

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, who through the grace of adoption
chose us to be children of light,
grant, we pray,
that we may not be wrapped in the darkness
of error
but always be seen to stand in the bright light
of truth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING Wisdom 1:13-15;2:23-24

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Death was not God's doing,
he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the
living.
To be - for this he created all;
the world's created things have health in
them,
in them no fatal poison can be found,
and Hades holds no power on earth;
for virtue is undying.
Yet God did make man imperishable,
he made him in the image of his own nature;
it was the devil's envy that brought death into
the world,
as those who are his partners will discover.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 29

Response:

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued
me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over
me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the
dead,
restored me to life from those who sink
into the grave. (R.)
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour
through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes
with dawn. (R.)
3. The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning

into dancing.
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.
(R.)

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 8:7.9.13-15

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to
the Corinthians.

You always have the most of everything - of
faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of
keenness for any cause, and the biggest
share of our affection - so we expect you to
put the most into this work of mercy too.
Remember how generous the Lord Jesus
was; he was rich, but he became poor
for your sake, to make you rich out of his
poverty. This does not mean that to give
relief to others you ought to make things
difficult for yourselves: it is a question of
balancing what happens to be your surplus
now against their present need, and one day
they may have something to spare that will
supply your own need. That is how we strike
a balance: as scripture says: The man who
gathered much had none too much, the man
who gathered little did not go short.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life:

you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 5:21-43

For shorter form read between > <

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark.

>When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the
other side, a large crowd gathered
round him and he stayed by the lakeside.
Then one of the synagogue officials
came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him,
fell at his feet and pleaded with
him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is
desperately sick. Do come and
lay your hands on her to make her better and
save her life." Jesus went with
him and a large crowd followed him; they
were pressing all round him.<

Now there was a woman who had suffered
from a haemorrhage for twelve years;
after long and painful treatment under
various doctors, she had spent all she had
without being any the better for it, in fact,
she was getting worse. She had heard about
Jesus, and she came up behind him through
the crowd and touched his cloak. "If I can
touch even his clothes," she had told herself
"I shall be well again." And the source of the
bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in
herself that she was cured of her complaint.
Immediately aware that power had gone out
from him Jesus turned round in the crowd
and said, "Who touched my clothes?" His
disciples said to him, "You see how the
crowd is pressing round you and yet you
say, 'Who touched me?'" But he continued
to look all round to see who had done it.
Then the woman came forward, frightened
and trembling because she knew what had
happened to her, and she fell at his feet and
told him the whole truth. "My daughter,"
he said "your faith has restored you to
health; go in peace and be free from your
complaint."

>While he was still speaking some people

arrived from the house of the synagogue
official to say, "Your daughter is dead: why
put the Master to any further trouble?" But
Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs
and he said to the official, "Do not be afraid;
only have faith." And he allowed no one to
go with him except Peter and James and
John the brother of James. So they came
to the official's house and Jesus noticed all
the commotion, with people weeping and
wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to
them, "Why all this commotion and crying?
The child is not dead, but asleep." But they
laughed at him. So he turned them all out
and, taking with him the child's father and
mother and his own companions, he went
into the place where the child lay. And taking
the child by the hand he said to her, "Talitha,
kum!" which means, "Little girl, I tell you
to get up." The little girl got up at once and
began to walk about, for she was twelve
years old. At this they were overcome with
astonishment, and he ordered them strictly
not to let anyone know about it, and told
them to give her something to eat.

The Gospel of the Lord.<

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with 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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who graciously accomplish
the effects of your mysteries,
grant, we pray,
that the deeds by which we serve you
may be worthy of these sacred gifts.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.

A GIRL RESTORED TO LIFE AND A WOMAN HEALED

(MARK 5:21-43)



We are presented with two stories of healing today, both extraordinary in their detail and power. A leader of the synagogue named Jairus approaches Jesus out of desperation as his daughter is at the point of death.

We can only imagine the courage it must have taken for Jairus to come and ask for help. He effectively represents Jesus' opposition, but Jesus is also his last hope. There is nothing in the Gospel that suggests that Jesus pondered this request before responding to Jairus. Instead, Jesus went with him. However, there was a delay in reaching the house. Crowds of people gathered and Jesus' encounter with a woman who was haemorrhaging is one of the most famous in the Gospels. Power left Jesus' body as the woman reached out and touched his cloak. Jesus had an instinctive sense that someone was in need. Like Jairus, the woman had done everything humanly possible in seeking a cure: "she had endured much under many physicians and had spent all that she had." Her faith in the power of Jesus and his healing presence stops her haemorrhage and heals her completely. Jesus does not let this moment pass without offering the simple words of encouragement, "your faith has made you well. Go in peace..."

After this brief interlude, we continue on the road to Jairus' house but on arrival Jesus and his followers are told that Jairus' daughter is dead. The important moment in this scene is when the crowd of relatives and friends gathered at the house laugh at Jesus' statement that she is merely sleeping. Jesus puts them all outside the house as he and his close circle of disciples (Peter, James and John) stay with the child, with Jesus saying the words "Little girl get up" or in his native tongue, *Talitha kum*. The imagery here is quite stark. Those who believe are inside the house, those who doubt remain on the outside looking in. ■

LEARN

"In the public activity of Jesus, his encounters with the sick are not isolated, but continual. He healed many through miracles, so that miraculous healings characterised his activity."

(Instruction on Prayers for Healing, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, September 14, 2000)

DO

Take some time this week to call to mind those who are sick in your family and parish community at this time. Pray for them and recall the ministry of Jesus in the Gospels in his healing of the sick and his comforting of the afflicted.

SAY

"Stay with me, Lord because I am weak and I need Your strength, that I may not fall so often."

(St Pio of Pietrelcina)

REFLECT

So what happened next in the life story of Jairus? As one of the leaders of the synagogue, how could he explain such a dramatic scene of healing to his fellow synagogue worshippers? Jesus tells all present in the house not to tell anyone about what had just happened, but news travels fast where stories of healing are concerned. One might imagine

that his life was transformed by what he saw on that day. Jesus not only heals Jairus' daughter but transforms the hearts of those who see his power. This is a truly extraordinary God-given event. Indeed, our own personal contact with someone who has been healed or cured of an illness is certainly something that brings us closer to God and closer to understanding the

power of miracles in the life and mind of God. A woman I know who suffers from Multiple Sclerosis comes home from Lourdes every September feeling a renewed strength and appreciation of God's healing presence in her life. A person's experience of healing adds so much to our understanding of how God interacts with our world. ■