



Hosanna



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INTRODUCTION

Humbleness is one of the greatest virtue that makes a person great and honourable. Selfishness and pride go together and ruins the person. How are we? Do we seek praise and honour in every place we go? Or be humble in everything and accept the greatness of others.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you. (*Ps 85:3, 5*)

COLLECT

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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.

FIRST READING

Avoid pride, for it leads to destruction. Imitate Christ Jesus who humbles Himself completely.

A reading from the Book of Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

Responsorial Psalm (68)

R/ In your goodness, O God, you prepare a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

R/ In your goodness, O God, you prepare a home for the poor.

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom.

R/ In your goodness, O God, you prepare a home for the poor.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

R/ In your goodness, O God, you prepare a home for the poor.

SECOND READING

Faithfulness will lead us to life in heaven where we will worship God in unending joy.

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24

You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers entreat that no further messages be spoken to them. But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the first-born who are enrolled in heaven, and to a judge who is God of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

ALLELUIA (Jn 6:51)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread which came down from heaven, says the Lord; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke 14:1, 7-14

One Sabbath when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler who belonged

to the Pharisees, they were watching him.

He told a parable to those who were invited, when he marked how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, "When you are invited by anyone to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest a more eminent man than you be invited by him; and he who invited you both will come, and say to you, 'Give place to this man,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, go up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your kinsmen or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Dear Brothers and Sisters, Let us ask the Lord to grant us the wisdom to be simple and humble so that the Lord is the pleased in our every works of life.

1. We pray for our Pope Francis, our Archbishop Bernard Moras, all the Bishops, Clergy and Laity that they may set an example in

being humble like Jesus, who humbled himself even to the death on the Cross. For this we pray..

2. That all the leaders of our Country be approachable and dedicated in their work for the betterment and growth of the society. For this we pray..

3. That may we realise that the Lord looks upon the lowly and raises them high, looks down the pride and puts them down. For this we pray..

4. That all of us who are present in this Eucharistic celebration, raise our hearts and minds, not with pride and selfishness, but with humility and self – surrendering. For this we pray..

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, There is no other great humiliation other than Jesus' suffering and death. Help us to realise who we are and what we do in our lives. Send us the Spirit and fill us with the greatness of your Love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessings of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. Through Christ our Lord.

PREFACE VI (Ordinary)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For in you we live and move and have our being, and while in this body we not only experience the daily effects of your care, but even now possess the pledge of life eternal.

For having received the first fruits of the Spirit, through whom you raised

up Jesus from the dead, we hope for an everlasting share in the Paschal Mystery.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.
(Ps 30:20)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.

REFLECTION

In the Talmud an incident is narrated about the arrogant rabbi Simeon ben Shetach. At a banquet of King Alexander Jannaues, the rabbi Simeon ben Shetach, in spite of the presence of some great Persian satraps, had trust himself at the table between the king and the queen, and when rebuked for his intrusion, quoted in his defence the verse from the book of Sirach XV: 5, "Exalt and seek wisdom... and she will exalt him above his neighbours (princes)."

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives a lesson in humility while approaching God and His kingdom. When we come before God, in what spirit should we approach Him? Shall it be in a which claims as a right the highest room or place in the kingdom of heaven, as the two disciples

of Jesus- John and James, claimed? Or shall it be in the humble spirit of self-abasement? In other words: should we approach God in a spirit of self-righteousness or self-abasement?

1) Self-Righteousness: Thinking too great of ourselves is a dangerous thing, both here on earth and in the world to come. We must acknowledge the truth that there are more intelligent, more talented men in the world than us; we must acknowledge that there are more virtuous men in the world than us. If we usurp the place that does not belong to us, we will be asked by the master of the house to step down and make way for a more honourable guest. If in the social sphere pride is doomed to have a fall, how much more will it be true in the spiritual world! Self-righteousness is abominable to God. The Pharisee, in the parable, went home without any spiritual benefit because of his self-righteousness, but on the other hand, the Publican, because of his self-abasement, went home justified. Even in God's kingdom the proud would be humbled and the humble exalted.

2) Self-Abasement: When we recognise our unworthiness before God, He will cast a merciful look upon

us, and He will certainly exalt us. A rabbi tells this story: three men were bidden to a feast; one sat highest, for he said, "I am a prince." The other sat next to him, for he said, "I am a wise man." The third one sat lowest, for he said, "I am a humble man." The king came and seated the humble man highest, and put the prince lowest. It is always safer to be humble before God.

- Rev. Fr. John Rose

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