

When Mass cannot be celebrated publicly

Easter Sunday

Foreword

*The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? :
the Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?*

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Examen

Before listening to the Word of God take a moment to reflect

For what am I grateful to God for today?

Where did I stray from God – through words, actions or things I did not do.

How might I do better tomorrow?

What grace do I ask from God in order to live more closely in his love.

You may wish to conclude by saying:

Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth:

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

First Reading

Acts 10:34, 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: “You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.”

Psalm:**117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
His right hand raised me.
I shall not die, I shall live
And recount his deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

Second Reading**Colossians 3:1-4**

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory.

Gospel**John 20:1-9**

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb" she said "and we don't know where they have put him."

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Silent reflection - *Pause for a moment of silent reflection.*

Prayers

Intercessions

*Pray for family and loved ones so that they may be held in God's compassionate care.
Pray for other countries who are struggling with the effects of the COVID 19 virus.*

For those in authority:

may they offer advice with care and integrity, may they seek to protect the poor and vulnerable. *Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

For all who work in healthcare:

give strength to all who look after sick so that they may bring comfort and relief to the suffering. *Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

For the Church:

may she offer prayers and consolation for all those affected. *Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

For our local community and all for those in need:

may those who are isolated know the support and service of their neighbours. *Lord, in your mercy. Hear my prayer*

Lord's Prayer

Our Father...

Spiritual Communion - Prayer of St Alphonsus

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

Conclusion

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Additional Prayers

Pope Francis' prayer to the Virgin for protection

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Invocation of Our Lady

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me.

Prayer for the Household

Hear us, Lord, and send your angel from heaven to visit and protect, to comfort and defend all who live in this community. Amen.