



EUCHALETTE



19 February 2012

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

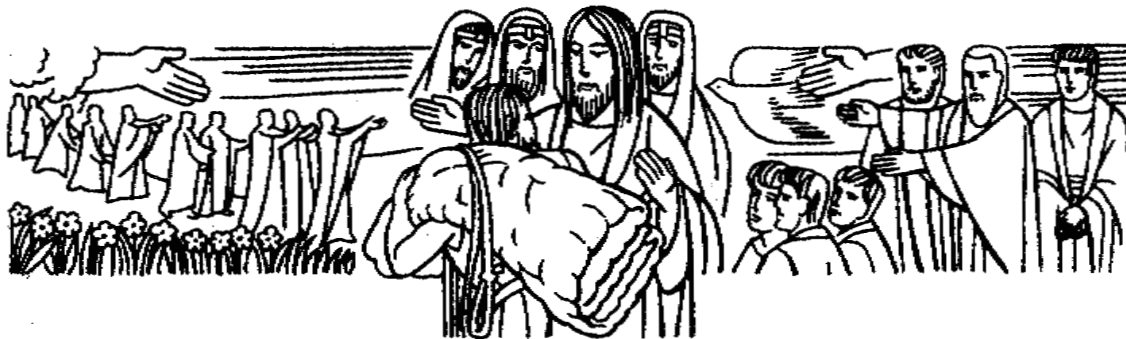
Year B

Healer of Soul and Body

We are afflicted by so many forms of illness and weakness in all aspects of our existence. We are in dire need of a “comprehensive salvation” which can come only from God. And He does send such a “total salvation” in the person of Jesus Christ who heals us from all our ailments and sets us free from all impediments.

In fulfilling his mission, Jesus starts from

the very core of our weakness and handicaps – our sinfulness. Once our souls and our hearts are healed, all the remaining aspects of our life fall into place and we feel strong enough to face the difficulties of life. We can dream again of becoming better and happier persons and even help others do the same. Let this be the special intention for which we offer this Eucharist.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

Lord, your mercy is my hope; my heart rejoices in your saving power. I will sing to the Lord for his goodness to me.

Greeting

***P* –The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!**

***All* –And also with you!**

Penitential Rite

P* –As we gather to celebrate the wonders of the Lord’s love for us, let us call to mind our sins and implore his forgiveness and his strength. *(Pause)

***P* –Lord Jesus, you are the Son of God and the Son of Man. Lord, have mercy!**

***All* –Lord, have mercy!**

***P* –Lord Jesus, you are the Divine Healer of body and soul. Christ, have mercy!**

***All* –Christ, have mercy!**

***P* –Lord Jesus, you want us to care for the total well-being of our brothers and sisters. Lord, have mercy!**

***All* –Lord, have mercy!**

***P* –May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.**

***All* –Amen!**

Gloria

***All* –Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God,**

heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. 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

***P* –Father, keep before us the wisdom and love you have revealed in your Son. Help us to be like him in word and deed, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.**

***All* –Amen!**

LITURGY OF THE WORD



1st Reading *Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24-25*

The inhabitants of Jerusalem languished in exile, suffering the devastating consequences of their unfaithfulness to the Lord. To them the prophet Isaiah addressed the heartening message contained in today's passage.

R –A proclamation from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: “Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not. See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth. Do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers. The people I formed for myself, that they might announce my praise.

Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob, for you grew weary of me, O Israel. You burdened me with your sins, and wearied me with your crimes.

It is I, I, who wipe out, for my own sake, your offenses; your sins I remember no more.”

The Word of the Lord!
All—Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 41*

R –*Lord, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you!*

R. M. Velez



* **Blessed is the one who has regard for the lowly and the poor; in the day of misfortune the Lord will deliver him. The Lord will keep and preserve him; and make him blessed on earth, and not give him over to the will of his enemies.**
R.

* The Lord will help him on his sickbed, he will take away all his ailment when he is ill. Once I said, “O Lord, have pity on me; heal me, though I have sinned against you.” **R.**

* **But because of my integrity you sustain me and let me stand before you forever. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from all eternity. Amen! Amen!** **R.**

2nd Reading *2 Cor 1:18-22*

St. Paul teaches us that Jesus Christ is both God's “Yes” to his promises, and our “Yes” to God's call.

R –A proclamation from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

As God is faithful, our word to you is not “yes” and “no.” For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was proclaimed to you by us – Silvanus and Timothy and me – was not “yes” and “no.” In him it has been only “yes.”

In fact, all the numerous promises of God have found their “yes” in him. Therefore, the “Amen” from us also goes through him to the glory of God.

The one who gives us security with you in Christ and who anointed us is God, he has also put his seal upon us and given the Spirit in our hearts as a first installment.

The Word of the Lord!
All—Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

All—Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, and to proclaim liberty to captives.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel *Mk 2:1-12*

Jesus is the “total liberator.” He sets people free from all forms of enslavement and whatever prevents their growth as children of God. Such is the message of today's Gospel passage.

P –A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All—Glory to you, Lord!

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it became known that he was at home. Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them, not even around the door, and he preached the word to them.

They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him. After they had broken through, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying.

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “My child, your sins are forgiven.”

Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves, “Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming! Who but God alone can forgive sins?”

Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said, “Why are you thinking such things in your hearts? Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, pick up your mat and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth,” he said to the paralytic, “I say to you: rise, pick up your mat, and go home.” He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone.

They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this.”

The Gospel of the Lord!
All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Homily

Profession of Faith

All—I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day, he

rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the life everlasting. Amen!

Prayer of the Faithful

P –Aware of Jesus’ healing power, let us turn to him and pray for the physical and spiritual needs of all mankind and our own, saying:

All–**Divine Healer, hear our prayer!**

C –For the entire community of believers: May it be the universal sacrament of salvation for all peoples. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For the Holy Father, our Bishops, and all other spiritual leaders: May they bring the healing power of Christ to their flocks with effective zeal. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For those who take care of the sick and the handicapped: May they find in Jesus the strength they need to serve their weaker brethren. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For all those who are affected by the paralysis of sin: May they approach Jesus with sincere sorrow for their sins and trust in his healing mercy. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For all of us who are present at this Eucharistic celebration: May we experience the healing power of Jesus and go to our homes totally renewed in mind and heart. Let us pray! **R.**

C –Let us pray in silence for our personal intentions. *(Pause)* Let us pray! **R.**

P –Lord Jesus, we come to you, confident that you can heal us, in body and soul. Make us once again strong and free that we may serve you with all our heart all the days of our lives. **All**–**Amen!**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST



Preparation of the Gifts

P –Pray, brethren . . .

All–**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 Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

P –Lord, as we make this offering, may our worship in Spirit and truth bring us salvation.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

All–**Amen!**

Preface VII

P –Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

So great was your love that you gave us your Son as our redeemer. You sent him as one like ourselves, though free from sin, that you might see and love in us what you see and love in Christ. Your gifts of grace, lost by disobedience, are now restored by the obedience of your Son.

We praise you, Lord, with all the angels and saints in their song of joy:

All–**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 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!

Acclamation

P –Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All–**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory!**

COMMUNION RITE



All–**Our Father . . .**

P –Deliver us, Lord . . .

All–**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever!**

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All–**Lamb of God. . .**

Communion

P –This is the Lord Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All–**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)

I will tell all your marvelous works. I will rejoice and be glad in you, and sing to your name, Most High.

Prayer after Communion

P –Almighty God, help us to live the example of love we celebrate in this Eucharist, that we may come to its fulfillment in your presence.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All–**Amen!**

CONCLUDING RITE



P –The Lord be with you!

All–**And also with you!**

P –Bow your heads and pray for God’s blessing. *(Pause)*

May almighty God strengthen your faith with proofs of His love, so that you will persevere in doing good.

All–**Amen!**

P –May He give you health in mind and body that you may serve Him with joyful hearts.

All–**Amen!**

P –May He direct your steps to Himself, and show you how to walk in charity and peace.

All–**Amen!**

P –May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All–**Amen!**

P –Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All–**Thanks be to God!**

Jesus, the "Total Healer"

Today's Gospel passage says nothing of the reaction of the owner of the house whose roof was ripped open by the four men who wanted to get a paralytic near Jesus at all costs. We can easily guess how that owner of the house felt by just imagining that the house was ours . . .

We can, likewise, easily guess what the people surrounding Jesus expected he would do upon seeing a paralyzed man being laid right in front of him. Obviously, the man had been carried there in order to be healed of his physical impediment. A spectacular miracle was expected by all. But **Jesus** disappointed them, though only for a little while. He did that not in order to create a greater suspense, but simply because he **knew that the man was paralyzed not only physically but also spiritually. And of the two forms of paralysis Jesus cured first the spiritual one because he considered it more crippling than the physical handicap.**

The scribes present in the crowd reacted negatively to Jesus' opening words. To them the sentence, "Your sins are forgiven" sounded blasphemous. Jesus remained unruffled by their sanctimonious objection and did not engage in a verbal debate. Instead, he answered their objection by simply ordering the paralyzed man to rise, pick up his mat and walk home. In so doing, not only did he solve the scribes' difficulty (see v. 6), but also completed the healing of the poor man, thereby showing that he was the "perfect healer" or the "total healer."

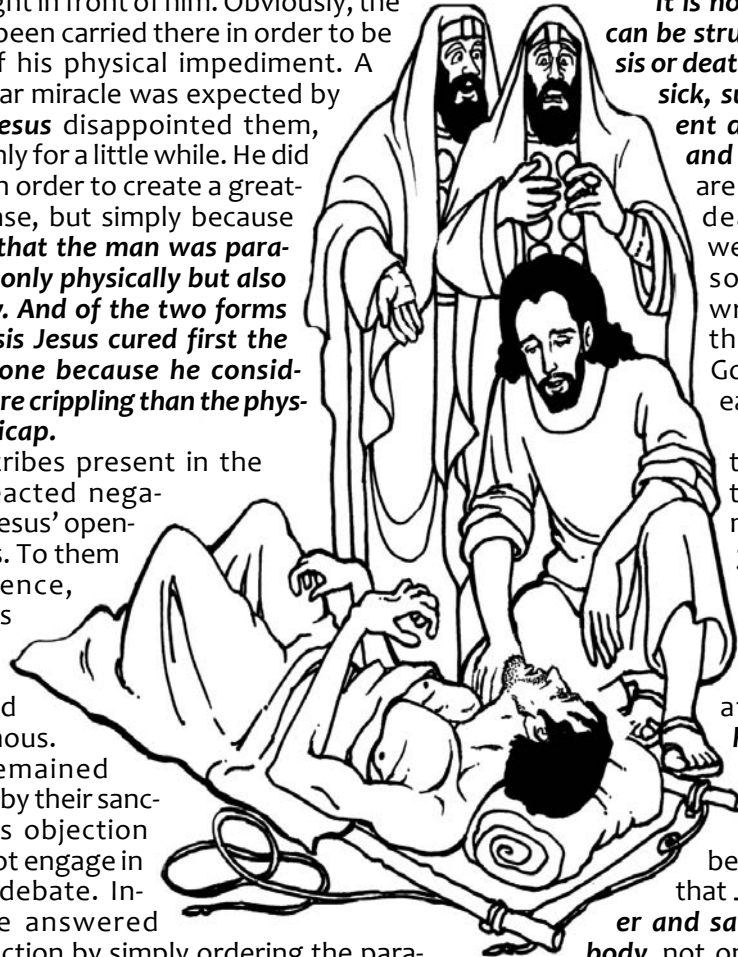
Jesus was fully aware that there is a deep relationship between our body and our soul, for we are just one being. That is why **his min-**

istry was characterized not only by physical healings but also by a constant attempt to liberate the whole human person from whatever disables or destroys it. His casting out devils, his being compassionate toward repentant sinners were as much prominent as his cleansing lepers, restoring sight to the blind and agility to paralytics, multiplying food for the hungry crowds, and even calling dead persons back to life.

It is not only our body which can be struck by sickness, paralysis or death. Our soul also can get sick, suffer "strokes," different degrees of "paralysis" and even death. All these are produced by SIN, the deadly "virus" which weakens and cripples the soul, reducing it to a wreck, and disfiguring the beautiful image of God imprinted by Him in each of us.

Nor is the destructive effect of sin limited to our "spiritual component." **Sin always affects negatively also the body,** though there may be cases when this "side effect" is not immediately noticeable. **We have to become more aware of the destructive power of sin.** But even more we must become aware of the fact that **Jesus is the great healer and savior of both soul and body,** not only in the life to come but also in this life.

Such a holistic approach to salvation and healing reaches us right in our daily lives. This means that, **as Christians, we must show an active concern for the salvation and well-being of the whole human person, starting already in this life.** Such is the essence of integral evangelization and integral salvation brought by Jesus.



WORD & LIFE
PUBLICATIONS

Don Bosco Compound, A. Arnaiz Ave. cor. Chino Roces Ave., Makati, Metro Manila

Postal Address: P.O. Box 1820, MCPO, 1258 Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines

Tel. Nos. 894-5401; 894-5402; 892-2169; 475-8945 • Telefax: 894-5241

• E-mail: editorial@wordandlife.org, marketing@wordandlife.org • Website: www.wordandlife.org

• Editorial Team: Fr. S. Putzu, G. Ramos, P. Dumanacal, D. Daguio, V. David

• Illustrations: S. Fabris, B. Cleofe • Circulation: F. Edjan