

## Introductory Rites

*A hymn may be sung. Then, making the Sign of the Cross, the family begins:*

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: We gather today to celebrate the Lord's Day. We are unable to be with our parish family. However, one with our brothers and sisters at Saint Andrew Parish, and with the entire Church, let us now listen to God's Word and join in prayer.

### *Penitential Act*

Leader: Coming together as God's family, with confidence let us acclaim the Father's forgiveness, for God is full of gentleness and compassion.

Lord Jesus, you heal the sick. Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

Lord Jesus, you forgive sinners. Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your Body and Blood. Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

### *Opening Prayer*

Leader: Let us pray.

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honor. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## Liturgy of the Word

### **A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

**IS 55:10-11**

Thus says the LORD: Just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**R. (Lk 8:8) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

You have visited the land and watered it;  
greatly have you enriched it.  
God's watercourses are filled;  
you have prepared the grain.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows,  
breaking up its clods,  
Softening it with showers,  
blessing its yield.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

You have crowned the year with your bounty,  
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;  
The untilled meadows overflow with it,  
and rejoicing clothes the hills.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

The fields are garmented with flocks  
and the valleys blanketed with grain.  
They shout and sing for joy.

**R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

**A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans****ROM 8:18-23**

Brothers and sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**Gospel****MT 13:1-23**

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

The disciples approached him and said, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand. Isaiah's

prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says:

*You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them.*

“But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

“Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”

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

*The Apostle's Creed*

All: I believe in God, the Father  
almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
***At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.***  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of  
the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried; he  
descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead; he  
ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there  
he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
Catholic Church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life  
everlasting. Amen.

### **Prayers of the Faithful – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Leader: **We turn to the Father, Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, confident that our prayers will be heard:**

Our response is: **“Lord, Hear our Prayer”**

For our Church, that as we go out into to the world as disciples, may we bring reconciliation and healing to all those in need, let us pray to the Lord.

For civic leaders, that in response to God’s commands, they may promote the welfare of all their citizens, let us pray to the Lord.

That our parish will be a vibrant community of prayer and evangelization, drawing many into the embrace of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

For the grace this week to bear the burdens of our neighbor, let us pray to the Lord.

That God will protect from all evil and harm all those who serve in the protection and defense of life, especially our first responders and our service men and women serving at home and abroad, let us pray to the Lord.

That the prayers we hold in our hearts will be united with those of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, our patron Saint Andrew, and all the saints in light, let us pray to the Lord.

For all our relatives and friends who have died, and for the people of the parish, let us pray to the Lord.

**Leader: O God, in Your Son, Your gracious will has been revealed to us. May we grow in our faith and come to know Him more and more. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen!**

***The Lord’s Prayer is recited by all.***

### **Act of Spiritual Communion**

All: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### **Thanksgiving**

***After a period of silence, the following Psalm is recited together.***

*Psalm 116*

I trusted, even when I said:  
"I am sorely afflicted,"  
and when I said in my alarm:  
"No man can be trusted."

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill  
before all his people.  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

### **Blessing**

*Making the Sign of the Cross, we say together:*

May the Lord bless us, protect us from evil, and bring us into everlasting life. Amen.

*A concluding hymn may be sung.*