

WELCOME

Good morning/ evening, and welcome to St Mary's Parish.

Divine call is for the sake of mission. Israel is called to be God's people *in order* to serve God as a 'kingdom of priests' and as 'a holy nation'; the twelve are called to be apostles *in order* to continue the preaching and healing ministry of Jesus. Mission, at its deepest meaning, confers and reveals identity: we are a priestly, holy, and healing people.

Please say "hello" to those next to you, and if you do not know those seated near you, introduce yourself and say "hello."

We now keep in mind our sick brothers and sisters, especially those in our newsletter.

Our presider this morning/evening is -

Please join us as we begin with the Processional Hymn.

First Reading

Exodus 19:2-6 (JB)

A reading from the book of Exodus

You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagle's wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 99:2-3, 5 (JB)

R. We are his people:
the sheep of his flock

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

Second Reading

Romans 5:6-11 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:15 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near;

repent and believe the Good News!

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 9:36 - 10:8 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

General Intercessions

Celebrant: Having been made a priestly and holy people through our Lord Jesus Christ and entrusted with the message of God's kingdom, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Reader:

1. Let us pray that God's message of healing and wholeness may be heard and seen in the lives of our Pope, our Bishop, and the lives of all the baptised everywhere, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
2. Let us pray that all who work to bring peace in the world may also work to sustain the cause of justice and give birth to reconciliation among people who are estranged, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
3. Let us pray that those who are grieving or lonely may find comfort and companionship among us and through our care come to know the goodness of God's love, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
4. Let us pray that fathers find guidance for their tasks in the grace and mercy of God and that families that are broken or in crisis may trust that they are God's special possession, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
5. Let us pray that those who work the fields and all of us who enjoy the fruits of the earth may share our abundance with the poor and the hungry, **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
6. Let us pray for Grainne Nerina-Kate McDermott and Astrid Catherine Wynnr who are to be Baptised into the Catholic faith this weekend. May they always be close to God in this life and with Him in eternal joy. **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.
7. Let us pray for those who have passed into eternal life, and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time. We also pray for those who have no one to remember them in their prayers. May they find eternal rest and comfort within God's own life and love. *Together we pray* (All) Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord! And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. **(Pause)** We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Gracious and merciful God, in your Son Jesus Christ you have opened to us the world of your miraculous ways. Hear our cries and grant our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.