other the sign of peace.  **LAMB OF GOD**  Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  have mercy on us.  Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  have mercy on us.  Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  grant us peace  **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**  **COMMUNION HYMN**  **34 GOD OF MERCY AND COMPASSION**  **(see the words on the third page)**  **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**  O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world,  illuminate our hearts, we pray,  with the splendour of your grace,  that we may always ponder  what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity.  Through Christ our Lord.  Amen.  **FINAL SONG**  **67 WE LIVE BY FAITH**  **(see the words on another page)** |