

9 october 1977

28th Sunday of YearCatholic Centre
Broadcast

Good morning once again from the chapel at the Catholic Centre, where the Mass for today will be beginning in just a few moments now. For those of you who may be listening from a sick-bed in hospital or at home, we hope this broadcast may help you to pray, and give you encouragement as you join in spirit with the people here at this moment in their prayer and worship this morning. This Sunday we count as the 28th ordinary Sunday of the year; and in the readings of scripture chosen for the first part of the Mass, the Gospel is a continuation of St Luke, the story of the 10 lepers only one of whom came back to Jesus for their being cured. In parallel to this, we'll also listen to the O.T. story of the curing of Naaman, also a leper; and between these readings, there's an extract from a letter of St Paul to his disciple Timothy. The celebrant and preacher here this morning is Fr Alfred Deignan; and as he now approaches the altar together with the assistants, an Entry Song is sung by the choir here today, a Legion-of-Mary group mostly from Rosaryhill School.

CHOIR

Intro:Kyrie:Gloria:ORATIO

The Assembly Prayer for today's gathering.

Now all sit down to hear the scripture readings, beginning with the O.T.: and this is followed by a responsory psalm.

CREED: After the readings of scripture and the homily given by Fr Alfred Deignan, celebrant of this Mass, the Creed is recited — a profession of faith in God and His revelation.

OFFERT.: At this point, the second part of the Mass liturgy begins. At the altar, the priest now receives the gifts of bread and wine, brought up to him by the assistants in the name and for all of us here. He prepares them for the action and prayer of the Eucharist which allows us to share in the sacrifice of Christ and in His sacrament of union and thanksgiving.

CHOIR

PREFACE: The formal Prayer over the Gifts, for today's celebration. Now follows the central Eucharistic Prayer and action, introduced by an invitation to take part and with a special Sunday preface-prayer.

PER IPSUM: The New Testament scriptural doxology, praise of God, which concludes the Prayer of the Eucharist. And now, in preparation for the Sacrament of the Eucharist, we join in the prayer taught us by Christ, 'Our Father'.

COMMUNION: At the altar now, the priest first receives Holy Communion himself, taking the sacred Host and drinking from the chalice. After a few moments of reverent pause, he'll go to the altar-rail at the front of the chapel where people from the congregation here will receive Holy Communion from his hands. As the people go and then return to their places, there is a time now for private prayer and thanksgiving, in company with those who are receiving Christ Himself. During these few minutes while Holy Communion is being given, you may wish to pray in your own way, with your own words. Meanwhile the choir will shortly sing a hymn for communion time.

CHOIR

While the giving of Holy Communion continues, and until the priest is ready to recite for us the Thanksgiving Prayer for today's Mass, a short reflection on this Sacrament of the Eucharist and the scripture we listened to earlier. For there is an immediate link between this sacrament of thanksgiving, and the gospel incident in which Christ commended the faith and the gratitude of the man he'd healed. And the gospel makes the point that this man, only one of 10, was also the only 'foreigner' (so to speak) -- a Samaritan, who wouldn't have been expected to show such thanksgiving. But he most deeply felt his need of healing, and appreciated what had happened to him through his faith in Jesus and the power of His word. For us, the Eucharist is a sign of thanksgiving, for all the gifts of God's grace through Christ and most especially in Christ who gave Himself for all of us, to heal us, to heal the sin of the world, the division of mankind from God. It is in Christ's dying and rising from death that the world and mankind finds reconciliation with God; it is the Eucharist which celebrates this, and brings it about; it's in sharing the Eucharist together that we express our thankfulness for the healing our faith (itself God's gift) and the Word of God has given us. But what is a particularly religious expression & celebration is a focussing and a pattern which should be both drawing from and overflowing into the ordinary run of daily life. How grateful are we, really? for life, for our talents, for the world around us, for people, for everything we've been given? Thankfulness is a grace; but often it seems what's graceful isn't much thought of these days.... is it that we don't even know we have a leprosy that

needs to be cured, and we can't do it ourselves? May we ~~as~~ we share in this celebration learn to pray: 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us'... and ~~to~~ thank Him for everything He's made possible for us through faith and hope and love.

After giving Holy Communion, the priest returns to the altar and cleans & puts away the sacred vessels used during the Mass. Then, after a short pause, he recites the Thanksgiving Prayer and gives the Blessing.

END : The Blessing & Dismissal conclude the celebration of Mass; and as the congregation here begins to disperse, we end this broadcast you've been listening to direct from the chapel at the Catholic Centre in Connaught Road, Central.