



28 April 2019

2nd Sunday of Easter / Feast of Jesus, King of Divine Mercy

Year C

## Receivers and Channels of God's Merciful Love

**T**oday, the Second Sunday of Easter, we honor the Risen Christ under the title of "King of Divine Mercy." Each of us has surely experienced the infinite mercy of the Lord in so many ways, including the reception of the gift of faith and the forgiveness of our sins.

We should manifest our gratitude to the Lord Jesus for his mercy toward us by being merciful toward our neighbor; we will be both the recipients and the channels of God's Merciful Love. And our lives will become living witnesses to Christ's resurrection and heralds of his love.

Like the converted Thomas, let us approach the merciful Christ in this Eucharist and renew our profession of faith by proclaiming aloud: "My Lord and my God!"

In this Eucharist we will pray especially for our youth, that they may learn to be compassionate toward all, but especially toward those who are most in need of love and solidarity.



### INTRODUCTORY RITES



#### Entrance Antiphon

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

**Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia!**

#### Greeting

**P** –Praise and honor to Jesus, King of Divine Mercy! May his grace and peace be with you all!

**All** –And with your spirit!

#### Penitential Act

**P** –My brothers and sisters, in the presence of Jesus, our King of Divine Mercy, let us renew the awareness of our many shortcomings and the need to be purified through his forgiveness. *(Pause)*

**P** –Lord Jesus, your mercy is boundless, but we have often abused your goodness and failed to make an effort to improve our behavior. Lord, have mercy!

**All** –Lord, have mercy!

**P** –Lord Jesus you have proclaimed "blessed" those who are merciful, but we have often been merciless toward those who have offended us. Christ, have mercy!

**All** –Christ, have mercy!

**P** –Lord Jesus, you have commanded us to be charitable, but we have often been heartless toward our needy neighbors. 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

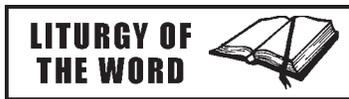
**All** –Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

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!

**Collect (Opening Prayer)**

**P** –God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed.

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.  
**All–Amen!**



**1st Reading Acts 5:12-16**  
*The Book of Acts tells us how the Church grew in numbers and esteem, thanks also to the healing power of Peter and the other Apostles.*

**R** –A proclamation from the Acts of the Apostles

Many signs and wonders were done among the people at the hands of the apostles. They were all together in Solomon’s portico. None of the others dared to join them, but the people esteemed them. Yet more than ever, believers in the Lord, great numbers of men and women, were added to them.

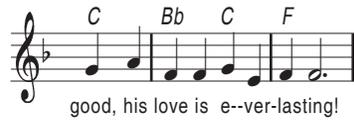
Thus they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and mats so that when Peter came by, at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them. A large number of people from the towns in the vicinity of Jerusalem also gathered, bringing the sick and those disturbed by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

The Word of the Lord!  
**All–Thanks be to God!**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 118**

**R** –Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting!

*R. M. Velez*



\* Let the house of Israel say, “His mercy endures forever.”  
Let the house of Aaron say, “His mercy endures forever.”  
Let those who fear the Lord say, “His mercy endures forever.” **R.**

\* I was hard pressed and was falling, but the Lord helped me. My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my savior. The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just. **R.**

\* The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. **R.**

**2nd Reading Rv 1:9-11, 12-13, 17-19**

*At the very beginning of his prophetic vision, John sees the Risen Christ, resplendent in his glory and full of life and power.*

**R** –A proclamation from the Book of Revelation

I, John, your brother, who share with you the distress, the kingdom, and the endurance we have in Jesus, found myself on the island called Patmos because I proclaimed God’s word and gave testimony to Jesus. I was caught up in spirit on the Lord’s day and heard behind me a voice as loud as a trumpet, which said, “Write on a scroll what you see.”  
Then I turned to see whose

voice it was that spoke to me, and when I turned, I saw seven gold lampstands and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, wearing an ankle-length robe, with a gold sash around his chest.

When I caught sight of him, I fell down at his feet as though dead. He touched me with his right hand and said, “Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I hold the keys to death and the netherworld. Write down, therefore, what you have seen, and what is happening, and what will happen afterwards.”

The Word of the Lord!  
**All–Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29**

**All–Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
“You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me,” says the Lord;  
“blessed are they who have not seen me, but still believe!”  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Gospel Jn 20:19-31**

*In today’s passage Jesus appears to his disciples, sends them to continue his mission, and bestows on them the power to forgive sins.*

**P** –The Lord be with you!  
**All–And with your spirit!**

**P** –A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to John

**All–Glory to you, O Lord!**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

**GLOSSARY:** • **First day of the week:** This phrase indicates Sunday, not Monday. For the Jews, in fact, the week ended with the Sabbath, the day of rest. Jesus rose from death on the day after the “great Sabbath” in which the Jews observed their Passover. The Church has transferred the day of rest and rejoicing to “the day after the Sabbath” and called it “Day of the Lord” (or Sunday) because it was on that day that Jesus rose from death, thereby inaugurating the real “Passover” from a humiliating death to a glorious life.

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.

But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

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

## Homily

### Profession of Faith

*(Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed)*

**All—**I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our

salvation he came down from heaven, (*bow*)\* **and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.\***

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

### Prayer of the Faithful

**P —**Let us open our hearts to the Triune God, the Source of all mercy and love, and pray with humble faith:

**All—Merciful God, hear our prayer!**

**C —**For the Church and her leaders: May they be an inspiration to all the faithful through their dedication, unity, and faithfulness to Christ. Let us pray! **R.**

**C —**For all those who are afflicted by physical, psychological or moral illness: May they always find healing and relief through the compassion of all believers. Let us pray! **R.**

**C —**For those who, like Thomas, find it hard to believe in the Resurrection: May they be helped by the witness of the Christian community to overcome their unbelief. Let us pray! **R.**

**C —**For those who administer the Sacrament of Penance: May they always be worthy

instruments of God's healing love. Let us pray! **R.**

**C —**For the coming national and local elections: May peace prevail throughout the country, and may we exert every effort to thwart acts of violence and cheating. Let us pray! **R.**

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

**P —**Lord Jesus, King of Mercy, we thank you for your Easter gifts of peace and forgiveness. May they bring us closer to you and to one another, and make us instruments of your love for all. You, who are King of Mercy for ever and ever!

**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 holy Church.

### Prayer over the Offerings

**P —**Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (*and of those you have brought to new birth*), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness.

Through Christ our Lord.  
**All—Amen!**

### Preface of Easter I

**P —**The Lord be with you!

**All—And with your spirit!**

**P —**Lift up your hearts!

**All—We lift them up to the Lord!**

**P —**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**All—It is right and just!**

**P —**It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, at all times to acclaim you, O Lord, but in this time above all, to praise you yet more gloriously, when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

For he is the true Lamb who has taken away the sins of the world; by dying he has destroyed our death, and by rising, restored our life.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in your praise and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts, sing together the unending hymn of your glory, as they acclaim:

**All—Holy, holy, holy . . .**

### Memorial Acclamation

**P** —The mystery of faith!

**All—We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again!**



**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** —Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.

**All—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

### Communion Antiphon

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

**Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia!**

### Prayer after Communion

**P** —Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All—Amen!**



**P** —The Lord be with you.

**All—And with your spirit!**

**P** —Bow your heads and

pray for God's blessing.

*(Pause)*

May God, in His saving love, dispel your doubts and lead you to fully believe in Him.

**All—Amen!**

**P** —May you experience deeply His merciful love in the sacraments and in the people around you.

**All—Amen!**

**P** —As you have experienced His mercy, may you become His instruments of love and mercy to the world.

**All—Amen!**

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

**All—Amen!**

**P** —Go in peace.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**All—Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!



### Prayer for the Grace to Be Merciful to Others

*(St. Faustina Kowalska)*

O Most Holy Trinity!

As many times as I breathe,

as many times as my heart beats,

As many times as my blood pulsates through my body, so many thousand times do I want to glorify Your mercy.

I want to be completely transformed into Your mercy and to be your living reflection, O Lord.

May the greatest of all Divine attributes, that of Your unfathomable Mercy,

pass to my neighbor through my heart and soul.

Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances,

but always look for what is beautiful in my neighbor's souls

and come to their rescue.

Help me, that my ears may be merciful,

so that I may give heed to my neighbor's needs,

and not be indifferent to their pains and moanings.

Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful, so that I should never speak negatively of others, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.

Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful and filled with good deeds,

so that I may do only good to my neighbor and always try to take upon myself the more difficult and toilsome tasks.

Help me, O Lord, that my feet may be merciful,

so that I may hurry to assist my neighbor, overcoming my own fatigue and weariness.

My true rest is in the service of my neighbor.

Help me, O Lord, that my heart may be merciful, so that I myself may feel all the sufferings of my neighbor.

I will refuse my heart to no one.

I will be sincere even with those who, I know, will abuse my kindness.

I will lock myself up in the most merciful Heart of Jesus, and I will bear my own suffering in silence.

May your mercy, O Lord, rest upon me!

*(Diary, 163)*



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