

AFRICA

Living with Christ

GROWING UP DAILY WITH THE GOOD NEWS

Weekly LWCA

bayard afrique

26th Week
in Ordinary Time

AFRICA ● 1-7 October 2023 ● Digital n°53

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Liturgical texts:

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On our cover: A tree with branches:
symbol of diversity in the Church

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Editorial

October 2023



Rev. Fr. Paluku Meso Jean-Marie, Kenya

The Month of the Rosary

The month of October is known as the month of the Most Holy Rosary. This is because the liturgical feast of our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7 annually in the general Roman Calendar.

The feast day takes place in honor of a 16th century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope Saint Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe.

The day honours the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of God for the protection she gives to the entire Church. What other best way to celebrate the month of October than to pray the Holy Rosary more often and to continue seeking Her intervention?

Why pray the Rosary? The Rosary is a powerful prayer. Many great popes, saints, and Christian leaders have exhorted us to pray the rosary. In the Rosary we focus on the mysteries in the life and death of Jesus Christ and meditate on how we share with our mother Mary in the saving work of Christ.



The Pope's Prayer Intention

For the Synod we pray for the Church: that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Other papal intentions and videos can be found on: <http://apostleshipofprayer.org/>

The Concluding Rite

After the Communion rite, some brief announcements can be made to the people who are participating in the Holy Mass. The announcements must be done after the *Prayer after Communion*. It is not right to make them before the above prayer because they appear to be part of the Communion rite whereas they are part of the concluding rite according to the Order of Mass of the Roman Missal.

The Parish Priest and the Parish Council will make sure that announcements are meaningful to the Parishioners. In the same context, the introduction of some guests should be brief.

After the announcements, the main celebrant may remind the assembly about the major liturgical theme. It should be brief. Then comes the moment for the main celebrant to impart the final blessing on the assembly. On some occasions, the final blessing is preceded by a

solemn blessing which is in harmony with the event that is being celebrated.

The words that the priest uses to impart the final blessing are different from the words that are used by the bishop. When the final blessing is given by a priest:

Priest: The Lord be with you

Assembly: And with your spirit

Priest: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: Amen

When the final blessing is given by a bishop:

Bishop: The Lord be with you

Assembly: And with your spirit

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord

Assembly: Now and for ever

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord

Assembly: Who made heaven and earth

Bishop: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: Amen

A priest makes the sign of the cross only once over the assembly whereas the bishop makes it three times. After the final blessing, the deacon or the priest pronounces one of the following sentences:

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

Go in peace.

The assembly replies: **Thanks be to God.**

After this assembly's response, the celebrant kisses the Altar as at the beginning of the Holy Mass. And with the ministers (acolytes, readers, etc.) he makes a profound bow before withdrawing. At that moment, the choir sings the exit song.

*Rev. Fr. Jérôme K. M. Kombi,
Kinshasa, D.R. Congo*



Sunday October 1

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Ezekiel 18: 25-28 / Psalm 25: 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 (6a) / Philippians 2: 1-11
/ Matthew 21: 28-32*



"I will not," he answered, but later he changed his mind and went."
(Matthew 21: 29)



Words alone Are not enough

Our Lord Jesus Christ reminds us that words alone are useless. The one who said no but then repented and obeyed his father is better than he who said yes but did nothing. Along the same lines, Christ does not dwell so much on what the publicans and harlots did before, but rather on the fact that they repented and believed, and changed their lives.

We are sometimes able to see when we lack faith even though we want to believe John who proclaims Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. What is more, John gives us the right advice: “John came to you in the way of righteousness”. The way of righteousness means the way of virtue, the way of holiness. “The just man, often mentioned in the Sacred Scriptures, is distinguished by the habitual right thinking and the uprightness of his conduct toward his neighbour” (Catechism #1807). This path is travelled beginning with conversion and penance.

However, the Jews did not follow John’s advice: “they were not moved to penance that they might believe”; and without penance and mortification, it is impossible to believe.



Sunday October 1

We must remind ourselves and others that we are children of God, to whom, like those characters in the Gospel parable, our Father has addressed the same invitation: “Son, go and work in my vineyard”. We can be sure that, if we make a daily effort to consider our personal obligations in this way, as a divine requirement, we will learn to finish the things we do with the greatest human and supernatural perfection we are capable of. Perhaps on some occasions we will rebel - like the eldest son who replied: “I do not want to” - but we will know how to react; repentant, and we will dedicate ourselves with greater effort to the fulfilment of our duty (cf. St Josemaria, Friends of God #57).

Jesus says to each of us today: “Go and work in my vineyard”. And His vineyard is that daily work that you and I must do. That is where we must sanctify ourselves; that is where we must overcome our comfort seeking attitudes and our selfishness.

Rev. Fr. Silvano Ochuodho, Kenya



Entrance Antiphon (*Daniel 3:31.29.30.43.42*)

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgment, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name, and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Collect

O God, who manifests your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us, and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading (*Ezekiel 18:25-28*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

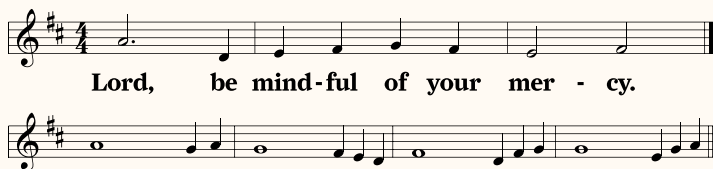
Thus says the Lord “You say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die for it; for the iniquity which he has committed he shall die. Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is lawful and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions



Sunday October 1

which he had committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.” The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm —————
(Psalm (24) 25:4-5.6-7.8-9)



***R.* Remember your compassion, O Lord.**

O Lord, make me know your ways.
Teach me your paths.
Guide me in your truth, and teach me;
for you are the God of my salvation.
I have hoped in you all day long. *R.*

Remember your compassion, O Lord,
and your merciful love, for they are from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth,
nor my transgressions.



In your merciful love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. R.

Good and upright is the Lord;
he shows the way to sinners.
He guides the humble in right judgement;
to the humble he teaches his way. R.

Second Reading (Philippians 2:1-11)—————
A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

[Beginning of the short reading] Brethren: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive of love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interest, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which was in Christ Jesus, [End of the short reading]

who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even



Sunday October 1

death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Acclamation (*John 10:27*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; and I know them and they follow me. **Alleluia.**

Gospel (*Matthew 21:28-32*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, "What do you think? A man had two sons; and he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterwards he repented and went. "And he went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots



believed him; and even when you saw it, you did not afterwards repent and believe him.”

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

Prayer of the Faithful

The following intentions are suggestions only.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church, called to give up everything that separates us from God and each other, we pray to the Lord: **R.**

For civic leaders, working for the true good of all their people, we pray to the Lord: **R.**

For all who hunger and thirst for acceptance, we pray to the Lord: **R.**

For all refugees, searching for welcome, peace and security in their new homeland, we pray to the Lord: **R.**

For us, God's people gathered here today, called to nurture true justice and resist the temptation to exploit the disadvantaged, we pray to the Lord: **R.**



Sunday October 1

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon (*Psalm (118) 119:49-50*)

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Prayer after Communion

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may be co-heirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we proclaim his Death. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**



Monday October 2

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Memorial

The Holy Guardian Angels

Entrance Antiphon

(Dn. 3:58) Angels of the Lord, bless the lord, praise and exalt him above all forever.

Collect

O God, who in your unfathomable providence are pleased to send your holy Angels to guard us, hear us, hear our supplication as we cry to you, that we may always be defended by their protection and rejoice eternally in their company. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Exodus 23:20-23)

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Thus says the Lord: "Behold, I send an angel before you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place which I have prepared. Give heed to him and listen to his voice, do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression; for my name is in him. But if you listen attentively to his voice and do all that



I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. My angel will go before you, and bring you in to the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, and I will blot them out.” The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Responsorial Psalm——
(Psalm 91:1-2.3-4.5-6.10-11)***

R. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, and abides in the shade of the Almighty, says to

the Lord, “My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!” R.

He will free you from the snare of the fowler, from the destructive plague; he will conceal you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge. His faithfulness is buckler and shield. R.

You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the plague that prowls in the darkness, nor the scourge that lays Waste at noon. R.

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach your tent. For you has he commanded his angels to keep you in all your ways. R.



Acclamation

(Psalm 103:21)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, his ministers that do his will.
Alleluia.

Gospel

(Matthew 18:1-5.10)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the -kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them, and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like, children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child, he is the

greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me. See that you do not despise one of these little ones; for I tell you that in heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven." The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Lord, the offerings we bring before you as we venerate your holy Angels, and graciously grant that, under their constant protection, we may be delivered from present dangers and brought happily to life eternal. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Monday October 2

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (137) 138:1) **In the presence of the Angels I will praise you, my God.**

with so great a Sacrament,
O Lord, direct us by the
ministry of Angels into the
way of salvation and peace.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

As you are pleased to
nourish us for eternal life

The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven

Commentary

Matthew 18: 1-5. 10

Jesus: "who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven"; who is the holiest; who is most like You? And our Lord himself gives us the answer: The one who converts and becomes small like a child.

This is one of the paradoxes of Christ's teaching: He who wants to be greater in the eyes of God, must become the least in the eyes of men.

For this, it is to change one's life, to reject all pride, to learn to ask for forgiveness with humility. This is what becoming like little children in all about.

Rev. Fr. Silvano Ochuodho, Kenya



Tuesday October 3

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

(Dn. 3:31.29.30.43.42) All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name, and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Collect

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of

heaven. Through our Lord... Amen.

Reading

(Zechariah 8:20-23)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zechariah

“Thus says the Lord of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, even the inhabitants of many cities; the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, ‘Let us go at once to entreat the favour of the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts; I am going.’ Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to

entreat the favour of the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (86) 87:1-3.4-5.6-7)

R. God is with us.

Founded by him on the holy mountain, the Lord loves the gates of Sion, more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Of you are told glorious things, you, o city of God! R

“Rahab and Babylon I will count among those who know me; of Tyre, Philistia, Ethiopia, it is told, ‘There was this one born.’ But of Sion it shall be said, ‘Each one was born in her’” He, the Most high, established it. R

In his register of Peoples the Lord writes, “Here was this one born.” The singers cry out in chorus, “In you, all find their home.” R

Acclamation (Mark 10:45)
Alleluia. Alleluia. The Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. **Alleluia.**

Gospel ————— **(Luke 9:51-56)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the days drew near for Jesus to be received up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him; but the people would not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to bid fire come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. And they went on to another village.

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

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Communion Antiphon

(Cf. *Ps (118) 119:49-50*)
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Prayer after Communion

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may

be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we proclaim his Death. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Called to Be like Jesus

Commentary

Luke 9: 51-56

Like James and John, you and I may be tempted to say, "Lord; do you want us to call fire from heaven and consume them?"

In this episode we can see Jesus wanting us to understand that if you and I want to be true apostles, messengers of His divine word, then we must learn from the patience and charity with which He, Christ, treated those who did not understand Him, and even those who hated Him and eventually nailed him unto the cross: "learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart" (Mt 11:29).

Rev. Fr. Silvano Ochuodho, Kenya



Wednesday October 4

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Memorial

Saint Francis of Assisi

Entrance Antiphon

Francis, the man of God, left his home behind, abandoned his inheritance and became poor and penniless, but the Lord raised him up.

Collect

O God, by whose gift Saint Francis was conformed to Christ in poverty and humility, grant that by walking in Francis' footsteps we may follow your Son, and through joyful charity come to be

united with you. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading ————— **(Nehemiah 2:1-8)**

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah

In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I, Nehemiah, took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence. And the king said

to me, “Why is your face sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing else but sadness of the heart.” Then I was very much afraid. I said to the king, “Let the king live for ever! Why should not my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers’ sepulchres, lies waste, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?” Then the king said to me, “For what do you make request?” So I prayed to the God of heaven. And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favour in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ sepulchres, that I may rebuild it.” And the king said to me (the queen sitting beside him), “How long will you be gone, and

when will you return?” So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time. And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah; and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king’s forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress of the temple, and for the wall of the city, and for the house which I shall occupy.” And the king granted me what I asked, for the good hand of my God was upon me.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm ⁽¹³⁶⁾ 137:1-2.3.4-5.6)

**R. O let my tongue cleave
to my palate if I remember
you not!**

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Sion; on the
poplars that grew there we
hung up our harps. R

For it was there that they
asked us, our captors, for
songs, our oppressors, for
joy. “Sing to us,” they said,
“one of Sion’s songs.” R

**R. O let my tongue cleave
to my palate if I remember
you not!**

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord on
foreign soil? If I forget you,

Jerusalem, let my right
hand wither! R

O let my tongue cleave
to my palate if I remember
you not, if I prize not
Jerusalem as the first of my
joys! R

Acclamation
(Psalm ⁽¹⁰²⁾ 103:21)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Bless
the Lord, all you his hosts,
his ministers that do his
will. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —
(Luke 9:57-62)

**A reading from the holy
Gospel according to Luke**

At that time: As Jesus and
his disciples were going
along the road, a man said
to him, “I will follow you

wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” But he said to him, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.” The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

As we bring you these offerings, O Lord, we pray that we maybe rightly disposed for the celebration of the mystery of the Cross, which Saint Francis so ardently embraced. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Matthew 5:3) **Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Prayer after Communion

Grant us, we pray, O Lord, through these holy gifts which we have received, that, imitating the charity



and apostolic zeal of Saint Francis, we may experience the effects of your love and spread them everywhere

for the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Called to Serve

Commentary

Luke 9: 57-62

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us about three people who are faced with a vocation. The two whom He called to follow Him, leaving everything, react with conditions; and the one whom He did not call, wants to follow Him wherever He goes! This same situation continues to occur today: some who do not have the call to a vocation, but have good will, have to be restrained a little; while others do have a call to a vocation, unfortunately they look for excuses not to give themselves.

Rev. Fr. Silvano Ochuodho, Kenya



Thursday October 5

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

(Daniel 3:31.29.30.43.42)

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name, and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Collect

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the

treasures of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading —————
(Nehemiah 8: 1-4a.5-6.7b-12)

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah

In those days: All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the Lord had given to Israel. And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and

women and all who could hear with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden pulpit which they had made for the purpose. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people; and when he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God; and all the people answered, **“Amen, Amen,”** lifting up their hands; and they bowed their heads and worshiped

the Lord with their faces to the ground. Also the Levites helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places. And they read from the book, from the law of God, clearly; and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord; and

do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, “Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.” And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm 118) 19:8.9.10.11

R. The precepts of the Lord are right; they gladden the heart.

The law of the Lord is perfect; it revives the soul. The decrees of the Lord

are steadfast; they give wisdom to the simple. **R.**

The precepts of the Lord are right; they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear; it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

The fear of the Lord is pure, abiding forever. The judgements of the Lord are true; they are, all of them, just. **R.**

They are more to be desired than gold, than quantities of gold. And sweeter are they than honey, than honey flowing from the comb. **R.**

Acclamation
(Mark 1:15)

Alleluia. Alleluia. The kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the Gospel. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —————
(Luke 10:1-12)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: The Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come. And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ And if a son of

peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you. But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off against you; nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ I tell you, it shall be more tolerable on

that day for Sodom than for that town.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us.

Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Communion Antiphon

(Ps (118) 119:49-50)

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Prayer after Communion

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind

and body, that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever

we proclaim his Death. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Responding Generously to Christ

Commentary

Luke 10: 1-12

Jesus relies on these seventy-two disciples to prepare the ground for Him in every city where He would go. These disciples have followed Christ on His journeys and have learnt the good news directly from Christ's lips. Now that he needs them, they are there, ready for whatever is required and asked of them.

We can see them as the ones who have responded generously to Christ's call; the ones who have not excused themselves with false needs or difficulties. What about you and I?

Rev. Fr. Silvano Ochuodho, Kenya



Friday October 6

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

or: St Bruno, priest, optional memorial

or: Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, virgin, optional memorial

Entrance Antiphon

(Daniel. 3:31.29.30.43.42)

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name, and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. Through our Lord...
Amen.

Collect

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all

Reading —————
(Baruch 1:15-21)

A reading from the Book of Baruch

“Righteousness belongs to the Lord our God, but confusion of face, as at this day, to us, to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to our kings and our princes and our priests and our prophets and our fathers, because we have sinned before the Lord, and have disobeyed him, and have not heeded the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in the statutes of the Lord which he set before us. From the day when the Lord brought our fathers out of the land of Egypt until today, we

have been disobedient to the Lord our God, and we have been negligent, in not heeding his voice. So to this day there have clung to us the calamities and the curse which the Lord declared through Moses his servant at the time when he brought our fathers out of the land of Egypt to give us a land flowing with milk and honey. We did not heed the voice of the Lord our God in all the words of the prophets whom he sent to us, but we each followed the intent of his own wicked heart by serving other gods and doing what is evil in the sight of the Lord our God.”
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm 78) 79:1-2.3-5.8.9)***

**R. For the sake of the glory
of your name, free us, O
Lord.**

O God, the nations have invaded your heritage; they have profaned your holy temple. They have made Jerusalem a heap of ruins. They have handed over the bodies of your servants as food to feed the birds of heaven, and the flesh of your faithful to the beasts of the earth. R.

They have poured out their blood like water round Jerusalem; no one is left to bury the dead. We have become the taunt of our neighbours, the mockery and scorn

of those around us. How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous anger burn like fire? R.

Do not remember against us the guilt of former times. Let your compassion hasten to meet us; for we have been brought very low. R.

Help us, O God our saviour, for the sake of the glory of your name. Free us and forgive us our sins, because of your name. R.

Acclamation (*See Psalm
(94) 95:7d and 8a*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Today, harden not your hearts, but listen to the voice of the Lord. **Alleluia.**

Gospel ————— ***(Luke 10:13-16)***

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: Jesus said, “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it shall be more tolerable in the judgement for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades. He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Cf. Ps (118) 119:49-50)
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Prayer after Communion

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may

be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we proclaim his Death.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Listen to Christ

Commentary

Luke 10: 13-16

Those who listen to the bishops and to the Pope-the successor of Peter when they speak about truths of faith, are not listening to some more or less intelligent preachers with whom one can agree or not. They listen to Christ. Jesus wants to make this idea clear to us. We all have experience of how easy it is to think that I know better, that I can interpret the Bible as well or better than the Magisterium of the Church. This temptation is dangerous.

Rev. Fr. Silvano Ochuodho, Kenya



Saturday October 7

26th Week in Ordinary Time

Memorial

Our Lady of the Rosary

Entrance Antiphon

(Luke 1:28.42) **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.**

Collect

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, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever. Amen.

Reading ————— *(Baruch 4:5-12.27-29)*

A reading from the Book of Baruch

Take courage, my people, O memorial of Israel! It was not for destruction that you were sold to the nations,

but you were handed over to your enemies because you angered God. For you provoked him who made you, by sacrificing to demons and not to God. You forgot the everlasting God, who brought you up, and you grieved Jerusalem, who reared you. For she saw the wrath that came upon you from God, and she said: "Listen, you neighbours of Zion, God has brought great sorrow upon me; for I have seen the captivity of my sons and daughters, which the Everlasting brought upon them. With joy I nurtured them, but I sent them away with weeping and sorrow. Let no one rejoice over me, a widow and bereaved of many; I was left desolate because

of the sins of my children, because they turned away from the law of God. "Take courage, my children, and cry to God, for you will be remembered by him who brought this upon you. For just as you planned to go astray from God, return with tenfold zeal to seek him. For he who brought these calamities upon you will bring you everlasting joy with your salvation."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (68) 69:33-35.36-37)***

***℟. The Lord listens to the
needy.***

The poor when they see it will be glad, and God-seeking hearts will revive;



for the Lord listens to the needy, and does not spurn his own in their chains. Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the seas and everything that moves in them. *R.*

For God will bring salvation to Sion, and rebuild the cities of Judah, and they shall dwell there in possession. The children of his servants shall inherit it; those who love his name shall dwell there. *R.*

Acclamation *(Matthew 11:25)*

Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have revealed to little

ones the mysteries of the kingdom. **Alleluia.**

Gospel ————— *(Luke 10:17-24)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names

are written in heaven.” In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” Then turning to the disciples he said privately, “Blessed are the eyes which see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and

did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may be rightly conformed to these offerings we bring, and so honour the mysteries of your Only Begotten Son, as to be made worthy of his promises. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

Communion Antiphon

(Luke 1:31) **Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Jesus.**

Prayer after Communion

We pray, O Lord our God, that just as we proclaim in this Sacrament the Death and resurrection of your Son, so, being made

partakers in his suffering, may we also merit a share in his consolation and his glory. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Is Your Written

Commentary

Luke 10: 17-24

Jesus' Disciples return "with joy" from their mission. They have experienced the power of grace, and "even the demons" surrender at the sound of Jesus' name. Our Lord does fill us too with joy when other people are moved and change their lives thanks to our example and our word as a Christian.

However, an even greater joy comes from each of us knowing that I am a child of God; in knowing that God loves me personally, by name; that my name "is written in heaven".

Rev. Fr. Silvano Ochuodho, Kenya



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