

St Peter and St Paul

INTRODUCTION

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

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
[**And also with you.**]

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.
We run the race set before us, surrounded by
a great cloud of witnesses. Therefore let us lay
aside every weight, and the sin which clings
so closely, bringing them to Jesus in penitence
and faith.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon ✠ and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEÏSON is sung.

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is recited.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to
his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God
and Father, we worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world: have mercy on us; you
are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**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.**

The priest says the COLLECT.

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter
and Paul glorified you in their death as in
their life: grant that your Church, inspired by
their teaching and example, and made one by
your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one
foundation, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 12.1–11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

About that time Herod the king laid violent
hands on some who belonged to the church.
He killed James the brother of John with the
sword, and when he saw that it pleased the
Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This
was during the days of Unleavened Bread.
And when he had seized him, he put him in
prison, delivering him over to four squads
of soldiers to guard him, intending after the
Passover to bring him out to the people. So
Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer
for him was made to God by the church.

Now when Herod was about to bring him
out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping

between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak round you and follow me." And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125

℟. Do good, O Lord, to the true of heart.

(All repeat)

Those who put their trust in the Lord are as unshakeable as Mount Zion, which stands fast for ever. ℟.

As the mountains stand about Jerusalem, so the Lord stands round about his people, from this time forth for evermore. ℟.

For the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just, lest the just should turn to evil. ℟.

Let your goodness Lord be shown upon those who are righteous and upon the true of heart. ℟.

As for those who turn aside to crooked ways, the Lord will lead them away with the evildoers;

but upon Israel let there be peace. ℟.

SECOND READING

2 Tim 4.6-8,17-18

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever, Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15.15

Alleluia.

I do not call you servants but friends: for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL READING

Mt 16.13-19

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on

this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

A SERMON *follows.*

The NICENE CREED is recited.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(all bow) **was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

(all rise) **For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again 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.**

We 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 worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

The INTERCESSIONS are introduced. They end:

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The priest introduces the PEACE.

God has sent word to his people, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

[And also with you.]

The priest prepares the altar, and then says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

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.

Lord, may the prayer of your apostles accompany the offering we bring to your name, and so enable us to celebrate this sacrifice with true devotion; through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

[And also with you.]

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The PREFACE follows.

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS are said in response.

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.

This ACCLAMATION follows the Consecration:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:

... for ever and ever. Amen.

RITE OF COMMUNION

The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.

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.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is said.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

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

The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

Holy Communion is received.

The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

CONCLUSION

The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.

The Lord be with you.

[**And also with you.**]

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May almighty God, who has set you firm within his Church, founded upon the rock of Peter's confession, bless you with a faith which never falters. **Amen.**

May he instruct you always, by the example of the unwearied preaching of Saint Paul, in gaining others for Christ. **Amen.**

May the keys of Peter, the words of Paul, and the intercession of both, bring you to the joy of that eternal home which Peter gained by his cross and Paul by the sword. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The service may end with the ANGELUS.

∩. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:

℟. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

∩. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

℟. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ...

∩. And the Word was made flesh:

℟. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ...

∩. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:

℟. **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought to the glory of his Resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**