Fourth Sunday of Lent

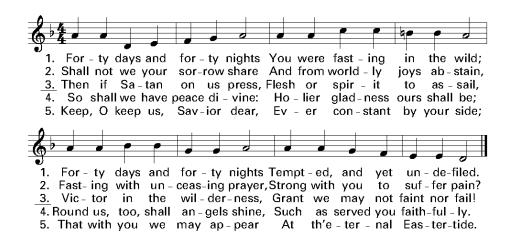


"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

(Cycle B)

Forty Days and Forty Nights

(Verses 1-3)



INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Hymn

Let Heaven Rejoice



Greeting

 \dot{V} . In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

 \dot{V} . The grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Love of God

and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

R. And also with you.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Invitation to reflect on our faults and failings.

 \tilde{V} To prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries of Christ's life, death, and resurrection,, let us call to mind our faults and failings and ask our heavenly Father in his mercy for his healing and forgiveness.

Pause for silent reflection.

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters that I have sinned in my thoughts and in my words in what I have done and in what I have failed to do; and I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

 \hat{V} May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. \hat{R} Amen.



CONCLUDING RITES

Prayer over the People

 \dot{V} . The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

 \tilde{V} . Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Father,

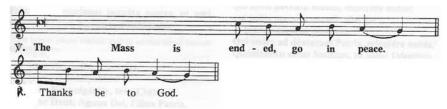
look with love upon your people, the love which our Lord Jesus Christ Showed us when he delivered himself to evil men and suffered the agony of the cross, for he is Lord for ever.

Ř. Amen.

 \tilde{V} . And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, come upon you and remain with you forever.

Ř. Amen.

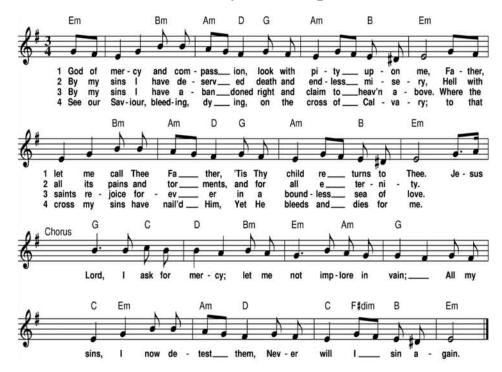
Dismissal



Closing Hymn

Communion Hymn

God of Mercy and Compassion



Prayer after Communion

∛. Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer.

Faather,

you enlighten all who come into the world. Fill our hearts with the light of your gospel, that our thoughts may please you, and our love be sincere.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

Ř. Amen.

Gloria

The Gloria is not said

Opening Prayer

 V. Let us pray to the Father and ask him to form a new heart within us.

Pause for silent prayer.

God our Father, your Word, Jesus Christ, spoke peace to a sinful world and brought mankind the gift of reconciliation by the suffering and death he endured.

Teach us, the people who bear his name, to follow the example he gave us: may our faith, hope, and charity turn hatred to love, conflict to peace, death to eternal life.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Ř. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1 (2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23)

A reading from the Second Book of Chronicles

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects.

Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

 \tilde{V} . This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6)



By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion. On the aspens of that land we hung up our harps.

Ř. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

For there our captors asked of us the lyrics of our songs, And our despoilers urged us to be joyous: "Sing for us the songs of Zion!"

Ř. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Exchange of Peace

- \tilde{V} . The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **R**. And also with you.
- \tilde{V} . Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Breaking of the Bread

As the bread is broken, we sing or say:



 \tilde{V} . This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Ř. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

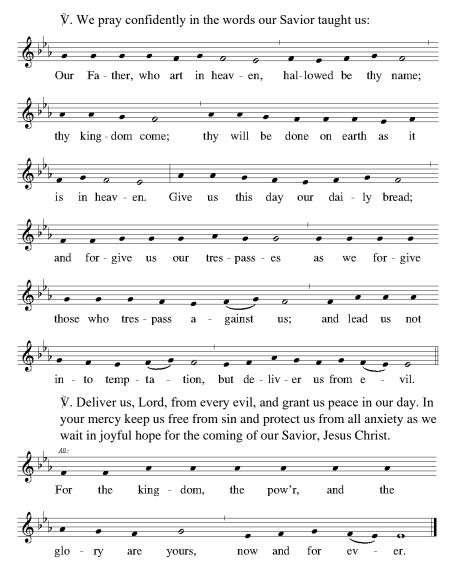
To those receiving Communion, the celebrant says:

 \dot{V} . The body of Christ.

R. Amen.

COMMUNION LITURGY

The Lord's Prayer



 \tilde{V} . Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

How could we sing a song of the LORD in a foreign land? If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand be forgotten!

Ř. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

May my tongue cleave to my palate if I remember you not, If I place not Jerusalem ahead of my joy.

R. R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Reading 2 (Eph 2:4-10)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians:

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them

 \dot{V} . This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ř. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation (Jn 3:16)

"Alleluia" is not said during Lent



God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.



Gospel (Jn 3:14-21)

 \dot{V} . The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

 \tilde{V} . A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

The celebrant and the people trace the cross on their foreheads (mind), their lips (speech) and over their hearts, asking the Lord to open them to his Word.

R. Glory to you Lord.

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.

Eucharistic Prayer (II)

The celebrant prays the Eucharistic Prayer. After the consecration, the celebrant sings:

 \tilde{V} . Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



The celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

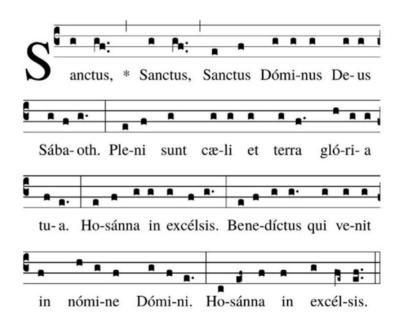
Through him, with him and in him in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father Forever and ever.



Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

This reat season of grace is your gift to your family to renew us in spirit. You give us strength to purify our hearts, to control our desires, and so to serve you in freedom. You teach us how to live in this passing world with our heart set on the world that will never end.

Now, with all the saints and angels, we praise you for ever:



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

 \tilde{V} . This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Ř. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.



Homily

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit

he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

General Intercessions

The celebrant invites the congregation to pray and offers several prayer intentions. Each concludes, "We pray to the Lord."

Ř. Lord, hear our prayer.

The celebrant concludes the intercessions with a final short prayer ending with "... through Christ, our Lord."

Ř. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offering of the Gifts

If an Offertory Hymn is played or sung, omit the following.

 \tilde{V} . Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Ř. Blessed be God for ever.

 \tilde{V} . Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

Ř. Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

 \tilde{V} . Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

Ř. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Lord,

we offer you these gifts which bring us peace and joy. Increase our reverence by this eucharist, and bring salvation to the world.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Ř. Amen.

Preface and Sanctus (Lent II)



R/. It is right to give him thanks and praise.