

SUNDAY CELEBRATION AT HOME

March 22, 2020 — Fourth Sunday of Lent

Leader: + In the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Response: AMEN

Leader: I confess...

All Respond: . . . to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (Strike Breast) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore 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.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord have mercy

Leader: Christ have mercy.

Response: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

Response: Lord have mercy.

Leader: Let us pray.

Leader: O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten towards the solemn celebrations to come. 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. AMEN

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1B, 6-7, 10-13A

The LORD said to Samuel: "Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen my king from among his sons." As Jesse and his sons came to the sacrifice, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is here before him." But the LORD said to Samuel: "Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart." In the same way Jesse presented seven sons before Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any one of these." Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" Jesse replied, "There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep." Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here." Jesse sent and had the young man brought to them. He was ruddy, a youth handsome to behold and making a splendid appearance. The LORD said, "There—anoint him, for this is the one!" Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed David in the presence of his brothers; and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All Respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm — Psalm 23: 1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

R — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

R — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk in the dark valley

I fear no evil; for you are at my side

With your rod and your staff that give me courage.

R — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

R — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.

R — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading — Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and sisters: You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says: "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All Respond: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

A reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

All Respond: Glory to You, O Lord.

(John 9: 1-41) — As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" —which means Sent—. So he went and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know." They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him." So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from." The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin,

and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out. When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains.

Leader — The Gospel of the Lord.

All Respond — Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader —

Our Lord has given us light which helps us to know our sins and seek His mercy. Let us pray that we walk always in the light, and that we proclaim Jesus as the Messiah to all who will listen.

Reader — Our response is: Lord hear our prayer.

For the Universal Church, God's family throughout the world, that it continues to shine as a light in the darkness of the world, helping people in every condition of life to see God clearly...

Let us pray to the Lord . . . Lord hear our prayer

For leaders of nations and all those in civil authority, that in this time of confusion and crisis as a result of disease and pandemic, that they might wisely protect their people from all harm....

Let us pray to the Lord . . . Lord hear our prayer

For the sick and suffering in our community and around the world, especially those who suffer with the coronavirus and isolation, that they might be consoled by the healing of the soul through the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Anointing of the sick...

Let us pray to the Lord . . . Lord hear our prayer

That through the healing touch of Our Lord Jesus Christ, those who have fallen away from the beautiful and consoling practice of their Catholic faith might have their eyes opened again and return to their proper place once again before the sacred altar of the Lord.

Let us pray to the Lord . . . Lord hear our prayer

For those who work in health care and in public service, that they might be blessed in their work at this time and be protected from all harm.

Let us pray to the Lord . . . Lord hear our prayer

For all those who have passed through the door of death to receive their eternal reward, especially those in our own families, that the prayers and spiritual sacrifices of this Lent might bring many souls to the fullness of God's Kingdom.

Let us pray to the Lord . . . Lord hear our prayer

Leader —

Almighty God our Heavenly Father, we offer these prayers to you with our whole hearts. Hear us, we pray, as we place our trust in you who are Lord, forever and ever.

All — AMEN.

ALL RECITE THE OUR FATHER TOGETHER

Our Father...

Leader — May Almighty God bless us and protect us from all evil, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All — Thanks Be to God.