



EUCHALET

18 November 2018

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

We Await in Hope the Return of the Lord

On this 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, our readings remind us of an important truth of our Christian faith: the return of Christ in glory to gather his elect and make them share in his everlasting glory. This is our faith in spite of the occasional triumph of the wicked and their apparent going scot-free. Today's Word of God assures us that, on Judgment Day, perfect justice will be done: the virtuous will rise to be with Jesus in eternal happiness; the wicked will rise to bear the consequence of their rejection of God's call to conversion.

Such a message gives hope to all those who may not be getting their due in this life. It is also an appeal to those who are living in sin to go back to the Lord as soon as possible, for no one knows when the end will come. Let the perseverance of the just and the conversion of sinners be among the main intentions for which we offer this Eucharist.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

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

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Greeting

P –Our Lord Jesus will come to bring justice to the world. May his grace and peace be with you all!

All –And with your spirit!

Penitential Act

P –As we prepare to meet the Lord in this Eucharist, let us pause to realize our unworthiness to do so and the need to be purified from our sins. *(Pause)*

P –Lord Jesus, you sit for ever at the right hand of the Father. Lord, have mercy!

All –Lord, have mercy!

P –Lord Jesus, you will come in glory to judge all human beings. Christ, have mercy!

All –Christ, have mercy!

P –Lord Jesus, the heavens and the earth will pass away, but your words will never pass away. 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 –Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good.

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!

LITURGY OF THE WORD



1st Reading *Dn 12:1-3*

The history of mankind has always been a series of battles between those who strive to be faithful to the Lord and the forces of evil which sometimes seem to prevail. Today's passage from the Book of Daniel assures us that the good and the wise will be glorified, thanks to God's help, symbolized by the intervention of the Archangel Michael.

R –A proclamation from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

In those days, I, Daniel, heard this word of the Lord: "At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people.

It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress since nations began until that time.

At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace. But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever."

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

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 16*

R –*You are my inheritance, O Lord!*

R. M. Velez



You are my in- he-ri-tance, O Lord!

*** O Lord, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot. I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.**

*** Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my**

soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption. **R.**

*** You will show me the path to life, fullness of joys in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.** **R.**

2nd Reading *Heb 10:11-14.18*

Continuing his comparison between the Jewish priests and Jesus, the author of the Letter to the Hebrews emphasizes the superiority of the sacrifice of Christ. This alone is capable of saving and sanctifying all human beings.

R –A proclamation from the Letter to the Hebrews

Brothers and sisters:

Every priest stands daily at his ministry, offering frequently those same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But this one [Jesus] offered one sacrifice for sins, and took his seat forever at the right hand of God. Now he waits until his enemies are made his footstool. For by one offering he has made perfect forever those who are being consecrated.

Where there is forgiveness of sins, there is no longer offering for sin.

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

Gospel Acclamation

All – Alleluia! Alleluia!

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you may have the strength to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel *Mk 13:24-32*

As his ministry was drawing to a close, Jesus spoke of the end of Jerusalem and of the world using terms and images that were typical of the apocalyptic genre. In today's passage he assures his disciples of the final triumph of good, but also underlines the need for constant vigilance and preparedness.

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

P – A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All – Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus said to his disciples: **"In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.**

And then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds' with great power and glory, and then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky.

Learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that he is near, at the gates.

Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

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 –Our faith reminds us today that we are moving toward “new heavens and a new earth” which will be determined by our behavior in this life. Aware of our shortcomings, let us ask the Lord for the help we need to be more faithful. Let us all together say:

All–**Merciful Lord, hear us!**

C –For the whole community of believers and its leaders: May they offer a continuous witness to the triumph of good over evil.
R.

C –For those who are so much taken up by material interests and transactions: May they never lose sight of the lasting realities that await all men at the end of time. Let us pray!
R.

C –For those who feel discouraged by the many setbacks in their life and in human history: May they derive comfort and inspiration from the certitude of Christ’s triumphant Second Coming. Let us pray!
R.

C – For all our brothers and sisters who are about to die: May they proceed to meet the Lord with firm hope in His merciful love and our moral support. Let us pray!
R.

C –For all of us and our dear ones: May we always be ready to welcome the Lord through a

life of total dedication to Him. Let us pray!
R.

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

P –Lord God, grant that we may constantly live in Your grace now, so that on Judgment Day we may be admitted to live in Your presence for ever and ever.

All–**Amen!**



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 –Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness.

Through Christ our Lord.

All–**Amen!**

Preface VI

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, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For in you we live and move and have our being, and while in this body we not only experience the daily effects of your care, but even now possess the pledge of life eternal.

For, having received the first fruits of the Spirit, through whom you raised up Jesus from the dead, we hope for an everlasting share in the Paschal Mystery.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful cel-

ebration, we acclaim:

All–**Holy, holy, holy . . .**

Memorial Acclamation

P –The mystery of faith!

All–**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us! (2x)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace!

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.*)

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

P –We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity.

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 the God of all consolation grant you peace and grace all the days of your life.

All–Amen!

P –May He free you from all anxiety and strengthen your

hearts in His love.

All–Amen!

P –May He enrich you with His gifts of faith, hope, and love, so that what you do in this life will bring you to everlasting happiness.

All–Amen!

P –And may almighty God

bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All–Amen!

P –Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!

All–Thanks be to God!



THE BEST WAY TO PREPARE FOR THE END OF THE WORLD

• *Fr. Sal Putzu, SDB*

Rumors and fears about an impending “end of the world” are recurring events, especially now that man has developed and stock-piled so many destructive weapons.

Others see the end of all life on earth as the inevitable result of the ever-increasing pollution and of the irresponsible exploitation of its resources.

In both instances, “the end” is seen as a man-made result, whether abrupt or gradual, and with no “saving dimension.” Somehow, **Christ is left out of the picture, and so are the realities of a judgment and everlasting reward or punishment.**

A Christ-less end of the world is not according to our Catholic faith. It is not according to God’s plan. Thanks to divine revelation, we know about “the end” much more than science or human pessimism can predict. We know the essence of it, what really matters: **Christ, the “Son of Man,” will surely come with great power and glory to pass judgment on all men, and “assemble his chosen ones from the farthest bounds of earth and sky.”**(See Mk 12:26.)

The morbid curiosity of individuals and groups has often indulged in detailed description of destructions, sufferings and horror. The truth is that **no one knows how the end will come about, nor when.** This is a secret known to the

Father alone. (See the conclusion of today’s Gospel passage.)

What matters for us (and for all) is that **we should be always ready for that “reckoning day.”** The thought of the end should fill us not with crippling terror but with a dynamic determination to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord.

And this preparation does not consist in building radiation-proof underground bunkers, or in being launched into space, away from the conflagration that will engulf the earth. This is not only a faithless way of viewing the end, but a childish way of facing such a decisive event.

We prepare for the end by doing now as much good as we can, with the right intention (out of love for Christ), and to as many people as possible, because Christ, the Judge, is already present in each human being needing our help. (See Mt 25:35-36.40-45.)

If we pursue now this type of preparation for “the end,” not only shall we not be afraid of it. We shall actually look forward to it, eager to welcome the Son of Man, to see him personally and not just under the sometimes disappointing appearances of our neighbor. **That will be the day of the “mutual welcome”: we will welcome him as our Savior, and he will welcome us into his Kingdom as his dearest brothers and sisters.**



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