



USCCaruso
Catholic Center

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Family Prayer Service

Presider: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

Let us acknowledge the times which we have not been faithful to God.

Penitential Rite A

All: I confess 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,

(striking your breast, say:)

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;

(Then continue with:)

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.

Opening Prayer:

Presider:

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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.

All: Amen

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah:

Jeremiah 20:7-9

You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be duped; you were too strong for me, and you triumphed. All the day I am an object of laughter; everyone mocks me.

Whenever I speak, I must cry out, violence and outrage is my message; the word of the LORD has brought me derision and reproach all the day.

I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (2b)

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory, for your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans:

Romans 12:1-2

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia:

Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew:

Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct."

The Gospel of the Lord

Reflection/Family Discussion on the readings and Gospel:

Homi-flection for the Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by Fr. Richard

It would be helpful for us to recall last week's Gospel where Peter courageously tells Jesus that he is THE Christ—the Son of God. Jesus tells him that only The Father revealed that to him and that he will build his Church upon him and that the gates of hell will never overpower it. Do you remember this from last week? Now, let's compare that to today's Gospel. Keep in mind that a week did not pass between these two events. It was one conversation to the next. What a tough situation to be in for Peter! Yet, what tough love Our Lord had for him and the other disciples!

We could walk away from this thinking that Our Lord must be really moody or has some sort of disorder. Of course, this is far from the truth. By now, you should know that Our Lord is not this erratic, nor does he do or say things without purpose. So what is going on here and what is he teaching us? After all, we are intermingled with the other disciples.

Our faith is about both verbal assent and action. Contrary to the world, we are not a community of people who just pray. It is from the root of our relationship with the Father and through our conversation with Him that the purpose of all of our activity finds its unity. For Peter, in some ways, it was easy to profess that Jesus is the Christ. Yet, this was only the beginning. Jesus continues to describe the journey that the Father intends for him to endure. When Jesus reveals to the disciples that he must go to Jerusalem to be crucified, Peter was unprepared to listen and he definitely wasn't having it. Here, we can identify with Peter to some degree. When we are met with something difficult, isn't it our reaction, at times, to avoid it? When the Father gives us a cross to carry, isn't it tempting to just drop it or reject it?

This is why Christ rebukes him—albeit harshly. Although Peter was operating from a place of care, he didn't realize what he was saying. As important as our intentions are, it really does matter what we both do and say. Just because our intentions are good, we are not excused from practicing wisdom and prudence. What Peter didn't realize was that he was tempting Jesus to reject the cross! In effect, he was communicating what Satan wants! Indeed, every time, no matter how big or small, when we neglect the crosses in our lives, we are turning our ear to the voice of Satan. I hear you say: "Wow. That is so dramatic, father! Really?" My simple response is "yes." We must remember that the love we have for Our Lord is communicated by both our words and actions. A mother can't look her children in the eye and say that she loves them if she consistently doesn't provide for them or help them. How can we say to the Lord "I love you...you are my God...etc" if we consistently don't follow through with what love demands.

For a mini examination of conscience, let's explore a few of these questions and find room in hearts for repentance and make the effort to begin again! St. Josemaria says: "Nunc coepi et hodie!" (Let us begin again and TODAY!).

1. Am I faithful to my plan of life? Am I faithful to God when I schedule time for prayer?
2. Am I open to making Mass and prayer the priority of my day to give God his rightful place?
3. Do I generously accept the big and small crosses that are given to me throughout the day? Do I practice generosity?
4. Do I treat prayer, mass, and mortifications like a checklist or something to belabor instead of having an attitude of joy and gratitude?

Folks, as you prayerfully consider these questions, keep reminding yourself that this is not about your perfection by the strength of your will. It is an exercise in humility and love to generously give God the most valuable thing in our lives: time. I pray that it is quality time.

Our Immaculate Mother, St. Joseph, our father and lord, and our guardian angels, intercede for us!

Nicene 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.

(raise from bow)

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

Presider: Let us lift up hearts and voices to the Lord in prayer.

Intercessions:

1. For our Church and parish community, that we may selflessly take up one another's crosses and walk together in the footsteps of Christ: *(Pause for silent prayer)*.
All: Lord, hear us.
2. For Pope Francis, Archbishop Jose Gomez, Father Richard, and for all bishops, priests, deacons and ministers, that they may persevere in speaking the Word of God burning in their hearts: *(Pause for silent prayer)*.
All: Lord, hear us.
3. For our President and Governor and all legislators, judges, and government officials, that they may conduct the affairs of state by God's standards of justice and equality: *(Pause for silent prayer)*.
All: Lord, hear us.
4. For those who serve and advocate for the poor, the abused, the oppressed, and all in need, that we may hear, in their cry for justice, the Word of God: *(Pause for silent prayer)*.
All: Lord, hear us.
5. For the sick, the suffering, the recovering, and the dying, that they may find hope in healing in our compassionate care and support :*(Pause for silent prayer)*.
All: Lord, hear us.
6. For the faithful who have died, that they may be welcomed by the angels into the Kingdom of God: *(Pause for silent prayer)*.
All: Lord, hear us.

Presider: Oh Lord, hear or prayers for the human family. Give us eyes to see your face in the midst of suffering and anguish; give us ears to hear your voice in the midst of ridicule and confusion; give us hearts that sense your presence in times of turmoil and despair.
In Jesus name we pray.

Our Father:

Presider: At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be 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.

Amen

Sign of Peace:

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Presider:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All:

And with your spirit.

Presider:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

(At this time please offer a moment of silence before the Spiritual Communion is said.)

Spiritual Communion:

All: I wish my Lord, to receive you with the purity, humility and devotion with which your most holy Mother received you, with the spirit and fervor of the saints.

Closing Prayer:

Presider: Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbor. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen