



6 July 2025

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

A Call to Social Transformation

Long before any human being dreamed of creating a “New Society” or a “New Order,” God had already planned to fashion humankind into a community characterized by love, solidarity, justice, and peace. It was **Jesus Christ** who revealed that “Grand Plan,” called it “**the KINGDOM OF GOD on earth,**” and laid its foundation in the group of disciples he had chosen.

Before he ascended into heaven, he also commissioned them to proclaim and establish the Kingdom in every nation and human heart.

Today we are reminded that the proclamation and the building of the Kingdom is the call and responsibility not just of the leaders and a few enthusiasts, but of all those who believe in Christ. Together, we are called to work for social transformation onwards to building God’s Kingdom on earth. That Kingdom is God’s vision and dream for us, but its realization must begin with all of us here and now!



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

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

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice. (Cf. Ps 48 [47]:10-11)

Greeting

P –In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

All–Amen!

P –The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

All– And with your spirit!

Penitential Act

P –As we prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins and ask the Lord for pardon and strength. *(Pause)*

P –Lord Jesus, you were sent by the Father to proclaim and establish God’s Kingdom on earth. Lord, have mercy!

All– Lord, have mercy!

P –Lord Jesus, you sent your disciples to be the heralds of the Kingdom among all peoples. Christ, have mercy!

All– Christ, have mercy!

P –Lord Jesus, you founded the Church to be the sign and instrument of your salvation for all human beings. 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 –O God, who in the abasement of your Son have raised up a fallen world, fill your faithful with holy joy, for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin, you bestow eternal gladness.

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.

All—Amen!

LITURGY OF THE WORD



1st Reading *Is 66:10-14*
These verses we are about to hear proclaimed are the conclusion of the Book of Isaiah (which was composed by a disciple of the great prophet). These words were addressed to the Jews who were suffering in exile. They are also an encouragement to us as we dream of better days for our country.

R –A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

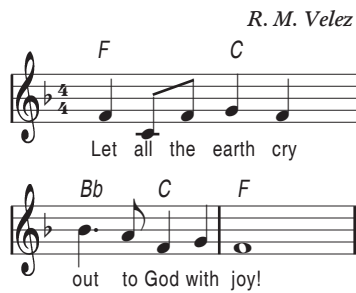
Thus says the Lord: Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad because of her, all you who love her. Exult, exult with her, all you who were mourning over her! Oh, that you may suck fully of the milk of her comfort, that you may nurse with delight at her abundant breasts!

For thus says the Lord: Lo, I will spread prosperity over Jerusalem like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent. As nurslings, you shall be carried in her arms, and fondled in her lap. As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you. In Jerusalem you shall find your comfort. When you see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bodies flourish like the grass. The Lord's power shall be known to his servants.

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

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 66*

R —*Let all the earth cry out to God with joy!*



* Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, “How tremendous are your deeds!” **R.**

* “Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!” Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam. **R.**

* He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot; therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever. **R.**

* Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness! **R.**

2nd Reading *Gal 6:14-18*
The Cross of Christ was St. Paul's highest value and inspiration in the trials of life. It should be the same for all of us.

R –A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians

Brothers and sisters:
May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation. Peace and mercy be to all who follow this rule and to the Israel of God.

From now on, let no one make troubles for me, for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit,

brothers and sisters. Amen!

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

Gospel Acclamation

All—Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the peace of Christ control your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel *Lk 10:1-12.17-20*

In today's Gospel, we learn that Jesus sent on mission seventy-two disciples, in addition to the Twelve. He did so to indicate the need for all believers to be involved in the spread of the Kingdom.

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

P —A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
All—Glory to you, O Lord!

At that time, the Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, “The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.

Go on your way; behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves. Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals; and greet no one along the way. Into whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this household.’ If a peaceful person lives there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. Stay in the same house and eat and drink what is offered to you, for the laborer deserves his payment. Do not move about from one house to another. Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, ‘The Kingdom of God is at hand for you.’ Whatever town you enter and they do not receive you, go out into the streets and say, ‘The dust of your town that clings to our

feet, even that we shake off against you.' Yet know this: the Kingdom of God is at hand! I tell you, it will be more tolerable for *Sodom* on that day than for that town."

The seventy-two returned rejoicing, and said, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us because of your name." Jesus said, "I have observed Satan fall like lightning from the sky. Behold, I have given you the power to 'tread upon serpents' and scorpions and upon the full force of the enemy, and nothing will harm you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

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 —The field of evangelization today is much vaster than it was in the time of Jesus. Even greater is the need for missionaries, priests, nuns, deacons, lay ministers, catechists, and other lay pastoral ministers. Aware of this, let us pray to the Master of the harvest:

All—Lord, send more worthy laborers to your Church!

C —That the Church may have numerous members working full-time for the spread of the Kingdom, let us pray! **R.**

C —That the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV and all our bishops may enjoy the valiant and loyal support of all the people of God, let us pray! **R.**

C —That our diocese and parishes may have more priests and nuns to cater to the spiritual needs of the whole community, let us pray! **R.**

C —That the lay faithful in our communities may realize their vital role in the Church and society and show generous commitment to that task, let us pray! **R.**

C —That the millions of non-Christians who await the proclamation of the Kingdom may soon be reached by a large number of missionaries, let us pray! **R.**

C —That the young whom Jesus calls to an apostolic life may respond generously to his invitation, let us pray! **R.**

P —Lord Jesus, you are the great missionary of the Father. Enrich your Church with many more apostles. Make them holy, and bless their endeavors that they may bring the light of your Gos-

pel to all peoples. You who live and care 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 —May this oblation dedicated to your name purify us, O Lord, and day by day bring our conduct closer to the life of heaven.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen!

Preface VIII

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 when your children were scattered afar by sin, through the Blood of your Son and the power of the Spirit, you gathered them again to yourself, that a people, formed as one by the unity of the Trinity, made the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit, might, to the praise of your manifold wisdom, be manifest as the Church.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels, we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

All—Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. 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!

GLOSSARY: • **Sodom:** A city in the southern part of the Dead Sea. It is usually associated with Gomorrah, the other ancient city notorious for its immorality. Both were destroyed by the Lord through sulfur and fire. (See Gn 19:24.)

Memorial Acclamation

P – The mystery of faith!
All—We proclaim your Death,
O Lord, and profess your
Resurrection until you
come again!

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, you take
away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us. (2×)

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

Communion

P – Behold the Lamb of God, be-
hold 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.)

Taste and see that the Lord
is good; blessed the man who
seeks refuge in him.

(Ps 34 [33]:9)

Prayer after Communion

P – Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that, having been replenished
by such great gifts, we may gain
the prize of salvation and never
cease to praise you.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen!

CONCLUDING RITES



P – The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit!

P – Bow down for the blessing.
(Pause)

—May the Lord enlighten
you with a clear vision of
the Kingdom as the most
important project in which
you are invited to be in-
volved.

All—Amen!

P – May He set your hearts afire
with love for the Kingdom
that you may work for it all
the days of your life.

All—Amen!

P – May you be able to inherit
the fullness of the Kingdom
at the end of your life on
earth.

All—Amen!

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

All—Amen!

P – Go in peace and be “King-
dom builders” in your daily
life.

All—Thanks be to God!



WHEN BOASTING IS APPROPRIATE

Kalakbay at Katoto

The readings today are a
study in contrasts. We hear
a call to rejoice to those who pre-
viously were mourning. We hear
St. Paul’s readiness to boast, but
this boast is associated with the
“marks of Jesus on [his] body.”
We hear the Lord exhorting us
to ask the harvest master to send
more laborers to his fields, but
we also are made aware of the
danger attached to the work of
reaping, a danger not unlike
that of lambs sent in the midst
of wolves.

We have today a very sobering
reality check for all followers of
Christ!

Reality . . . that which so many
people in our times try their best
either to ignore, gloss over, or
deny altogether. When reality
gets too painful, when it strikes
too close to home base, the com-
mon tendency for people is to
pretend “everything will be al-
right.” **But no amount of de-
nial can reverse the hard facts
of life. People suffer. People
die.** There are gross imbalanc-
es in the world, and whilst one
fourth of the world’s population
make use of three-fourths of the
world’s resources, three-fourths
of the world’s population make
do with the remaining one-fourth

of the world’s resources. Terror-
ists are a tough reality to deal
with. So is the fact that “bad
things happen to good people.”
And let us not mention anything
about wars . . . in Ukraine, in
Gaza and many other places all
over the world.

I am sure you all can add a lot
more to my short list.

**Christian faith, though, would
have us transcend mere ac-
knowledgment of reality.** Ac-
cepting what is real is not the
same as wallowing in the nega-
tive, and giving in to discour-
agement. Here is where today’s
readings come in. Here is where



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our faith has to weigh in, and here is where today's good news speaks to all of us powerfully. They all speak, not of a weapon against irreligion, not some kind of a tool-box that one can draw from to counteract such unpleasant realities. They speak, rather, of a spirituality, an attitude of mind and heart that is born of faith, and a sense of personal conviction that the God of history who irrupted into our earthly history, is basically in control, that the God we love and believe in, will never leave his flock untended.

Such solid conviction of God's "maternal" love ought to be enough for us to shout out with the psalmist: "Let all the earth cry out to God with joy!" Such adherence to the truth of God's saving love in Christ was what led St. Paul to boast not of his achievements, but *"in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

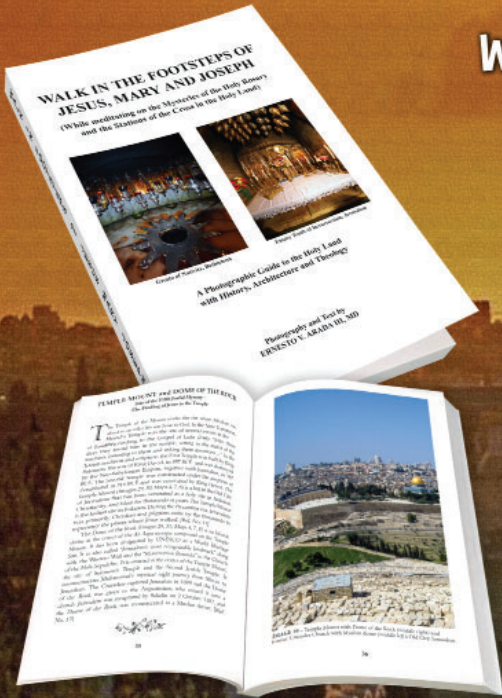
The world might well be in a real mess in many ways. The Church, too, may not be in the shape it was in back in the 60s to the 90s,

when upwards of 60% went to Sunday Mass regularly. Now it is down to a high of 38%. There may be a deep sadness in many of us as the Church's voice appears to remain unheeded, and, at times, even ridiculed by popular opinion. In Philippine context, I might add, the wonderful landmark teachings and decrees of PCP-II (Second Plenary Council) of 1991 are still far from being implemented. Corruption, a deteriorating educational system, grinding poverty, and the structural evil that is the political system, continue to cancel out what little efforts are done by well-meaning NGOs and philanthropists. Reality is far too obvious to deny, far too deeply entrenched to simply gloss over, including the strong possibility that a powerful big country northwest of us are influencing the electoral process.

Nor is there need for us to engage in denial. For something that does not exist cannot be given any solution. **Acknowledging the problem is, therefore, necessary as a starting point.**

Today's liturgy shows us in concrete where to go from here. It shows us that in the face of such challenges, we need to have a spirituality that knows how to embrace the cross, a spirituality that ought to lead us to reorder our priorities, and separate what is important from what is merely convenient, a spirituality that is willing to confront the prevailing standards of the world, one that does not boast of *"money bags, sacks, or sandals,"* but one that values mercy, peace, and the possibility of one's name not being honored here on earth, but on being *"written in heaven."*

There is this undeniable reality of a sinful world to confront. But there is this equally undeniable reality of the power from above to *"tread upon serpents and scorpions and upon the full force of the enemy."* **This is the power of the cross. And this is a time when boasting in its name, is more than just appropriate. In the cross is salvation. In the cross is hope. In the cross is victory.**



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