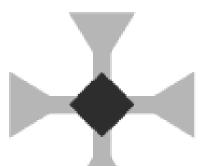
The Order of Mass

# 4th Sunday of Lent

March 9 & 10, 2024 † 5 p.m. Vigil † 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. † 6 p.m.





Welcome to St. Stephen's Catholic Community!

We are so glad you are here to worship with us today.

Upon the conclusion of Mass, please return your worship aid to one of the entrances of the church. Thank you!

# Prayer for a Fruitful Lent

My precious and crucified Lord, I offer You this Lent. I offer it to You with total abandonment and trust.

I offer You my prayers, sacrifices and my very life this day.

Do with me, Lord, as You will.

I pray that this Lent will be fruitful.

I know You have much to say to me and much to do in my life.

May this Lent be a time through which Your mercy is poured in abundance into my soul, and into the souls of all Your faithful.

Blessed Mother, pray for me and offer me to Your Son, that He may take me into His loving embrace.

Lord, Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us.

Amen.

#### The Mass is made up of two parts:

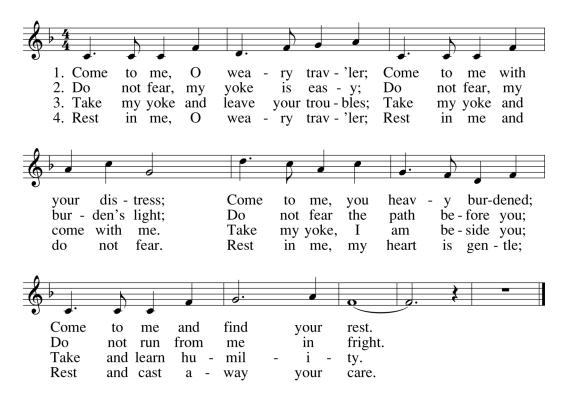
The Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. There are also certain rites that open and conclude the celebration.

#### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The purpose of the Introductory Rites is to ensure that the faithful who come together as one establish communion and dispose themselves to listen properly to God's word and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.

# **Entrance Song**

# Come To Me, O Weary Traveler

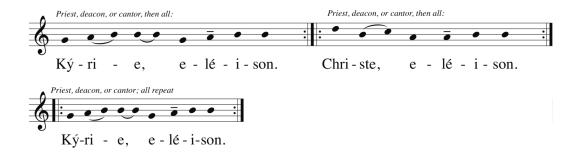


Text: Matthew 11:28-30; Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: DUNSTAN, 8 7 8 7; Bob Moore, b.1962, © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore 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.

# **Kyrie**



#### Collect

The Collect is made up of three parts:

- 1. The invitation ("Let us Pray").
- 2. Silent prayer by all gathered.
- 3. The formal prayer proclaimed by the priest, which "collects" the individual prayers of the people and offers them to God.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the readings God speaks to His people, opening up to them the mystery of redemption and salvation, and offering spiritual nourishment; and Christ himself is present through His word in the midst of the faithful.

# Reading I

2 Chronicles 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!"

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 137



Text: The Revised Grail Psalms, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain tr. © 1969, ICEL

Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### **Responsorial Psalm** (6 p.m.)

Psalm 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

Response: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

### Reading II

Ephesians 2:4-10

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

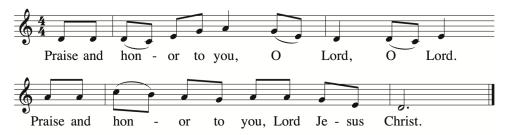
Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. *All respond: Thanks be to God.* 

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Please Stand.

We welcome and greet the Lord who is about to speak to us in the Gospel. During this time, we stand and face the ambo as a special reverence for the Gospel of Christ. The



Text: ICEL, © 1969 Music: Based on WONDROUS LOVE, Stephen Pishner, © 1998, GIA Publications, Inc. Gospel John 3:14-21

This is the high point of the Liturgy of the Word, which is why we stand for the reading, the priest kisses the Book of the Gospels and proclaims the reading, and there is often candles and incense used.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. *All respond:* And with your spirit.

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

All respond: Glory to You, O 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.

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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

All respond: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

# Homily Please be seated.

#### **Profession of Faith**

The whole people respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings and explained in the homily, and honor and confess the great mysteries of the 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,

(bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man (stand upright).

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

# **Universal Prayer**

Response: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

We pray for the needs of the Church, the world, and our community.

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

A collection is taken for our parish during the Preparation of Gifts. Every second Sunday of the month, St. Stephen's takes a second collection to support various charitable and advocacy organizations.

To support our parish electronically, scan the QR code:



# **Preparation of Gifts**

# Christ Be Our Light



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#### **Invitation to Prayer**

Please Stand.

Celebrant: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours

may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All respond: 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 holy Church.

#### The Eucharistic Prayer

This is the center and high point of the entire Mass. This prayer requires that all listen to it with reverence and in silence.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All respond: And with your spirit.

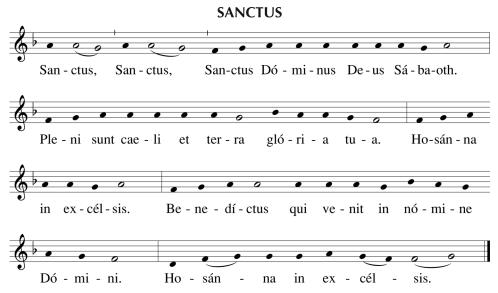
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

All respond: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All respond: It is right and just.

#### **Preface Acclamation**

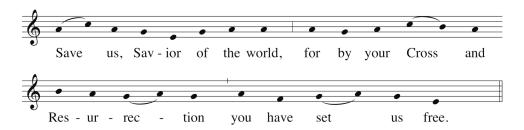


Music: Vatican Edition XVIII

Please Kneel.

Throughout the rest of the Eucharistic Prayer, the Holy Spirit is called down upon the gifts (The Epiclesis; bells are rung once at this point); the words of Christ at the Last Supper are prayed; Christ's perpetual sacrifice on the cross is remembered; and prayers are made for the Church, the world, and all the people, living and dead.

#### **Memorial Acclamation**



#### Amen

This "Amen" is affirmation, our statement of "I believe", to the entire Eucharistic Prayer.



Please Stand.

# The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: ...as we await the blessed hope and the coming

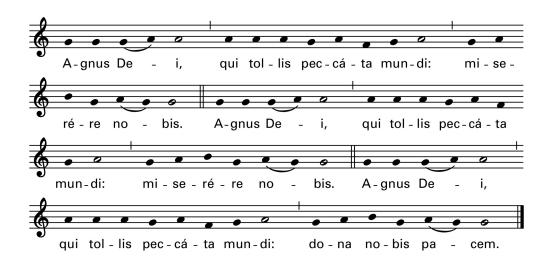
of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All respond: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are

yours now and for ever.

#### Lamb of God

The priest puts a piece of the host into the chalice to signify the unity of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the work of salvation.



Please Kneel.

Celebrant: 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.

All respond: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter

under my roof, but only say the word and my

soul shall be healed.

#### Communion

All Catholics who have prepared themselves to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward. Our brothers and sisters of other faiths are invited to approach with arms crossed over the chest to signal the desire to receive a blessing.

### **Communion Song**

One

of

God,

#### Bread of Life From Heaven



Text: Based on John 6; adapt. by Susan R. Briehl, b.1952; Spanish by Jaime Cortez, b.1963
Tune: ARGENTINE SANTO, 9 9 9 9 with refrain; Argentine melody; adapt. and verses by Marty Haugen, b.1950
© 2001, GIA Publications, Inc.

And

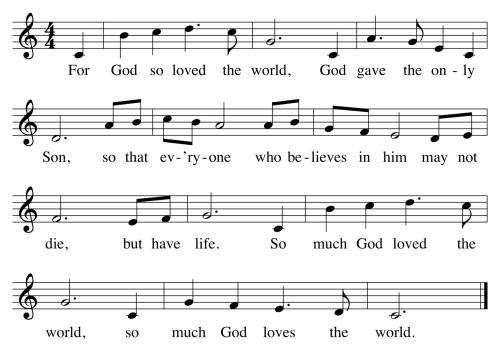
be - lieve

in

the truth

you have heard.

#### Meditation



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#### **Prayer after Communion**

Concluding the prayer of the People of God and the whole Communion Rite, the Priest says the Prayer after Communion, in which he prays for the fruits of the mystery just celebrated, The people make this prayer their own when they acclaim "amen."

#### THE CONCLUDING RITES

# **Blessing**

Transformed by the power of the Liturgy, we are sent out to seek, love, and serve Jesus Christ through those we meet outside of Mass.

#### **Dismissal**

# **Closing Song**

# Jerusalem, My Destiny



Text: Rory Cooney, b.1952 Tune: Rory Cooney, b.1952 © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.



# SEEK, LOVE, & SERVE JESUS CHRIST www.ststephenchurch.org

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday-Friday) 5:00 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m. Sunday 12:30 p.m. Sunday (En Español) 6:00 p.m. Sunday

For the latest Parish Bulletin, scan the QR code:

