

AFRICA

# Living with Christ

GROWING UP DAILY WITH THE GOOD NEWS

Weekly LWCA

bayard afrique

**27<sup>th</sup> Week  
in Ordinary Time**

# Contents

Living with Christ October 2023

## 1 Editorial

### **Praying with the Church**

## 2 Pope's Prayer Intention

## 3-5 Focus on the Holy Mass

*The Concluding Rite*

### **Daily Readings and commentaries**

## 6-15 October 8

*27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

## 16-47 October 9-14

*27<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time*

### **Liturgical texts:**

Texts contained in this work derived whole or in part from Daily Missal copyrighted by St Paul Communication/Daughters of St Paul.

**On our cover:** A farmer working in his garden

© Nguyen Khac from Pixabay

# Editorial

October 2023



Rev. Fr. Dennis Opoku, Tema Ghana

## Theme: “Life and Death”

Life and death are the two poles of human life, the beginning and the end. The fact is we do not have much control over them. For the end and the thereafter, will depend on how we live the “life.” Life is God’s free gift to us. If someone gives you such a great gift, we need to value and take good care of it. This is what the liturgy of the week presents to us in the various celebrations, such as the Feast of All Saints, Solemnity of All Souls, and the Memorials Saints Martin de Porres and Charles Borromeo, Bishop.

In living a good life to ensure a better and the thereafter, our response to the command to Love is very key. Love is the essence of the laws and precepts of good Christian life. It is the key to obedience and to ethics. It is also the foundation stone on which the rest build. Let us lay the needed foundations for a better tomorrow. Remember that the Saints are saints because of the love they had for God and humanity. May God help us to live our lives in accordance to his will. Amen.



# 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**

**A**fter 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 8

## 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Isaiah 5: 1-7 / Psalm 80: 9. 12. 13-14. 15-16. 19-20 / Philippians 4: 6-9 / Matthew 21: 33-43*



...the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.  
(Matthew 21: 42)





## *Stand by the Truth*

In the Parable of the Tenant, Jesus presents three main characters – the tenants, the servants and the son. The tenants are the scribes and the Pharisees, the so-called religious leaders who were supposed to live up to expectation. The servants represent the prophets who came to proclaim the truth but were rejected and killed. The son is Jesus, the Son of God sent by the Father but He was criticized, rejected, tortured and put to death.

Have you ever been rejected or betrayed by friends or those you trusted? Imagine the feeling and imagine what Jesus suffered at the rejection and desertion he faced, even by His close friends. Take some quiet time to recall such experience or just imagine it, if you have never encountered such. It is a hard experience to go through. May we never reject Jesus no matter the situation we find ourselves.

One of the beatitudes exhorts those who are persecuted because of righteousness, with a promise that the kingdom of heaven will be theirs. (cf. Mt. 5:11-12). Rejection and persecution were part of the life of the disciples of Jesus and the martyrs who were killed for proclaiming



**Sunday October 8**

Christ and His Kerygma. Following their example and as Christians, may we not be afraid to proclaim Christ and the truth about our faith, even by the way we live our lives. At baptism, we become prophets, kings and priests – prophets speak the truth, kings judge by the truth and priests proclaim and witness to the truth. That is what we are called to do: to stand for the truth without fear. Let us look up to Jesus asking for the grace to stand strong in the situations of criticisms, rejections, persecutions which we may face for the sake of the Gospel. It is more meritorious to die for the truth than to live in falsehood. Jesus said, “whoever wants to save his/her life will lose it, but whoever loses his/her life for me will find it”. (Mt. 16:25) May we be ardent followers of Christ and proclaim Him without fear remembering His promise of perpetual presence.

***Rev. Sr. Mary Clare, Nigeria***



**Entrance Antiphon** (*Est 4:17*)

**Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us: to pardon what conscience dreads, and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***First Reading (Isaiah 5:1-7)*** \_\_\_\_\_

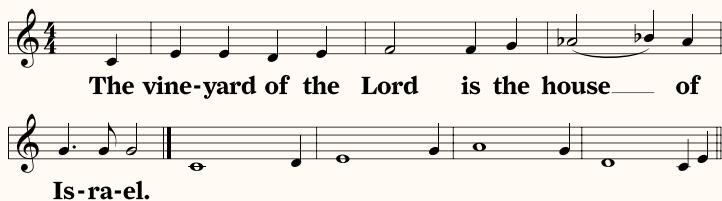
**A reading from the Book of Isaiah**

Let me sing for my beloved a love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge, I beg you, between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I



looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness; but behold, a cry! The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### *Responsorial Psalm* ————— *(Psalm (79) 80:12.13-14.15-16.19-20.)*





**R. The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel.**

You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you drove out the nations and planted it.  
It stretched out its branches to the sea;  
to the River it stretched out its shoots. R.

Then why have you broken down its walls?  
It is plucked by all who pass by the way.  
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,  
devoured by the beasts of the field. R.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted,  
the son of man you have claimed for yourself. R.

And we shall never forsake you again;  
give us life that we may call upon your name.  
O Lord God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved. R.



Sunday October 8

***Second Reading (Philippians 4:6-9)*** —————

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians**

Brethren: Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

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

**Acclamation** (*John 15:16*)

**Alleluia. Alleluia.** I chose you from the world that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, says the Lord. **Alleluia.**



***Gospel (Matthew 21:33-43)***

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

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, “Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. “Afterwards he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The very stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes’? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken



**Sunday** October 8

away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it.”

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

### **Prayer of the Faithful**

*The following intentions are suggestions only.*

**R. Lord, hear us!**

For good and compassionate leaders in Africa and in other parts of the world, let us pray to the Lord our God. R.

For good witnesses of the word of God in Africa and all over the world; for fruitful apostolates and pastoral works, let us pray to the Lord our God. R.

For the end of terrorism and for those threatened and killed for their faith, let us cry out to the Lord our God. R.

For peace, mercy and security in the world, let us pray to the Lord our God. R.





## Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands, and through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Communion Antiphon (*Lam 3:25*)

**The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.**

## Prayer after Communion

Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



# Monday October 9

27<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

---

## **Ferial**

*or: St Denis, bishop and companions, martyrs, optional memorial*

*or: St John Leonardi, priest, optional memorial*

## **Entrance Antiphon**

(Cf. *Est* 4:17) **Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

## **Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of

those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us: to pardon what conscience dreads, and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. Through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **Reading** ————— **(Jonah 1:1–17; 2:1.10)**

**The beginning of the Book of the Prophet Jonah**

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, “Arise,



go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.” But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare, and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god; and they threw the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part

of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call upon your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we do not perish.” And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And from where do you come? What is your country? And of what people are you?” And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the



**Monday** October 9

God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” Then the men were exceedingly afraid, and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them. Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. He said to them, “Take me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more

and more tempestuous against them. Therefore they cried to the Lord, “We beg you, O Lord, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not on us innocent blood; for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you.” So they took up Jonah and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows. And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish. And the Lord spoke to the fish,



and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.  
The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

***Responsorial Psalm——***  
***(Jonah 2:2.3. 4.7)***

**R. You brought up my life from the pit, O Lord.**

“I called to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.” R.

“For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood was round about me; all your waves and your billows passed over me.” R.

“Then I said, ‘I am cast out from your presence; how shall I again look upon your holy temple?’” R.

“When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.” R.

**Acclamation**  
***(See Luke 1:28)***

**Alleluia. Alleluia.** Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women. **Alleluia.**

***Gospel——***  
***(Luke 10:25-37)***

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

At that time: Behold, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” And he

answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have answered right; do this, and you will live.” But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbour?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him,

passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed mercy on him.” And Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

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

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Grant, we pray, O Lord;  
that we maybe 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**

*(Lam 3:25)* **The Lord is good  
to those who hope in him,  
to the soul that seeks him.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Grant us, almighty God,  
that we may be refreshed  
and nourished by the  
Sacrament which we

have received, so as to be  
transformed into what we  
consume. Through Christ  
our Lord. **Amen.**

**Show Love to All****Commentary****Luke 10: 25-37**

In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus helps us understand what authentic Christian life is - such that will inherit us eternal life. It only demands love and love alone. It is not by knowing what love is but by putting it into practice. It entails showing love to all not minding the class, status, race, tribe, language or religion. Every person is our neighbor and we are enjoined to give a helping hand whenever a cry of help is heard. It is not easy but by the grace of God, it is possible.

***Rev. Sr. Mary Clare, Nigeria***





# Tuesday October 10

27<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

---

## Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. *Est* 4:17) **Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

## Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to

give what prayer does not dare to ask. Through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Reading ————— (*Jonah* 3:1-10)

### A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jonah

The word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth.

Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he cried, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them. Then tidings reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, and covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he made proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; let them not feed, or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them cry

mightily to God; yes, let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence which is in his hands. Who knows, God may yet repent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we perish not?" When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God repented of the evil which he had said he would do to them; and he did not do it. The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Responsorial Psalm —***  
***(Psalm <sup>(129)</sup> 130: 1-2.3-47bc-8)***

**R. If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear



my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the sound of my pleading. R

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, that you may be revered. R

For with the Lord there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. R

### **Acclamation**

*(Luke 11:28)*

**Alleluia. Alleluia.** Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it. **Alleluia.**

### **Gospel**

*(Luke 10:38-42)*

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

At that time: Jesus entered a village; and a woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her."

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

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the sacrifices instituted  
by your commands and  
through the sacred  
mysteries, which we  
celebrate with dutiful  
service, graciously  
complete the sanctifying  
work by which you are  
pleased to redeem us.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

*(Lam 3:25)* **The Lord is  
good to those who hope  
in him, to the soul that  
seeks him.**

*Or*

*Cf. 1Cor 10:17*

**Though many, we are  
one bread, one body,  
we who share, all of us,  
the one Bread and one  
Chalice.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we

have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Word of God is Life**

#### **Commentary**

**Luke 10: 38-42**

From the Gospel, we see two personalities - Mary and Martha, who were both busy at the visit of Jesus. Martha was distracted with many things, but Mary was occupied with one thing - listening to Jesus. Jesus in His response to Martha, emphasised the need to listen to the Word of God. In the Word of God is our life. In our daily schedules, let us set aside some time to pray and reflect with the scriptures, we will discover answers to many confusions in our lives and peace will be our constant companion.

***Rev. Sr. Mary Clare, Nigeria***



# Wednesday October 11

27<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

---

## Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. *Est* 4:17) **Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

## Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us: to pardon what

conscience dreads, and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Reading ————— (*Jonah* 4:1-11)

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jonah**

It displeased Jonah exceedingly [ that God did not do the evil which he had said he would do to Nineveh], and he was angry. And he prayed to the Lord and said, “I pray you, Lord, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country?



That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy, and that you repent of evil. Therefore now, O Lord, take my life from me, I beg you, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Do you do well to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. And the Lord God appointed a plant, and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. But when dawn

came up the next day, God appointed a worm which attacked the plant, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God appointed a sultry east wind, and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah so that he was faint; and he asked that he might die, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "I do well to be angry, angry enough to die." And the Lord said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labour, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night, and perished in a night. And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do

not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?"

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

***Responsorial Psalm —***  
***(Psalm (85) 86:3-4.5-6.9-10)***

**R. You are slow to anger,  
O Lord, and abundant in  
mercy.**

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. Gladden the soul of your servant, for I lift up my soul to you, O Lord. **R.**

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer,

and attend to my voice in supplication. **R.**

All the nations you have made shall come; They will bow down before you, O Lord, and glorify your name, for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. **R.**

**Acclamation**

***(Romans 8:15bc)***

**Alleluia. Alleluia.** You have received the spirit of sonship; in him we cry, "Abba! Father!" **Alleluia.**

***Gospel —***

***(Luke 11:1-4)***

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

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he ceased, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach



us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” And he said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us; and lead us not into temptation.”

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

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands, and through the sacred mysteries, which we

celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

*(Lam 3:25)* **The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.**

*Or*

*Cf. 1 Cor 10:17*

**Though many, we are one bread, one body: We who share, all of us, the one Bread and one Chalice.**

### Prayer after Communion

Grant us, almighty God,  
that we may be refreshed  
and nourished by the  
Sacrament which we

have received, so as to be  
transformed into what we  
consume. Through Christ  
our Lord. **Amen.**

## Commentary

### Forgive, to Be Forgiven

Luke 11: 1-4

The Lord's Prayer is the prototype prayer that encompasses both our spiritual and physical needs. Jesus taught by example and enjoins us to do the same. Among all the requests in the prayer, only one has a condition attached to it – Forgiveness. We can only be forgiven if we forgive others. If you are presently battling with unforgiven hurt or betrayal, go to Jesus in humility, bearing in mind your own limitations and ask Him for the grace to enable you to forgive, no matter how difficult it may be.

***Rev. Sr. Mary Clare, Nigeria***



# Thursday October 12

27<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

---

## Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. *Est* 4:17) **Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

## Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us: to pardon what conscience dreads, and to give what prayer does not

dare to ask. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Reading

---

**(Malachi 3:13-4:2a)**

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi**

“Your words have been stout against me, says the Lord. Yet you say, ‘How have we spoken against you?’ You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the good of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the Lord of hosts? Henceforth we deem the arrogant blessed; evildoers not only prosper but when they put God

to the test they escape.” Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another; the Lord heeded and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and thought on his name. “They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, my special possession on the day when I act, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him. For behold, the day comes, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn

them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.” The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Responsorial Psalm —  
(Psalm 1:1-2.3.4 and 6)***

**R. Blessed the man who  
has placed his trust in the  
Lord.**

Blessed indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the path with sinners, nor abides in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the

Lord, and who ponders his law day and night. R.

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season, and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. R.

Not so are the wicked, not so! For they, like winnowed chaff, shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord knows the way of the just, but the way of the wicked will perish. R.

**Acclamation** (*Acts 16:14b*)

**Alleluia.** Alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may give heed to the words of your Son. **Alleluia.**

**Gospel** —————  
(*Luke 11:5-13*)

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

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything’? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him whatever

he needs. And I tell you, Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands, and through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

*(Lam 3:25)* **The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.**

*Or*

*Cf. 1 Cor 10:17*

**Though many, we are one bread, one body: we who share, all of us, the one Bread and one Chalice.**

### Prayer after Communion

Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we

have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Persevere in Prayer

### Commentary

Luke 11: 5-13

Jesus teaches us the importance of persistence in prayer. He is our loving God and knows what is best for us even before we ask. If only we can trust and believe, we would realise that there is no unanswered prayer as far as God is concerned. If we pray and don't receive answers the way or when we asked, then, it is not His will or not His time. Persistence in prayer opens our heart to deeper love and knowledge of God. Let us always remember that in His will is our peace.

**Rev. Sr. Mary Clare, Nigeria**



# Friday October 13

27<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

---

## Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. *Est* 4:17) **Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

## Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us: to pardon what conscience dreads, and to

give what prayer does not dare to ask. Through our Lord... **Amen.**

## Reading ————— (*Joel* 1:13-15; 2:1-2)

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel**

Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests, wail, O ministers of the altar. Go in, pass the night in sackcloth, O ministers of my God! Because cereal offering and drink offering are withheld from the house of your God. Sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly. Gather the elders



and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the Lord your God; and cry to the Lord. Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it comes. Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations.

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

***Responsorial Psalm —  
(Psalm 9:2-3.6 and (15)  
16.8-9)***

***R. The Lord will rule the  
world with justice.***

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; all your wonders I will confess. I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High. *R.*

You have rebuked the nations, destroyed the wicked; you have wiped out their name forever and ever. The nations have fallen in the pit which they made; their feet have been caught in the snare they laid. *R.*

But the Lord sits enthroned forever; he has set up his throne for judgement. He will judge

the world with justice; he will govern the peoples with equity. *R.*

### **Acclamation**

*(John 12:21b-32)*

**Alleluia. Alleluia.** Now shall the ruler of this world be cast out, says the Lord; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.  
**Alleluia.**

### **Gospel** ————— *(Luke 11:15-26)*

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

At that time: [When Jesus had cast out a demon,] some of the people said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons";

while others, to test him, sought from him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and house falls upon house. And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace; but when one stronger than he assails him and overcomes him, he takes away his armour

in which he trusted, and divides his spoil. He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me scatters. "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a man, he passes through waterless places seeking rest; and finding none he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes he finds it swept and put in order. Then he goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first."

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

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

*(Lam 3:25)* **The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.**

*Or*

*Cf. 1 Cor 10:17*

**Though many, we are one bread, one body: we who share, all of us, the one Bread and one Chalice.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament

which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Be for Christ****Commentary****Luke 11: 15-26**

Jesus said, “whoever is not with me is against me”. Following Christ comes with lots of challenges that will tempt us to act against Him knowingly or unknowingly. In today’s Gospel, Jesus encourages us to remain steadfast. We must not allow our challenges, problems and temptations of this life to overcome us. Therefore, may we be always alert to recognize those occasions that make us to be less Christlike and ask Jesus for the strength and courage to remain and to gather with Him.

***Rev. Sr. Mary Clare, Nigeria***



# Saturday October 14

27<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

---

## **Ferial**

or: **St Callistus I, pope, martyr**, *optional memorial*

### **Entrance Antiphon**

(*Est 4:17*) **Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

pour out your mercy upon us: to pardon what conscience dreads, and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Reading** ————— **(Joel 4:12-21)**

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel**

### **Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,

Thus says the Lord: Let the nations bestir themselves, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the

nations round about. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the wine press is full. The vats overflow, for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. And the Lord roars from Zion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem and the heavens and the earth shake. But the Lord is a refuge to his people, a stronghold to the people of Israel. So you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who dwell in Zion, my holy mountain. And Jerusalem shall be holy and strangers shall never

again pass through it. "And in that day the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the stream beds of Judah shall flow with water; and a fountain shall come forth from the house of the Lord and water the valley of Shittim. Egypt shall become a desolation and Edom a desolate wilderness, for the violence done to the people of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land. But Judah shall be inhabited for ever, and Jerusalem to all generations. I will avenge their blood, and I will not clear the guilty, for the Lord dwells in Zion."

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

**Responsorial Psalm —**  
**(Psalm (96) 97:1-2.5-6.11-12)**

**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just.**

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice; let the many islands be glad. Cloud and darkness surround him; justice and right are the foundation of his throne. R.

The mountains melt like wax before the face of the Lord, before the face of the Lord of all the earth. The skies proclaim his justice; all peoples see his glory. R.

Light shines forth for the just one, and joy for the upright of heart. Rejoice in the Lord, you just; to the memory of his holiness give thanks. R.

**Acclamation**  
**(Luke 11:28)**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.** Blessed are those who hear the word of God, and keep it. **Alleluia.**

**Gospel —**  
**(Luke 11:27-28)**

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

At that time: As Jesus was speaking, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!” But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

*(Lam 3:25)* **The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.**

*Or*

*Cf. 1Cor 10:17*

**Though many, we are one bread, one body: we who share, all of us, the one Bread and one Chalice.**



### Prayer after Communion

Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we

have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Be Doers of the Word

### Commentary

Luke 11: 27-28

In the Gospel, Jesus makes a great distinction between spiritual and physical affiliation. Jesus' response did not downgrade His mother but rather exalted her because she outstandingly heard the Word of God and kept it. Mary is considered the first disciple of Jesus. Those who hear the Word of God and keep it are His mother, brothers, sisters, friends and relatives. May we find ourselves in the company of Jesus and be those who receive the Word of God and actively do and apply it in our daily life.

**Rev. Sr. Mary Clare, Nigeria**



**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. Sr. Mary CLARE.

### **Digital**

**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](mailto:info@livingwithchrist-africa.com)





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



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



Facebook : **Living with Christ Africa**



Tiktok



YouTube

***Growing up Daily with the Good News***