

AFRICA

Living with Christ

GROWING UP DAILY WITH THE GOOD NEWS

Weekly LWCA

bayard africain

**30th Week
in Ordinary Time**

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Liturgical texts:

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On our cover: A cemetery
(All Souls-All Saints)

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Editorial

October 2023



Rev. Fr. Dennis Opoku, Tema Ghana

Mission With Mary

In this second week of the month October, we are called to reflect on our missionary mandate in the light of that of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The month of October is dedicated to the praying and meditating on the mysteries of salvation in the Rosary Prayers.

The mission of seventy-two disciples was something quite new in the methods of Jesus. It was a planned campaign, a careful, organized work in a neglected area. The things that happened, the teaching that emerged, the instruction of the disciples for their work, and the fact that Jesus empowered them with authority and power before they went out to preach and to heal are all embedded in our missionary mandate as well.

These can also be seen in that of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We need to carry Mary along in all our activities. There would challenges and difficulties. But with Mary through prayer we shall overcome. Let us be encouraged by the daily liturgical readings in fulfilling our Missionary Mandates.



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 29

30th week in Ordinary Time

Exodus 22: 20-26 / Psalm 18: 2-3. 3-4. 47. 51 (2) / 1 Thessalonians 1: 5c-10 / Matthew 22: 34-40



Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' (Matthew 22:37)



Love of God and Neighbor

In today's Gospel, Jesus makes a clear statement about the two great commandments which are binding to a Christian. For Jesus the whole of religion can be summed up in two commandments; Love. This statement of Jesus combines love of God and love of neighbor. The newness is that Jesus made them of equal importance. For Jesus one of these two commandments cannot be thought of without the other. True love of God and true love of our fellow human beings are like two sides of the same coin. One cannot exist without the other. Our vertical relationship with God and our horizontal relationship with our fellow human beings must go together in sound Christian religion.

The passage from Exodus introduces and concretizes Jesus' statement in the Gospel that the whole law is based on the love of God and neighbor. Love of God and neighbor should not be abstract. It should be concrete, talking about precise people, namely the poor, the stranger, the widow, the orphan. The strangers, the orphans and the widows were the most vulnerable people



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of the Jewish society. They represent all the poor, all the less fortunate brothers and sisters of our communities today. Sometimes, Christians are isolating themselves in comfortable exclusive neighborhoods to run away from the poor. This is an attitude that Christians should avoid. Sometimes people exploit the poor and take advantage of the weak and the defenceless. God wants us to avoid anything that will cause suffering to the poor and instead help those who are vulnerable in their midst.

In the second reading, Paul has reasons to praise the congregation of Thessalonica. They are a model for all believers because they responded well to the word of God. They practise reciprocal charity and love. Are we concerned with the less fortunate of our society on local and international levels? As we meditate on these readings, today we ask you Lord: teach us to love you and our neighbor. Teach us concrete ways of expressing our love to the less fortunate among us. Amen.

Rev. Jean-Marie Meso Paluku, Kenya



Entrance Antiphon (*Ps (104) 105:3-4*)

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; Turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

First Reading (Exodus 22:21-27) —————

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Thus says the Lord: “You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall not afflict any widow or orphan. If you do afflict them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry; and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. “If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be to him as a creditor, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbour’s garment in pledge, you shall restore it to him before the sun goes down; for that is his only covering, it is his mantle for



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his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.”

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

Responsorial Psalm

(Psalm (17) 18:2-3a.3bc-4.47 and 51ab)



R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength;
O Lord, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. **R.**

My God, my rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my saving strength, my stronghold.
I cry out, “Praised be the Lord!”
and see, I am saved from my foes. **R.**



The Lord lives, and blest be my Rock!
May the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord gives great victories to his king,
and shows merciful love for his anointed. R.

Second Reading (1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10) —————

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

Brethren: You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit; so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us what a welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Sunday October 29

Acclamation (*John 14:23*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. If a man loves me, he will keep my words, says the Lord; and my father will love him, and we will come to him. **Alleluia.**

Gospel (*Matthew 22:34-40*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."
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 our Church in its mission to further the reign of God in the world, for our leaders, we pray to the Lord: R.

For wisdom, selflessness and humility in those committed to public service, we pray to the Lord: R.

For strength and comfort for all who are suffering physically, spiritually or emotionally, we pray to the Lord: R.

For our parish community, challenged to see the face of Christ in everyone, we pray to the Lord: R.

Prayer over the Offerings

Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service may



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be directed above all to your glory. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon (*Ps (19) 20:6*)

We will ring out our joy at your saving help, and exult in the name of our God.

Prayer after Communion

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray, perfect in us what lies within them, that what we now celebrate in signs we may one day possess in truth. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Monday October 30

30th Week in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

(Ps (104) 105:3-4) Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; Turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Romans 8:12-17)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh – for if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is the Spirit himself bearing



witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may be glorified with him. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Responsorial Psalm——
(Psalm (67) 68:2 and 4.6-7ab.20-21)***

R. This God of ours is a God who saves.

Let God arise; let his foes be scattered. Let those who hate him flee from his face. But the just shall rejoice at the presence of God; They shall exult with glad rejoicing. R.

Father of orphans, defender of wisdoms: such is God in his holy place. God gives the desolate a home to dwell in; he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity. R.

Day after day, may the Lord be blest. He bears our burdens; God is our saviour. This God of ours is a God who saves. The Lord our Lord provides an escape from death. R.

Acclamation

(John 17:17b)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth. **Alleluia.**

***Gospel——
(Luke 13:10-17)***

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke



At that time: Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each

of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at the glorious things that were done by him. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service may be directed above all to your glory. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Monday October 30

Communion Antiphon

(Ps (19) 20:6) **We will ring out our joy at your saving help, and exult in the name of our God.**

Prayer after Communion

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray, perfect in us what lies within them, that what we now celebrate in signs we may one day possess in truth. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Commentary

To Have Compassion

Luke 13: 10-17

Today's gospel is about the cure of the crippled woman on Sabbath. At the time of Jesus, care for the sick was among the 39 kinds of labor forbidden on the Sabbath, except in danger of death. The synagogue ruler complained because Jesus healed her on the Sabbath. For him Jesus has broken the law, but for Jesus, Christians should not be too legalistic in their interpretation of the law. As Christians, we are called to be more compassionate towards others at all times and not to be like the ruler of the Synagogue.

Rev. Jean-Marie Meso Paluku, Kenya



Tuesday October 31

30th Week in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

(Ps (104) 105:3-4) Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Romans 8:18-25)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brethren: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected



it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning with labour pains together until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm ⁽¹²⁵⁾ 126: 1-2ab.2cd-
3-4-5.6)***

**R. What great deeds the
Lord worked for us!**

When the Lord brought back the exiles of Sion, we thought we were dreaming. Then was our mouth filled with laughter; on our tongues, songs of joy. R.

Then the nations themselves said, “What great deeds the Lord worked for them!” What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad. R.

Bring back our exiles, O Lord, as streams in the south. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. R.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, bearing



seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back with a song, bearing their sheaves. *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 13:18-21)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: Jesus said, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in

his garden; and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches." And again he said, "To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? It is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till it was all leavened."

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

Prayer over the Offerings

Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service may be directed above all to your glory. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Ps (19) 20:6) **We will ring out our joy at your**

saving help and exult in the name of our God.

Or

Eph. 5:2

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, as a fragrant offering to God.

Prayer after Communion

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray, perfect in us what lies within them, that what we now celebrate in signs we may one day possess in truth. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Patience and endurance

Commentary

Luke 13: 18-21

The gospel is about the parable of the Mustard Seed and of the Yeast. Jesus compares the kingdom of God with a mustard seed-the smallest seed but when grows it becomes a huge plant that provides shelter for many birds. Jesus tells us that the Kingdom of God starts very small like the mustard seed which first dies in the ground before growing slowly and the yeast which disappears in the flour. Today, we are called to carry on our work of building the kingdom of God with patience and endurance.

Rev. Jean-Marie Meso Paluku, Kenya



Wednesday November 1

30th Week in Ordinary Time

Solemnity

All Saints

Entrance Antiphon

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

through the prayers of so many intercessors, an abundance of the reconciliation with you for which we earnestly long. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria in excelsis
(Glory to God in the highest) **is said.**

First Reading —————
(Revelation 7:2-4.9-14)

A reading from the Book of Revelation

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, by whose gift we venerate in one celebration the merits of all the Saints, bestow on us, we pray,

I, John, saw another angel ascend from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called

with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God upon the foreheads.” And I heard the number of the sealed, a hundred and forty-four thousand sealed, out of every tribe of the sons of Israel. After this, I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the

Lamb!” And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying, “**Amen!** Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! **Amen.**” Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (23) 24:1-2.3-4ab.5-6)

R. These are the people
who seek your face, O
Lord.!

The Lord's is the earth
and its fullness, the world,
and all who dwell in it. It is
he who set it on the seas; on
the river he made it firm. R.

Who shall climb the
mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy
place? The clean of hands
and pure of the heart,
whose soul is not set on
vain things. R.

Blessings from the Lord
shall he receive, and right
reward from the God who
saves him. Such are the
people who seek him, who

seek the face of the God of
Jacob. R.

Second Reading —
(1 John 3:1-3)

**A reading from the first
Letter of Saint John**

Beloved: See what love the
Father has given us, that we
should be called children
of God; and so we are. The
reason why the world does
not know us is that it did
not know him. Beloved, we
are God's children now; it
does not yet appear what
we shall be, but we know
that when he appears we
shall be like him, for we
shall see him as he is. And
every one who thus hopes
in him purifies himself as he
is pure.



The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Acclamation

(Matthew 11:28)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia.

Gospel —————

(Matthew 5:1-12a)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.”
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

May these offerings we bring in honour of all the Saints be pleasing to you, O Lord, and grant that, just as we believe the Saints to be already assured of the immortality, so we may experience their concern for our salvation. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Mt 5:8-10) **Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Prayer after Communion

As we adore you, O God, who alone are holy and wonderful in all your Saints, we implore your



grace, so that coming to perfect holiness in the fullness of your love, we may pass from this pilgrim

table to the banquet of our heavenly homeland. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Imitating the Saints

Commentary

Matthew 5: 1-12a

The solemnity of All Saints is a memorial day dedicated to those holy people whose names and stories were known and the Church canonized them and recognized the holiness of their life. Their names are found on the Church's calendar. They are examples for us of a well lived Christian life. It is also to thousands of Christian witnesses whose names are not known by people but only to God. These saints were faithful to the teaching of Christ, poor in spirit, peacemakers, merciful and pure of heart.

Rev. Fr. Jean-Marie Meso Paluku, Kenya



Thursday November 2

30th Week in Ordinary Time

All Souls

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

Entrance Antiphon

(1 Thes 4:14; 1 Cor 15:22)

Just as Jesus died and has risen again, so through Jesus God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep; and as in Adam all die, so also in Christ will all be brought to life.

Collect

Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord, and, as our faith in your Son, raised from the dead, is deepened, so may our hope of resurrection for your departed servants also find new strength. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading —————

(Job 19:1.23-27b)

A reading from the Book of Job

Job answered: "Oh, that my words were written! Oh, that they were inscribed in a book! Oh, that with an iron pen and lead they were graven in the rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then from my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on



my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (22) 23:1-3.4.5.6)

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or: Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death, no evil would I fear, for you are with me.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me; he revives my soul. R.

He guides me along the right path, for the sake of

his name. Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of the death, no evil would I fear, for you are with me. Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. R.

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. R.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending. R.

Second Reading —
(Romans 5:5-11)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brethren: Hope does not disappoint us, because God's

love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. While we were yet helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man - though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom

we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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 —————

(Matthew 5:1-12a)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.”

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

Prayer over the Offerings

Look favourably on our offerings, O Lord, so that your departed servants may be taken up into glory with your Son, in whose great mystery of love we are all united. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(John 11:25-26) **I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Whoever believes in me, even though he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever.**

Prayer after Communion

Grant we pray, O Lord, that your departed servants, for whom we have celebrated this paschal Sacrament,

may pass over to a dwelling place of light and peace. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Praying for the Faithful
Departed****Commentary****Matthew 5: 1-12a**

Today we remember all the faithful departed who have died ever since the world began. The celebration of our deceased brothers and sisters is meant to remind us the frailty and precariousness of our life. Our time is limited and our days numbered here on earth. November reminds us that this world is not our eternal home. We are passing and heading to our eternal home in heaven. We are reminded to put our own life into this perspective of death and to prepare ourselves accordingly.

Rev. Fr. Jean-Marie Meso Paluku, Kenya



Friday November 3

30th Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

Or: St Martin de Porres, Optional memorial

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 105:3-4) **Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; Turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.**

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Through our Lord...**Amen.**

Reading ————— **(Romans 9:1-5)**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brethren: I am speaking the truth in Christ, I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cutoff from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh.

They are Israelites, and to them belong the sonship, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ; who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm 147:12-13.14-15.19-20)

℟. O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord! O Sion, praise your God! He has strengthened the bars of your gates; he has

blessed your children within you. ℟.

He established peace on your borders; he gives you your fill of finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth, and swiftly runs his command. ℟.

He reveals his word to Jacob; to Israel, his decrees and judgements. He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his judgements. ℟.

Acclamation (John 10:27)
Alleluia. Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; and I know them, and they follow me. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —
(Luke 14:1-6)
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

One sabbath when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they were watching him. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath, or not?" But they were silent. Then he took him and healed him, and let him go. And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well, will not immediately pull him out on a sabbath day?" And they could not reply to this. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ**

Prayer over the Offerings

Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service may be directed above all to your glory. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 20:6) **We will ring out our joy at your saving help, and exult in the name of our God.**

Or: Eph5:2

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, as a fragrant offering to God.

Prayer after Communion

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray, perfect

in us what lies within one day possess in truth.
them, that what we now Through Christ our Lord.
celebrate in signs we may **Amen.**

Doing Good

Commentary

Luke 14: 1-6

Today's gospel is about Jesus healing on the Sabbath day of the man with dropsy. For the lawyers and Pharisees present, Jesus broke the law of the Sabbath. For Jesus, Christians should not be too legalistic. The law should be for the betterment of the life of the human being. Jesus wants us to be sensitive to the suffering of our fellow human beings and he invites us to be more caring and responsible. No good law should prohibit us to do good to a person in need.

Rev. Fr. Jean-Marie Meso Paluku, Kenya



Saturday November 4

30th Week in Ordinary Time

Memorial

Saint Charles Borromeo, bishop,

Entrance Antiphon

(Ps (37) 38:22-23) **Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!**

Reading

(Romans 11: 1-2a. 11-12.25-29)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Collect

Preserve in the midst of your people, we ask, O Lord, the spirit with which you filled the Bishop Saint Charles Borromeo, that your Church may be constantly renewed and, by conforming herself to the likeness of Christ, may show his face to the world. Who lives and reigns with you. **Amen.**

Brethren: Has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. So I ask, have they stumbled so as to fall? By no means! But through their trespass salvation has

come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous. Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean! Lest you be wise in your own conceits, I want you to understand this mystery, brethren: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles come in, and so all Israel will be saved; as it is written, "The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob"; "and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins." As regards the gospel they are enemies of God, for your sake; but as regards election they

are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm 94:12-13a.14-15.17-18)***

**R. The Lord will not
abandon his people.**

Blessed the man whom you discipline, O Lord, whom you train by means of your law; to whom you give peace in evil days. R.

The Lord will not abandon his people, nor forsake those who are his heritage; for judgement shall again be just, and all true hearts shall uphold it. R.

If the Lord were not to help me, My soul would soon go down to the silence. When I think, “I have lost my foothold,” your mercy, O Lord, holds me up. R.

Acclamation

(Matthew 11:29ab)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Take my yoke. upon you, says the Lord; and learn from me for I am gentle and Lordly in heart. **Alleluia.**

Gospel

(Luke 14:1.7-11)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

One sabbath when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged to the Pharisees, they

were watching him. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he marked how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, “When you are invited by any one to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest a more eminent man than you be invited by him; and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give place to this man,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the Lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the Lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, go up higher’; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For every one who exalts himself will

be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Look, O Lord, upon the offering placed on your altar in commemoration of Saint Charles, and grant by the power of this sacrifice that as you made him an attentive pastor, outstanding in the merit

of his virtues, so may you make us abound in good fruit by our works. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Ps (15) 16:11) **You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.**

Prayer after Communion

May the sacred mysteries of which we have partaken, O Lord, we pray, give

us that determination which made Saint Charles faithful in ministry and

fervent in charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Be Humble

Commentary

Luke 14: 1. 7-11

Today, Jesus talks about the Parable of the invited guests and hosts as he is invited to dine at the house of one of the Pharisee leaders. He explains the code of conduct to be observed when one is invited to any reception. Jesus denounces our selfish behavior when we want to get to the front tables to be served first. He invites us to be humble in life. Jesus tells us that we should not put ourselves in the front position by glorifying ourselves and making ourselves holy.

Rev. Fr. Jean-Marie Meso Paluku, Kenya



Publisher: Cédric BLOQUET
Publishing & Development Manager
Editor in Chief: Rev. Fr. François NZANZU a.a.
Assistant: Rev. Fr. Jean-Claude DIWEDIGA a.a.
Editorial Secretary: Virginia KABUGU
Graphic designer: Naomi SAWADOGO

Ghana Coordinator: Rev. Fr. Dennis OPOKU;
Associate Publishers: Fr. Walter Ihejirika, Regional Coordinator, LWC Nigeria,
Other Contributors:
Rev. Fr. Jérôme K. M. KOMBI; Rev. Jean-Marie Meso PALUKU.

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ISSN: 2424-7464 ; **Contact:** Living With Christ
Rue E104, Lot 1076 Ilot 116 - Cocody Riviera 3 Abidjan , Côte d'Ivoire
Address: P.O. BOX 08 BP 2469 Abidjan 08 -
Phone number : (+225) 25 22 02 11 11 -
E-mail: info@livingwithchrist-africa.com





WhatsApp : **+225 05 94 79 75 68 / +254727074304**



Website : **[https:// www.livingwithchrist.africa](https://www.livingwithchrist.africa)**



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