

IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

This Mass can be celebrated, according to the rubrics given for Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions, on any day except Solemnities, the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, days within the Octave of Easter, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day), Ash Wednesday and the days of Holy Week.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

Is 53:4

Truly the Lord has borne our infirmities,
and he has carried our sorrows.

Collect

Almighty and eternal God,
our refuge in every danger,
to whom we turn in our distress;
in faith we pray
look with compassion on the afflicted,
grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners,
healing to the sick, peace to the dying,
strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders
and the courage to reach out to all in love,
so that together we may give glory to your holy name.
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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Option

First Reading

A reading from the book of Lamentations
It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save.

Lam 3:17-26

My soul is shut out from peace;
I have forgotten happiness.
And now I say, 'My strength is gone,
that hope which came from the Lord.'
Brooding on my anguish and affliction
is gall and wormwood.
My spirit ponders it continually
and sinks within me.
This is what I shall tell my heart,
and so recover hope:
the favours of the Lord are not all past,
his kindnesses are not exhausted;

every morning they are renewed;
great is his faithfulness.
'My portion is the Lord,' says my soul,
'and so I will hope in him.'
The Lord is good to those who trust him,
to the soul that searches for him.
It is good to wait in silence
for the Lord to save.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3, 5-7

R. Lord, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **R.**

Lord God of hosts, how long
will you frown on your people's plea?
You have fed them with tears for their bread,
an abundance of tears for their drink.
You have made us the taunt of our neighbours,
our enemies laugh us to scorn. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation

2 Cor 1:3b-4a

[**R.** Alleluia, alleluia.]
Blessed be the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort,
who consoles us in all our afflictions.
[**R.** Alleluia, alleluia.]

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Mk 4:35-41

Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Second Option

First Reading

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

Rom 8:31b-39

Neither death nor life can come between us and the love of God.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. As scripture promised: For your sake we are being massacred daily, and reckoned as sheep for the slaughter. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 122:1-2

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

or:

R. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

To you have I lifted up my eyes,
you who dwell in the heavens:
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves
on the hand of their lord. **R.**

Like the eyes of a servant
on the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes are on the Lord our God
till he show us his mercy. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation

2 Cor 1:3b-4a

[**R.** Alleluia, alleluia.]

Blessed be the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort,
who consoles us in all our afflictions.

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The Gospel of the Lord.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preface

[Pastoral Note: The Preface for the Anointing of the Sick during Mass is suitable for use at this liturgy. Cf. Pastoral Care of the Sick #145]

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
for you have revealed to us
in Christ the healer
your unfailing power and steadfast compassion.

In the splendour of his rising
your Son conquered suffering and death
and bequeathed to us his promise
of a new and glorious world,
where no bodily pain will afflict us
and no anguish of spirit.

Through your gift of the Spirit,
you bless us, even now,
with comfort and healing,
strength and hope,
forgiveness and peace.

In this supreme sacrament of your love
you give us the risen body of your Son:
a pattern of what we shall become
when he returns again at the end of time.

In gladness and joy
we unite with the angels and saints
in the great canticle of creation,
as we say (sing):

Eucharistic Prayer

[Pastoral Note: The Eucharistic Prayer for Various Needs IV is particularly suitable for this liturgy.]

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, the gifts we
offer in this time of peril.
May they become for us, by your
power, a source of healing and peace.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 11:28

Come to me, all who labour and are burdened,
and I will refresh you, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

O God, from whose hand we have
received the medicine of eternal life,
grant that through this sacrament
we may glory in the fullness of heavenly
healing. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITES

Prayer over the People

O God, protector of all who hope in you,
bless your people, keep them safe,
defend them, prepare them,
that, free from sin and safe from the enemy,
they may persevere always in your love.
Through Christ our Lord