



Diocese in Europe

The Eucharist Racial Justice Sunday

If we are worth anything, it is not because we have more money or more talent or more human qualities. Insofar as we are worth anything, it is because we are grafted onto Christ's life, his cross, and resurrection. That is a person's measure.

St Oscar Romero

We stand with the assurance that the Divine Spirit will lead us to liberation, from chaos to order, from injustice to justice, from invisibility to wholeness, from hatred to love, from oppression to Freedom!

Rev. Dr. Giovanni Arroyo

Lord, Jesus Christ who reached across the ethnic boundaries between Samaritan, Roman and Jew who offered fresh sight to the blind and freedom to captives, help us to break down the barriers in our community, enable us to see the reality of racism and bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world. Amen.

Rev John Bucki SJ

The Gathering

An opening hymn may be sung.

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

Amen.

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

Goodness is stronger than evil; **Love is stronger than hate;**
Light is stronger than darkness; **Life is stronger than death;**
Victory is ours through Him who loves us.

Desmond Tutu

Prayers of Penitence

The confession is introduced with these words:

Human sin disfigures the whole creation, which groans with eager longing for God's redemption. We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

cf Romans 8.22,23

You made us to be one family, yet we have divided humanity. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You were born a Jew to reconcile all people, yet we have brought disharmony amongst races. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You rejoice in our differences, yet we make them a cause of enmity. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life
eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

The Gloria is said or sung.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

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

**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.**

The Collect

The celebrant introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'let us pray,' and prays the appointed prayer for the day.

Merciful God, you are righteous and love justice: stir the hearts of your people that, rejoicing in our diversity, we may repent of the wrongs of the past, and, by your grace, seek the peaceable kingdom of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Readings

Please sit for the readings. At the end, the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A hymn may be sung before the Gospel reading.

Gospel Reading

We remain standing.

Alleluia, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

Glory to you, O Lord.

at the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Please sit for the sermon.

The Creed

Following a moment's silence, we stand to affirm our faith together in the ancient words of the 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,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
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.**

**We 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 worshipped and glorified,
who 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please sit or kneel.

God of all people, hear our prayers for mercy. We cry to You for help in such a time of trouble. We have fallen short of Your hopes and dreams for us. We can see so many in our communities treading water. We can see so many starting to struggle in the depths of despair and debt. We can see so many affected by issues in society that we could play our part in mending. Yet we don't do enough. We come to You, Merciful God, seeking forgiveness. God of mercy,
Hear our prayers.

God of all people, hear our prayers for mercy. We come to You, Lord, You who are sovereign over all, and we ask that You would draw the whole world together, casting out the evils of prejudice and arrogance that cause hatred and oppression. We long for Your justice in our nation and world. We come to You, Merciful God, seeking justice. God of justice,
Hear our prayer.

We thank You for Your church, founded upon Your Word, that challenges us to do more than sing and pray, but go out and work towards the very answer to our prayers. Help us to realise that humanity was created to shine like the stars and live on through all eternity. Keep us, we pray, in perfect peace. Help us to walk together, pray together, sing together and live together until that day when all God's children will rejoice In one common band of humanity in the reign of God, we pray.

God of peace,

Hear our prayer.

God of all people, hear our prayers of hope. We come to You, Lord, You whose love is without limit and without end, And we ask that You help us to open our hearts, minds and wills to You. As we hope for the day when we can live as members of one family at home in the world. we come to You, Merciful God, in hope.

God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of justice, **Answer our prayers.**

God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

God of hope, **Inspire us anew and accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand. The Peace is introduced with these words:

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

We share with one another a sign of peace

The Preparation of the Table

A hymn may be sung as the altar is prepared.

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now united on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. **Amen.**

Eucharistic ('Thanksgiving') Prayer

Please remain standing.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.

Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and singing:

**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.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.
Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever, Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

The Agnus Dei may be either said or sung.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

We pray together this prayer of preparation.

**Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your
table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share
your bread with sinners. So, cleanse and feed us with the
precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us
and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of
Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.**

*All baptised Christians are welcome to receive the Eucharistic gifts of
bread and wine that we share here.*

Prayer after Communion

Blessed God, help us, whom you have fed and satisfied in this
eucharist, to hunger and thirst for what is right; help us, who here
have rejoiced and been glad, to stand with those who are
persecuted and reviled; help us, who here have glimpsed the life of
heaven, to strive for the cause of right and for the coming of the
kingdom of Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen.

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and
blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our
souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your
praise and glory. Amen.**

Notices

Notices are given, and a final hymn may be sung.

The Blessing and Dismissal

When our eyes do not see the gravity of racial justice,
Shake us from our slumber and open our eyes, O Lord.

When out of fear we are frozen into inaction,
Give us a spirit of bravery, O Lord.

When we try our best but say the wrong things,
Give us a spirit of humility, O Lord.

When it becomes easier to point fingers outwards,
Help us to examine our own hearts, O Lord.

God of truth, in your wisdom, **Enlighten Us.**
God of hope in your kindness, **Heal Us.**
Creator of All People, in your generosity, **Guide Us.**

Revd Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you

The blessing of God the Father, who made from one every nation that occupies the earth; of God the Son, who bought us for God from every tribe and language and people and nation; and of God the Spirit, who brings us together in unity, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen

Additional Prayers

God, You are the source of human dignity, and it is in your image that we are created.

Pour out on us the spirit of love and compassion.

Enable us to reverence each person, to reach out to anyone in need, to value and appreciate those who differ from us, **to share the resources of our nations, to receive the gifts offered to us by people from other cultures.**

Grant that we may always promote the justice and acceptance that ensures lasting peace and racial harmony.

Help us to remember that we are one world and one family.

Amen.

Australian Catholic Social Justice Council

Ever present God, you called us to be in relationship with one another and promised to dwell wherever two or three are gathered. In our community, we are many different people; we come from many different places, have many different cultures. Open our hearts that we may be bold in finding the riches of inclusion and the treasures of diversity among us. We pray in faith.

Revd Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

Jesus, divine fire igniting lukewarm souls.

Jesus, gardener who pulls up evil roots and prunes the healthy vines.

Jesus, peace that passes understanding.

Jesus, courage of the martyrs.

Jesus, bridge over trouble waters.

Jesus, grace for those who elect to forego power, riches and earthly glory.

Jesus, Great Physician, heal us and forgive us.

Akathist to Jesus the Healer, Fellowship of St Moses the Black

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,
so that we may discover anew
that all are important and all are necessary,
different faces of the one humanity
that God so loves. Amen.

Pope Francis

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