

4 sept. 1977

23rd Sunday of YearCatholic Centre
Broadcast

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Good morning; and welcome to the Catholic Centre chapel, where we invite you to join in spirit with the people now gathered here for the celebration of Mass this Sunday morning. For you who are ill, and listening from a sick-bed in hospital or at home, may this opportunity of joining yourself with the prayer and worship of this Christian community here be a help and strength for you. Today is the 23rd Ordinary Sunday of the year; and in the first part of the Mass for today you'll be hearing 3 scripture readings. The Gospel (from S. Luke) is the third of them, and the most important -- it's about what Jesus asks of anyone who wants to be a disciple of His. The first, Old Testament reading is from the Book of Wisdom, chosen as a kind of parallel with the Gospel passage; and the second reading you'll hear comes from the New Testament, St Paul's personal letter to one of his own disciples, Philemon. But before the scripture readings, the Mass begins with a rite of repentance, prayer and praise to God. And as the celebrant and assistants now enter the body of the chapel, an Entry Song is sung, by a group of Legion of Mary members.

CHOIR

Intro.: Kyrie: Gloria: ORATIO

The Assembly Prayer for today's celebration

Now all sit down, to listen to the first of the readings of scripture; and this is followed by a Responsory from Ps 90

CREED : After the readings of scripture and the homily given by Fr *Cyril Barrett* *Senior* Marciano Baptista, celebrant of this Mass, the Creed is recited, a profession of our faith in God.

2.

OFFERTORY : The first part of the Mass, centring around the Word of God is brought to a close by the prayers of general intercession we've just heard. Approaching the altar-table now, the priest begins preparing for the 2nd part of the Mass, centring around Christ the Word of God in His offering and giving of Himself... the Eucharist. Gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar, in the name of us all, by the assistants.

CHOIR

SECRET: The formal Prayer over the Gifts offered, for this particular Sunday. Now comes the central Prayer and action of the Eucharist, introduced with an invitation to participate, and with a special Sunday Preface-prayer.

PER IPSUM : The Prayer of the Eucharist is concluded by that scriptural doxology, in praise and offering to God our Father. And as a preparation for the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the Lord's Prayer, Our Father, is now said.

COMMUNION: At the altar, the priest now takes Holy Communion in the Body and Blood of Christ. *The parish clergy begin to* And after some moments of private prayer, he will go to) give Holy Communion *(also)* to people from the congregation here who are now beginning to file up to the *sanctuary area* altar-rail at the front of the *church*. As the giving of Holy Communion proceeds, there is time now for one's own personal prayer in communion with Christ, and in union with the people here who are sharing this sacrament and making their own prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God. During these few minutes of silence and as the choir sings, let us reflect and pray, on this Sacrament of God's love for each and all of us, and on the Word of God we receive together.

CHOIR

Christ our Lord said that anyone who wished to be His disciple would have to untie himself and herself from restricting love of themselves and their own, and take up their cross to follow after Him in His footsteps. Every time we celebrate this Eucharist together, we do so in memory and re-living of His cross and passion, his absolute giving of His Life in love and submission to His Father, and for love of us, sinners. Sharing this Sacrament, we share His life and His love; and in doing so we must accept His cross as well, for they go together in human life, death and rising from death. So we must learn how to find Christ's presence in life; how to accept with Him, and in love for God and our fellowmen, whatever the 'crosses' and suffering of our lives may be --- not with a kind of fatalism or stoicism, though: or as if evil, wrong, injustice, avoidable suffering mustn't be opposed and combatted. Christ didn't go looking for crucifixion, except in the sense that that was what came to Him because He tried to change people's hearts and open their eyes to God and to themselves. There will be crosses to be borne by anyone who tries to love God and their neighbour, rather than themselves and their own interests. And, as this Eucharist celebrated here gives a sign of, those who do follow Christ trying to be His disciples become members of a community which is wider than any human family or attachments, wide enough to embrace everyone who shares the same Life of Christ given// in this Sacrament, and for whom this Sacrament is meant to be a beginning of fellowship and togetherness in the family of God Himself.

After giving Holy Communion, the priest has now returned to the altar where he puts away in the tabernacle the sacred Hosts that remain, and then briefly cleans the sacred vessels used during this celebration. Then after a few moments of prayerful reflection, he recites the final Thanksgiving Prayer of today's Mass, and then gives the Blessing.

END

The Blessing and Dismissal conclude the celebration of Mass for today. The priest leaves the altar now, as the choir sings a recessional song. You've been listening to this broadcast direct from (the chapel at the Catholic Centre, in Connaught Road, Central. *Rosary Church, in Clatham Rd, Kowloon.*