

Feast of Our Lady of Mercy ~ 24th September 2014 In the 20th year of Mercy International Association

Presider's Book

2.00 p.m. Liturgy at St Mary's Church, Haddington Road
Most Reverend Diarmuid Martin, D.D. Archbishop of Dublin

GATHERING OF MERCY

Welcome

Mary Reynolds rsm, Executive Director, Mercy International Association

Entrance Procession

Water Vessels used in 1994 Ritual dedication of Mercy International Centre are brought in and water poured into water feature which will be set up in a front area of the Church (as baptismal font in Haddington Road is not visible to the congregation).

MUSIC: **Gather** by Liam Lawton (©1996)

1. Gather from the East, gather from the West,
Gather from the highways too.
Gather from the North, gather from the South,
Gather when the night is noon.

Ref: *And we'll gather and we shall reap,
and no longer in sadness we'll weep.
And we'll gather, and we shall reap,
resting, rising, calling, guiding, O Lord.*

2. Gather all the needy, gather all in pain
Gather all who cry in vain.
Gather all the thirsty, gather all the poor,
Gather all in Jesus' name. [R]

3. Gather all forgotten, gather all forlorn.
Gather all who weep and mourn.
Gather all the silent, gather all who sing,
Gather all the hearts reborn. [R]

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Sprinkling Rite: The Archbishop faces the Water Feature and leads the Prayer over the Water.

On this Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, we thank our God for the spirit of Mercy shown to us in the life of Catherine McAuley and through Our Lady of Mercy. This spirit flows from our Baptism. Let us prepare ourselves to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist by asking the Lord to renew in us the grace of our baptism.

Prayer over the Water:

**Sisters and Brothers,
Let us pray that God's grace will keep us faithful to the Spirit,
As we proclaim God's goodness in the creation of water:**

**Ever-living God, Source of Life and Goodness,
graciously bless + this water.**

**You created water to make the fields fruitful
and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.**

(Sung response - Blessed be God, Blessed be God, Blessed be God Forever)

**You chose water as the instrument of your mercy
when you freed your people from slavery
and quenched their thirst in the desert.**

(Sung response - Blessed be God, Blessed be God, Blessed be God Forever)

**You made the water of Baptism holy
by Christ's baptism in the Jordan.**

(Sung response - Blessed be God, Blessed be God, Blessed be God Forever)

**May this water remind us of our Baptism
and of the Spirit who guides and leads us.**

(Sung response - Blessed be God, Blessed be God, Blessed be God Forever)

We ask this through Christ our Lord. [Amen.]

The Archbishop sprinkles the Congregation with water.

Music: Come to the Water by John Foley (©1978)

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: without money, without price.
Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?

And let all who seek, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: without money, without strife.
Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?

And let all who toil, let them come to the water.
And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord: all who labor, without rest.
How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?

And let all the poor, let them come to the water,
Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord: bring the children without might.
Easy the load and light: come to the Lord.

On return to the chair the Archbishop prays:

**May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,
and through the celebration of this Eucharist
make us worthy to share at the table of his Kingdom. [Amen.]**

The Gloria is said:

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

Opening Prayer:

**God, whose mercy is without measure,
through the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of mercy,
grant that we may know your loving kindness on earth
and come at last to the glory of heaven.**

**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.]**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians:

(4:4-9)

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord;

I repeat, what I want is your happiness.

Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry;

 but if there is anything you need, pray for it,
 asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,
and that peace of God,

 which is so much greater than we can understand,
 will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters,

 fill your minds with everything that is true,
 everything that is noble,
 everything that is good and pure,
 everything that we love and honour,
 and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise.

Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me

 and have been taught by me

 and have heard or seen that I do.

Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Like a Shepherd by Bob Dufford SJ (©1976)

Ref: *Like a Shepherd He feeds His flock
and gathers the lambs in His arms.
Holding them carefully close to His heart,
leading them home.*

1. Say to the cities of Judah, "Prepare the way of the Lord!
Go to the mountaintop! Lift your voice! Jerusalem, here is your God!" [R]
2. "I Myself will shepherd them for others have lead them astray.
The lost I will rescue and heal their wounds and pasture them giving them rest." [R]
3. "Come unto Me if you are heavily burdened
And take My yoke upon your shoulders. I will give you rest." [R]

A word from Catherine:

From the Retreat Instructions of Catherine McAuley:

As the most acceptable return a benefactor can receive
from those on whom God bestows favours
is a countenance testifying the gratitude of the heart,
how acceptable it must be to God when we make God this return,
showing to all by our happy, cheerful countenance
the gratitude with which our hearts overflow towards Him
for His many favours in this life
and many promises for the one to come.
To whom did God make these great promises?
To poor fishermen who had nothing to leave but a boat and nets,
proof that God does not regard so much what we leave
as the will wherewith we leave it.

Gospel Acclamation:

Pilgrim Song by Liam Lawton (©2000)

Alle, Allelu, Alleluia (x4)
Speak, O Lord your servant here is listening.
You have the message of eternal life. (x2)
Alle, Allelu, Alleluia (x4)

Gospel:

The Lord be with you [And with your spirit.]

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (22:35-40)

A lawyer, to disconcert Jesus, put a question,
'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?'

Jesus said,
'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul,
and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and the first commandment.

The second resembles it:
You must love your neighbor as yourself.
On these two commandments hang the whole Law,
and the Prophets also.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Homily: Archbishop Diarmuid Martin

Intercessions:

Archbishop:

My sisters and brothers, let us entrust to our God of Mercy who raised Jesus from the dead, our own needs and those of all humanity.

Sung response: [Sung once at the beginning and once at the end.]

Let us Pray Well by Catherine Teresa Martin rsm (©2009)

Let us pray well and never grow weary, let us pray well and never grow tired. (x2)
Always pray well, never grow weary. Always pray well, never grow tired.

Reader:

We pray for peace (*pause*)

In our lives may we walk with those who struggle. Lord, hear us.

We pray for compassion (*pause*)

In our living, may we care for the vulnerable ones. Lord, hear us.

We pray for hope (*pause*)

In our lives may humour and enthusiasm lift our spirits. Lord, hear us.

We pray for courage (*pause*)

In our living may we face our fears and take action on behalf of justice. Lord, hear us.

We pray for gentleness (*pause*)

In our lives may we lead by word and example. Lord, hear us.

We pray for insight (*pause*)

**In our giving and receiving of Mercy may our hearts resonate with goodness.
Lord, hear us.**

Sung response: [Repeat 'Let Us Pray Well' as above.]

Archbishop:

God of mercy and love, we make these prayers through Jesus, your life and gift among us; he is our joy and our strength, for ever and ever. [Amen.]

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of Gifts:

MUSIC: Pilgrim by Moira Bergin rsm (*instrumental*)

Prayer Over The Gifts:

Lord, receive the gifts of your people,
and grant that as we look up to the Blessed Virgin, Mother of mercy,
we may show ourselves merciful to others
and receive your pardon toward us.
Through Christ our Lord.

Eucharistic Prayer:

The Lord be with you. [And with your spirit.]
Lift up your hearts. [We lift them up to the Lord.]
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [It is right and just.]

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
Always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, and, as we celebrate the memory
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
to proclaim with fitting praise
the greatness of your name.

She is the gracious queen
Who has herself uniquely known your loving kindness
And stretches out her arms
To embrace all who take refuge in her
And call upon her help in their distress.
She is the Mother of mercy,
Always attentive to the voice of her children,
Seeking to win your compassion for them,
And asking your forgiveness for their sins.

**She is the handmaid of your love,
Never ceasing to pray for us to your Son,
That he may enrich our poverty with his grace
And strengthen our weakness with his power.**

**Through him the Angels of heaven
Offer their prayer of adoration
As they rejoice in your presence for ever.
May our voices be one with theirs
In the triumphant hymn of praise:**

Sanctus: by Liam Lawton (Glendalough Mass, ©2010)

Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of hosts.
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.

**You are indeed Holy, O Lord,
and all you have created rightly gives you praise,
for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
by the power and working of the Holy Spirit,
you give life to all things and make them holy,
and you never cease to gather a people to yourself,
so that from the rising of the sun to its setting
a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.**

**Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you:
by the same Spirit graciously make holy
these gifts we have brought to you for consecration,
that they may become the Body and + Blood
of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.**

**For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread,
and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing,
broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:**

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

**In a similar way, when supper was ended,
he took the chalice, and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing,
and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:**

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

The mystery of faith.

Memorial Acclamation:

Save Us, Saviour of the World by Liam Lawton (Glendalough Mass, ©2010)

Save us, Saviour of the world. Save us, Saviour of the world.
For by your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free, You have set us free.

**Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial
of the saving Passion of your Son,
his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven,
and as we look forward to his second coming,
we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.**

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church
and, recognizing the sacrificial Victim by whose death
you willed to reconcile us to yourself,
grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son
and filled with his Holy Spirit,
may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

C1. May he make of us an eternal offering to you,
so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect,
especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,
with blessed Joseph her spouse with your blessed Apostles
and glorious Martyrs and with all the Saints,
on whose constant intercession in your presence
we rely for unfailing help.

C2. May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord,
advance the peace and salvation of all the world.
Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity
your pilgrim Church on earth,
with your servant Francis our Pope and **N.** our Bishop,
the Order of Bishops, all the clergy,
and the entire people you have gained for your own.
Listen graciously to the prayers of this family,
whom you have summoned before you:
in your compassion, O merciful Father,
gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world.

C3. To our departed brothers and sisters
and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life,
give kind admittance to your kingdom.
There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory
through Christ our Lord,
through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.

**Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.**

Great Amen: by Liam Lawton (Cloud's Veil, ©1999)

The Communion Rite

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Our Father...

**Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
Graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin, and safe from all distress,
As we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

**Lord Jesus Christ,
Who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
Look not on our sins,
But on the faith of your Church,
And graciously grant her peace and unity
In accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever. [Amen.]**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. [And with your spirit.]

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*May this mingling of the Body and Blood
Of our Lord Jesus Christ
Bring eternal life to us who receive it.*

Lamb of God: by Liam Lawton (Cloud's Veil, ©1999)

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
Who, by the will of the Father
And the work of the Holy Spirit,
Through your Death gave life to the world,
Free me by this, your most holy body and Blood,
From all my sins and from every evil;
Keep me always faithful to your commandments,
And never let me be parted from you.*

**Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed

Communion:

Come Feast at this Table by Ian Callanan (©2010)

*Come feast at this table, God's banquet now is spread.
With bread of life and saving cup, Our hunger now is fed.*

1. I am the bread of life, come down from heav'n, come down to bring life.
All who eat this bread, will never hunger again. [R]
2. I am the wine of hope, poured out for you, for life renewed.
All who drink this cup, will never thirst again. [R]
3. I am the resurrection, the life for all who follow my way.
All who believe in me, will never die but live. [R]

Communion Meditation:

Suscipe of Catherine McAuley by Catherine Teresa Martin (©1997)

*My God I am yours for time and eternity, Lord I am yours forever.
It is you who must teach me to trust in your Providence, Loving Lord.*

1. You are a God of love and tenderness, I place my faith in you.
And I ask that you grant me acceptance of your will, Loving Lord. [R]
2. Take from my heart all painful anxiety, let nothing sadden me but sin,
and let my delight be hoping to see your face, God my all. [R]

Prayer after Communion:

**Lord God,
You have given us food and drink from heaven;
Grant that we may always praise your mercy
In company with the Blessed Virgin
And rejoice in her protection, for we acknowledge her as our queen,
Compassionate to sinners and merciful to the poor.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you. [And with your spirit.]

- **May God in His mercy bless and protect you all.** [Amen.]
- **May He grant you every grace and blessing,
and make you one of his dearest and best beloved.** [Amen.]
- **May God preserve and bless you,
and grant you all the graces and precious gifts
reserved for this holy celebration.** [Amen.]

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. [Thanks be to God.]

Recessional: Circle of Mercy by Jeannette Goglia rsm (©1991)

In Mercy, we touch the hearts of those who are in misery.
In Mercy, we're touched by them
and feel their strength and courage.
In Mercy, we heal the pain of those who are in sorrow.
In Mercy, we're healed by them and see the face of hope.

*R: For the Circle of Mercy is timeless, it is Spirit of Life itself
which roots us in Faith, and lifts us in Hope
and holds us in God's loving care,
and holds us in God's loving care.*

In Mercy, we welcome those the world has left rejected.
In Mercy, we're drawn within the loving heart of God.
In Mercy, we forgive the incompleteness in another,
In Mercy, our sins are healed and we are whole again. [R]

In Mercy, the Spirit Faith will root us in God's Presence.
In Mercy, the Spirit Hope will lift us out of doubt.
In Mercy, the love of God will be our joy in living,
In Mercy, we join with one another on our journey. [R]

**After the Recessional the Congregation is asked to be seated
for directions to the Lansdowne Hotel**