

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH—JEBEL ALI

YEAR C

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem! Be glad for her, you who love her; rejoice with her, you who mourned for her, and you will find contentment at her consoling breasts.

Entrance Hymn

Yes, I shall arise and return to my Father.

1. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
in you, O my God, I place all my trust.
2. Look down on me, have mercy, O Lord;
forgive me my sins, behold all my grief.
3. Do not withhold your goodness from me;
O Lord, may your love be deep in my soul.



Greeting

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

All: AMEN

C: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Penitential Rite

C: My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

Pause for silent reflection. After a brief silence all say:

All: I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord, our God.

C: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

P: AMEN

The Kyrie

C: Lord, have mercy.

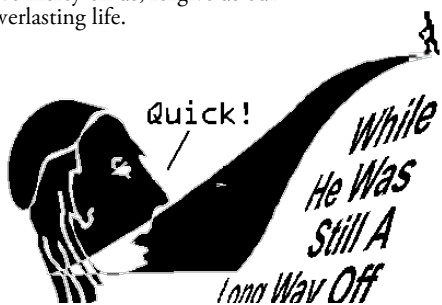
P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Christ, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.



Opening Prayer

Father of peace,
we are joyful in your Word, your Son Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to you.
Let us hasten toward Easter with the eagerness of faith and love.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

5:9–12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The People of God keep the Passover on their entry into the promised land.

The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.”

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morning of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.



This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2–7. R v. 9

R Taste and see that the Lord is good.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R**
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **R**
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **R**

Second Reading

5:17–21

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

God reconciled himself to us through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appearing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God. This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

I will leave this place and go to my father and say: “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.”

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

Gospel

15:1–3. 11–32

C: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

C: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. “This man” they said “welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he spoke this parable to them:

“A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, ‘Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.’ So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

“When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, ‘How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.’ So he left the place and went back to his father.

“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. ‘Your brother has come’ replied the servant ‘and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.’ He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, ‘Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property — he and his women — you kill the calf we had been fattening.’

“The father said, ‘My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn

1. Lord, accept this bread and wine,
take our hearts and make them Thine.
Take our work and our anxiety,
give us life and liberty.
2. Change this bread into your body
and this wine into your blood.
Change our lives, make us united, Lord,
to spread the love of Christ, the Lord.

The Offering

(If no song is sung, then the people may make the responses to the prayer of offering given here.)

C: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

P: Blessed be God for ever.

C: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

P: Blessed be God for ever.

C: Pray, brethren, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

P: 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 Church.

Prayer over the gifts

Lord,
we offer you these gifts which bring us peace and joy, increase our reverence by this eucharist, and bring salvation to the world.

Eucharistic Prayer

C: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

C: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

C: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Acclamation

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 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

C: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

P: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Communion Rite

C: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

C: Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Breaking of the Bread

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

C: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

My son, you should rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.

Communion Hymn

1. Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast;
Body of Christ be thou my saving guest;
Blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide;
wash me with water flowing from thy side.
 2. Strength and protection may thy Passion be;
O, Blessed Jesus, hear and answer me;
deep in thy wound, Lord, hide and shelter me;
so I shall never, never part from thee.
 3. Guard and defend me from the foe malign;
in death's dread moments make me only thine;
call me and bid me, come to thee on high;
when I may praise thee with thy saints for aye.
1. Sweet heart of Jesus, font of love and mercy;
today we come Thy blessings to implore.
Oh, touch our hearts so cold and so ungrateful
and make them, Lord, Thine own for ever more.
*Sweet heart of Jesus, we Thee implore,
Oh, make us love Thee, more and more. (2x)*
 2. Sweet heart of Jesus, make us know and love Thee.
Unfold to us the treasures of Thy grace,
that so our hearts from things of earth uplifted
may long alone to gaze upon Thy face.
 3. Sweet heart of Jesus make us pure and gentle
and teach us how to do Thy blessed will
to follow close the print of Thy dear footsteps
and when we fall Sweet heart, oh, love us still.
 4. Sweet heart of Jesus bless all hearts that love Thee
and may Thine own heart ever blessed be;
Bless us, dear Lord and bless the friends we cherish
and keep us true to Mary and to Thee.

Prayer After Communion

Father,
you enlighten all who come into the world. Fill our hearts with the light of your gospel, that our thoughts may please you, and our love be sincere.

Concluding Rite

C: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

C: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

P: Amen.

C: The Mass is ended, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

1. God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've born again in Jesus' name;
and in Jesus' name, I come to you
to share his love as He told me to.
*He said freely, freely you have received;
freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe
others will know that you live.*
2. All pow'r is given in Jesus' name,
in earth and heav'n in Jesus' name;
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share his pow'r as he told me to.

