



13 SEPTEMBER 2026 ✦ 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✦ NATIONAL CATECHETICAL DAY ✦ YEAR A



‘CALLED TO FORGIVE LIKE GOD’

Today is the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In the Gospel, Peter thinks forgiving seven times is enough. Through His parable Jesus calls us to forgive without limits—because this is how God forgives us. Jesus not only taught mercy; He lived it on the Cross. In the Eucharist, we receive the grace to forgive as He does. We may never repay God’s merciful love, but we can reflect it by loving and forgiving as He loves.



INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(To be recited only when no entrance hymn is sung.)

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

(Cf. Sir 36:18)

GREETING

P –Blessed be the Lord our God who forgives all our sins. May His grace and peace 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’s forgiveness and the grace to forgive our offenders. (Pause)

P –Lord our God, you are always ready to forgive repentant sinners, but we often refuse to forgive those who offend us. Lord, have mercy.

All—Lord, have mercy.

P –Christ Jesus, you taught Peter to forgive seventy times seven times, but there are times when we find it so hard to forgive. Christ, have mercy.

All—Christ, have mercy.

P –Lord Jesus, you forgave those who were nailing you to the cross, but we sometimes refuse to forgive even the slightest offenses. 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.

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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 – Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your
mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our 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.
All–Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading

Sir 27:30-28:7

R – A reading from the Book of Sirach
**Wrath and anger are hateful things,
yet the sinner hugs them tight.
The vengeful will suffer the Lord's vengeance,
for he remembers their sins in detail.
Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray, your own sins will be
forgiven.
Could anyone nourish anger against another
and expect healing from the Lord?
Could anyone refuse mercy to another like
himself,
yet seek pardon for his own sins?**

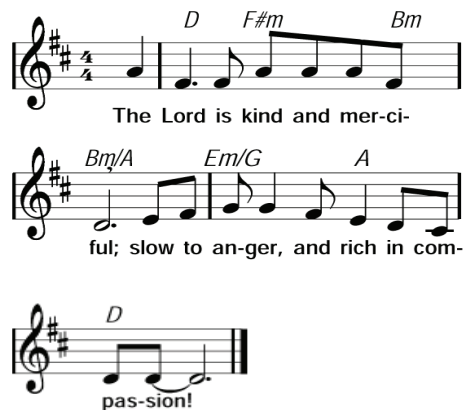
If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath,
who will forgive his sins?
Remember your last days, set enmity aside;
remember death and decay, and cease
from sin!
Think of the commandments, hate not your
neighbor;
remember the Most High's covenant, and
overlook faults.

The word of the Lord.
All –Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

R – The Lord is kind and merciful,
slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

R. M. Velez



* Bless the Lord, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits. **R.**

* He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and
compassion. **R.**

* He will not always chide,
nor does he keep his wrath forever.
Not according to our sins does he deal with
us,
nor does he requite us according to our
crimes. **R.**

* For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward
those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions
from us. **R.**

2nd Reading

Rom 14:7-9

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

Brothers and sisters:

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord.

So then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

The word of the Lord.

All –Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 13:34

All–Alleluia, alleluia.

“I give you a new commandment,” says the Lord;

“love one another as I have loved you.”
Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Mt 18:21-35

P –The Lord be with you.

All –**And with your spirit.**

P –A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All –**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Peter approached Jesus and asked him,

“Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?

As many as seven times?”

Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.

That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king

who decided to settle accounts with his servants.

When he began the accounting,

a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount.

Since he had no way of paying it back,

his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife, his children, and all his property, in payment of the debt.

At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said,

‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.’

Moved with compassion the master of that servant

let him go and forgave him the loan.

When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants

who owed him a much smaller amount.

He seized him and started to choke him, demanding,

‘Pay back what you owe!’

Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him,

‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.’

But he refused.

Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison

until he paid back the debt.

Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened,

they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master

and reported the whole affair.

His master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant!

I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to.

Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant,

as I had pity on you?’

Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers

until he should pay back the whole debt.

So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart.”

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 – Confident in the saving power of God’s merciful love, fully revealed in Jesus’ death on the Cross, let us bring all our needs before Him and pray:

All–Lord, teach us to forgive.

C – For the Church—the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, the bishops, the priests and all its members. May they model the love and forgiveness of Jesus. We pray: **R.**

C– For our country—may our leaders serve with sincerity and work toward true reconciliation, so that the needs of all, especially the poor and neglected, are met. We pray: **R.**

C – For all families and couples on the brink of separation, may love and forgiveness rekindle their hearts in imitation of Christ crucified. We pray: **R.**

C – For the sick and the dying—may they experience God’s comforting and healing presence, and unite their sufferings with Christ. We pray: **R.**

P – Heavenly Father, in the death of Your Son on the Cross, You revealed the fullness of Your love and mercy. Grant that we may reflect Your forgiving love in our lives, so that others may recognize You in us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 – Look with favor on our supplications,
O Lord,
and in your kindness accept these, your servants’
offerings,
that what each has offered to the honor of your
name
may serve the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.
All–Amen.

PREFACE IV

P – The Lord be with you.

All–And with your spirit.

P – Lift up your hearts.

All–We lift them up to the Lord.



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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,
through Christ our Lord.

For by his birth he brought renewal
to humanity's fallen state,
and by his suffering, canceled out our sins;
by his rising from the dead,
he has opened the way to eternal life,
and by ascending to you, O Father,
he has unlocked the gates of heaven.
And so, with the company of Angels and Saints,
we sing the hymn of your praise,
as without end we acclaim:

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.

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. (2x)

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

COMMUNION

P –This is the Lord Jesus who came to bring
us the Father's forgiveness. He is the Lamb
of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**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.)

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the
shadow of your wings.

(Cf. Ps 36 (35): 8)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P – May the working of this heavenly gift, O

Lord, we pray,

take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us.

Through Christ our Lord.

All–Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

P –The Lord be with you.

All–And with your spirit.

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

All–Amen.

P –Our Eucharistic sacrifice has been offered.
Go and share its fruits with all you meet.

All–Thanks be to God.



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