



THE LORD'S DAY AT HOME

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

18th October 2020

If you are housebound or self-isolating at this time, please use these prayers to unite yourself with the worship of the Universal Church, and your own Parish this Sunday. If alone, read or say these prayers quietly to yourself. If with another, or in a family, someone should read the "leader" parts, and others respond. It might be suitable to find a special, quiet place at home for your Sunday prayers.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

A: To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

Sign of the Cross

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

Introduction

L: If you try and buy a Roman coin, you can get some very ancient ones quite cheaply. But if you try and get a denarius from the time of Emperor Tiberius, it will cost you a fortune! And that's probably because of today's Gospel – this is the coin that Jesus handles as he makes his point about us bearing the image and likeness of God. As we think about how to give ourselves back to God, let's praise God and ask for mercy, saying:

Gloria

A: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you

alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Opening Prayer

L: Let us pray. Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

A: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Gospel Reading *Matthew 22:15-21*

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Reflection

This is a wonderful moment, when Jesus manages to turn the

tables on those who are trying to trap him. They think they have the perfect question – if he says "Yes" he is collaborating with the hated Romans, if he says "No" they will haul him off to the Roman Governor as a troublemaking dissident. Jesus very cleverly avoids their trap, makes them fall in it themselves, and teaches something profound about our dignity and destiny. When he asks for a coin, he knows quite well they will produce a ROMAN denarius – would the Pharisees feel ashamed at having Roman coins in their pockets? Jesus has already got them on the back foot! Then he reminds them of the teaching of the Law: by asking whose "image" is on the coin, they will immediately think of Genesis 1:27: "So God created humankind in his image" Jesus almost dismisses the tax question, and reminds his listeners (and us!) of our dignity as creatures in God's image and likeness, and our duty to "give ourselves back to God."

For our Younger Friends

I bet you've got things like books or toys that you have put your name on to show they belong to you! This is the idea that Jesus is talking about in this Gospel. While the Pharisees are trying to trick him, Jesus teaches them something very special: that God has "put his name" on all of us – to show that we belong to God! The question we have to think about today is this: how do I give myself back to God? The answer is in the things we do, the sort of people that we are. Have a think about something you could do today to show you

are “giving yourself back to God.”

If gathering as a family, perhaps now continue to discuss what this Gospel passage means to you. If alone, think about what key message you take from the Scriptures today.

Profession of Faith

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.

Intercessions

L: Let us think of our prayers for this Sunday.

L: Today is World Mission Day: let us pray for missionaries throughout the world, and for the support of all members of the Church. Lord, in your mercy ...

A: Hear our prayer.

L: We pray for the spread of the Gospel in our own country, that we may proclaim the Good News to all that we meet. Lord, in your mercy ...

A: Hear our prayer.

L: We pray that we may not be selfish or greedy in our lives, but may seek to give glory to the God who made us by lives of generous service. Lord, in your mercy ...

A: Hear our prayer.

Please add your own prayers for the needs of the Church, the world and your local community. You may wish to add particular prayers for

family members, friends or neighbours in need at this time.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

L: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

A: 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. Amen.

L: Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

Before Spiritual Communion

L: Almighty Father, through his Paschal Mystery, Jesus our Lord accomplished the marvellous deed, by which he has freed us from the yoke of sin and death, summoning us to the glory of being now called a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for your own possession, to proclaim everywhere your mighty works, for you have called us out of darkness into your own wonderful light. At the Last Supper he showed the fullness of your love, as he gave his Body and Blood for his people. Even though we are not in Church, and not able to receive communion today, we open our minds and hearts now to your generous love and the gift of Jesus your Son, welcoming him spiritually into our lives.

Spiritual Communion

A: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the 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.

Pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Thanksgiving Psalm

L: Give the Lord glory and power.

A: Give the Lord glory and power.

L: O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.

A: Give the Lord glory and power.

L: The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught.

It was the Lord who made the heavens,

A: Give the Lord glory and power.

L: Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name.

Bring an offering and enter his courts.

A: Give the Lord glory and power.

L: Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness.

A: Give the Lord glory and power.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Final Prayer and Blessing

L: Let us pray. Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

L: May the Lord ✕ bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

A: Amen.

L: Let us bless the Lord!

A: Thanks be to God!