

## Monday-Saturday, 21st-26th Feb 2022

### Seventh Week in Ordinary Time - Year C

#### MONDAY

##### *Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.**

READING: *James 3:13-18*

If there are any wise or learned men among you, let them show it by their good lives, with humility and wisdom in their actions. But if at heart you have the bitterness of jealousy, or a self-seeking ambition, never make any claims for yourself or cover up the truth with lies – principles of this kind are not the wisdom that comes down from above: they are only earthly, animal and devilish. Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

**PSALM: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

ACCLAMATION: **Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 9:14-29*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

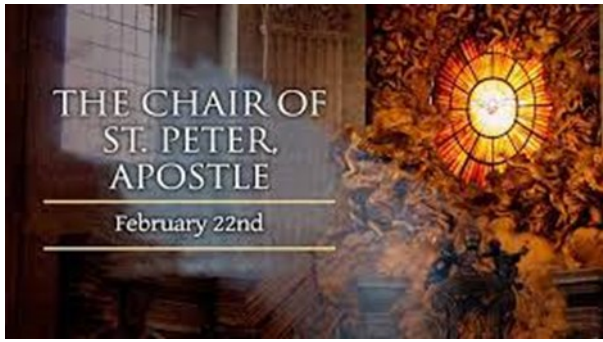
When Jesus, with Peter, James and John came down from the mountain and rejoined the disciples they saw a large crowd round them and some scribes arguing with them. The moment they saw him the whole crowd were struck with amazement and ran to greet him. 'What are you arguing about with them?' he asked. A man answered him from the crowd, 'Master, I have brought my son to you; there is a spirit of dumbness in him, and when it takes hold of him it throws him to the ground, and he foams at the

mouth and grinds his teeth and goes rigid. And I asked your disciples to cast it out and they were unable to.' 'You faithless generation,' he said to them in reply. 'How much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me.' They brought the boy to him, and as soon as the spirit saw Jesus it threw the boy into convulsions, and he fell to the ground and lay writhing there, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, 'How long has this been happening to him?' 'From childhood,' he replied, 'and it has often thrown him into the fire and into the water, in order to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us.' 'If you can?' retorted Jesus. 'Everything is possible for anyone who has faith.' Immediately the father of the boy cried out, 'I do have faith. Help the little faith I have!' And when Jesus saw how many people were pressing round him, he rebuked the unclean spirit. 'Deaf and dumb spirit,' he said, 'I command you: come out of him and never enter him again.' Then throwing the boy into violent convulsions it came out shouting, and the boy lay there so like a corpse that most of them said, 'He is dead.' But Jesus took him by the hand and helped him up, and he was able to stand. When he had gone indoors his disciples asked him privately, 'Why were we unable to cast it out?' 'This is the kind,' he answered 'that can only be driven out by prayer.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: **I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.**

## TUESDAY

*The Chair of St Peter*



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** **The Lord says to Simon Peter: I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail, and, once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.**

**READING:** *1 Peter 5:1-4*

I have something to tell your elders: I am an elder myself, and a witness to the sufferings of Christ, and with you I have a share in the glory that is to be revealed. Be the shepherds of the flock of God that is entrusted to you: watch over it, not simply as a duty but gladly, because God wants it; not for sordid money, but because you are eager to do it. Never be a dictator over any group that is put in your charge, but be an example that the whole flock can follow. When the chief shepherd appears, you will be given the crown of unfading glory.

**PSALM:** **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

**ACCLAMATION:** **Alleluia, alleluia!**

**You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** *Matthew 16:13-19*

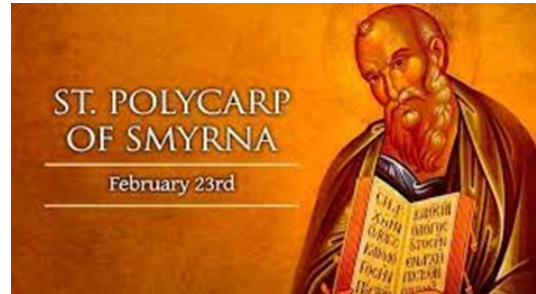
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** **Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus replied: You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.**

## WEDNESDAY

*Memorial of St Polycarp*



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** **This saint went as far as death, handing over his life to destruction for the work of Christ.**

**READING:** *Rev 2:8-11*

I, John, heard the Lord say to me: 'Write to the angel of the Church in Smyrna and say, "Here is the message of the First and the Last, who was dead and has come to life again: I know the trials you have had, and how poor you are – though you are rich – and the slanderous accusations that have been made by the people who profess to be Jews but are really members of the synagogue of Satan. Do not be afraid of the sufferings that are coming to you: I tell you, the devil is going to send some of you to prison to test you, and you must face an ordeal for ten days. Even if you have to die, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life for your prize. If anyone has ears to hear, let him listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches: for those who prove victorious there is nothing to be afraid of in the second death.'"

**PSALM:** **Into your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.**

**ACCLAMATION:** **Alleluia, alleluia!**

**You are God: we praise you, you are the Lord: we acclaim you; the white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** *John 15: 18-21*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If the world hates you, remember that it hated me before you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you do not belong to the world, because my choice withdrew you from the world, therefore the world hates

you.  
Remember the words I said to you:  
A servant is not greater than his master.  
If they persecuted me,  
they will persecute you too;  
if they kept my word,  
they will keep yours as well.  
But it will be on my account that they will  
do all this, because they do not know the  
one who sent me.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Whoever loses his life for the sake of the Gospel will save it, says the Lord.**

### **THURSDAY**

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.**

READING: *James 5:1-6*

The answer for the rich: start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

**PSALM: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 9:41-50*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is a good thing, but if salt has become insipid, how can you season it again? Have salt in yourselves and be at peace with one another.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.**

### **FRIDAY**

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.**

READING: *James 5:9-12*

Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord; remember it is those who had endurance that we say are the blessed ones. You have heard of the patience of Job, and understood the Lord's purpose, realising that the Lord is kind and compassionate.

Above all, my brothers, do not swear by heaven or by the earth, or use any oaths at all. If you mean 'yes', you must say 'yes'; if you mean 'no', say 'no'. Otherwise you make yourselves liable to judgement.

**PSALM: The Lord is kind and merciful.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 10:1-12*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

Jesus came to the district of Judaea and the far side of the Jordan. And again crowds gathered round him, and again he taught them, as his custom was. Some Pharisees approached him 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.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.**

## **SATURDAY**

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.**

READING: *James 5:13-20*

If any one of you is in trouble, he should pray; if anyone is feeling happy, he should sing a psalm. If one of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church, and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him. The prayer of faith will save the sick man and the Lord will raise him up again; and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven. So confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, and this will cure you; the heartfelt prayer of a good man works very powerfully. Elijah was a human being like ourselves – he prayed hard for it not to rain, and no rain fell for three-and-a-half years; then he prayed again and the sky gave rain and the earth gave crops. My brothers, if one of you strays away from the truth, and another brings him back to it, he may

be sure that anyone who can bring back a sinner from the wrong way that he has taken will be saving a soul from death and covering up a great number of sins.

**Psalm: Let my prayer come like incense before you.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 10:13-16*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

People were bringing little children to Jesus, 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.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.**