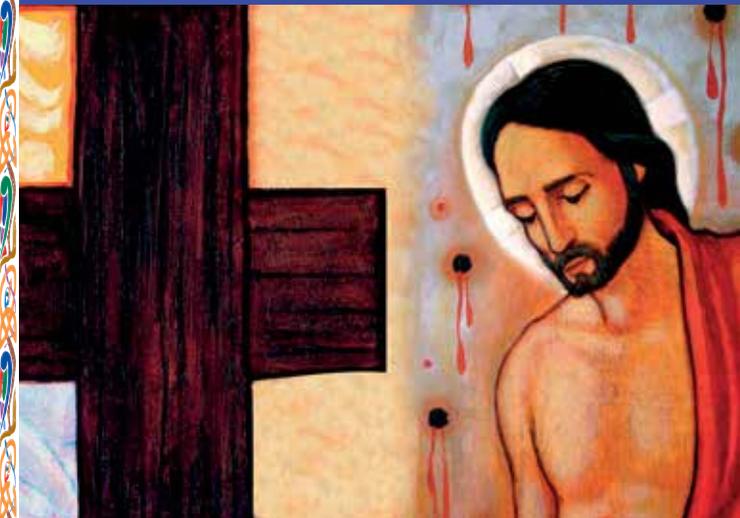




All the laws, customs and regulations of religion have only one end: to love God and our neighbour. Jesus is adamant that love is at the heart of true religion.



Jesus was a man who knew his own mind. Our first reading describes a man certain of his mission in life even when putting it into practice and it looks ahead to Jesus. His conviction 'wore him' and made a mockery of him. The gospel incident has the apostles

upset, especially their leader Peter, at what was the mission of Jesus in death and resurrection. Following him would involve the same sort of dedication, even to carrying the cross.

Finding a goal in life is a grace from God. We hope we have found a goal ourselves, something big enough to live for. We want to hand this on to our younger people. We receive hundreds of different messages about what makes for meaning and happiness in life we want to discern what brings true meaning.

A good guide is from Pope Francis, with echoes of St Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises: 'God's voice, instead, never promises cheap joy. It invites us to go beyond our ego to find that true good, peace.'

"God's voice and the tempter's speak in different "surroundings". The enemy (of the goodness of our human nature) prefers darkness, falsehood, and gossip; the Lord loves sunlight, truth, and sincere transparency." (May 3rd, 2020).

Maybe we can watch this week for what brings an uplift of peace and joy in our lives and follow the pathways of this peace and joy.

*Your will be done, o Lord, on earth as it is in heaven.*  
Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and prince of peace: Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*  
Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary: Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*  
Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father: Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*  
May almighty God have mercy on us.....Amen..

**THE GLORIA**

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father have mercy on us; 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.**



**OPENING PRAYER**

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....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING Jeremiah 20: 7-9**

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**  
You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 62:2-6, 8-9**

**R. For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.**

- O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. [R]
- So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. [R]
- So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. [R]
- For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. [R]



**SECOND READING Romans 12: 1-2**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Matthew 16: 21 - 27**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

*The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**NICENE CREED**

**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,**

*All bow for following three lines:*  
**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

**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.**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. Through Christ our Lord.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

*The mystery of faith.*  
**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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 neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.