



Mercy Day Mass

The Feast of Our Lady of Mercy
24 September



Welcome

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Today, we celebrate Mercy Day as a global Mercy community. We gather in faith to remember this past year and those we love who have died. We gather in hope, as we allow God’s gentle touch to lead us forward, into a future we cannot yet see.

Beginning to emerge from these Covid times, we light a candle and take some quiet time to listen with the ear of our hearts to the plans God has for us, to give us an emerging future of hope.

Opening Hymn: All are Welcome

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Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they’ve known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God’s face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place



The Gloria

Refrain: Give glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

First Reading: Isaiah 54:2-3

Enlarge the place of your tent,
and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out;
hold not back, lengthen your cords
and strengthen your stakes.
For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left,
and your descendants will possess the nations
and will people the desolate cities.

Psalm Response

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Refrain: Sing a new song unto the Lord;
let your song be sung from mountains high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing Alleluia.

Verse 1: Yahweh's people dance for joy. O come before the Lord.
And play for God on glad tambourines,
and let your trumpet sound.

Alleluia

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Alleluia, Alleluia!

*May the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Enlighten the eyes of our mind
So that we can see what hope His call holds for us.*

Alleluia!



Gospel Response

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Presider: A reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 13: 31-32

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds but when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Reflection

Offered by Máire Hearty rsm, Mercy International Association staff

Universal Prayer

Merciful God, on this feast of our Lady of Mercy in 1827 Catherine showed her love for your people and entrusted her hope for the future in You. As we celebrate this feast of Mercy, may we be blessed with hope and trust in your providence as abundantly as Catherine.

Merciful God, give us the kindness to hear with compassion, and to offer support, loving comfort, and care to those in need.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, protect all those experiencing the struggle of migration, those impacted by the degradation of our earth, and those living on the margins.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, give us the courage to do what is needed, the wisdom to choose what is right and fair, and the vision to see what is possible.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, guide those in leadership positions to hear the cry of the poor and the earth and to make just decisions to protect those most vulnerable.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.



Holy, Holy

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Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

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We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess
your resurrection until you come again.

The Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

Communion: Suscipe of Catherine McAuley

Words: Catherine McAuley rsm, music Elaine Deasy rsm, © Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

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

You are a God of love and tenderness.
I put my faith in you.
And I ask that you grant me
acceptance of your will, loving God.

Take from my heart all painful anxiety.
Let nothing sadden me but sin.
And let my delight be
hoping to see your face, loving God.





Dismissal

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Presider: May almighty God bless you: the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Presider: Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn: Circle of Mercy

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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.

Refrain: For the Circle of Mercy is timeless,
it is Spirit of life itself,
which grounds 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. *Refrain*

In Mercy, the Spirit faith will ground 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. *Refrain*

