

16 July 1972

15th Sun. of Year
(8th after Pentecost)Catholic Centre
Broadcast

Good morning to you all once again from the little chapel at the Catholic Centre in Connaught Rd. In a few minutes, Mass will be beginning here, and we'd like to invite you listening to your radio to join in spirit with the people here in the celebration of God's word and the Eucharist of thanksgiving, worship and offering on this Sunday morning. If you are ill or otherwise unable to join with your fellow-Christians in their community prayer and praise today, we hope this broadcast of Mass will be helpful and encouraging for you. Today is the 8th Sunday after Pentecost, the 15th in the cycle of the year; and in the readings of Scripture chosen for this Sunday we continue with St Matthew's gospel, hearing this morning our Lord's parable about a farmer sowing seed and His own explanation of His message. The power of God's word and its effectiveness is the related theme of the first of the scripture readings for today, from the O.T. book of Isaiah. A continuation of St Paul's letter to the Romans is the N.T. reading, which fits in neatly with the other two, about the hope of all creation. But before we hear the word of God in the first part of the Mass, there is a preparatory rite of prayer, repentance and praise, which begins now as the choir sings an entry hymn while the priest and his assistants approach the altar.

CHOIR

Intr.: Kyrie: Gloria: ORATIO

The formal Prayer for today's assembly, concluding the introductory rite. All now sit down to listen to the first of the readings of scripture, followed by a prayer from Ps 64

CREED: After the word of God in scripture and the homily given by the celebrant of this Mass, Fr Cyril Barrett, the Creed is now recited as a profession of faith in response to God's word

OFFERT.: The first part of the Mass ends with the prayers of general intercession which you've just heard. Now at the altar, the priest begins the preparation for the Liturgy of the Eucharist -- he takes the bread and wine offered in token of our offering of ourselves to God, and says a prayer of blessing over them as he prepares them for the prayer and action of Christ's offering of Himself for us to His Father.

CHOIR

ORATE: A formal Prayer over the Gifts we offer today ends the preparation for the Eucharist in the Offertory rite. Now the central prayer and action of the Mass begins, in the Prayer of the Eucharist; you'll be hearing the of these special prayers this morning.

PER IPSUM: The central Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass ends, as always, with that offering of worship and praise to God our Father. And we continue now, in preparation for the sacrament of the Eucharist, by reciting together the prayer to Our Father taught us by Christ.

COMMUNION: At the altar, the priest now receives in Holy Communion the Body and Blood of Christ in the sacrament of the Eucharist. As he does so, and pauses for a few moments in private prayer, the people in the congregation here who wish to share the gift of Himself, His life and His love, which Christ offers to us in this sacrament, begin to approach the altar-rail where the priest will come to

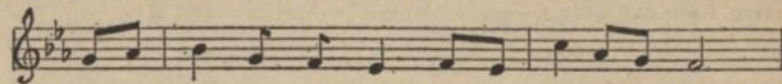
give them Holy Communion in a moment or two. As they receive this sacrament and then return to their places in the chapel to pray privately and personally, there is time for one's own private prayer and reflection, to which I'd like to invite you now while the choir sings a hymn for Communiontime.

CHOIR

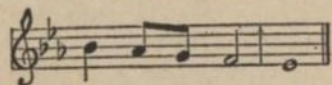
In the few minutes that are left now while the priest continues and concludes the giving of Holy Communion, there is time for a little reflection on this sacrament of the Eucharist and the Word of God, especially the scripture we listened to earlier, if you would like to join with me in this. All of our Christian living is, in a sense, concerned with the Word of God, as the Mass most especially is. For here we both listen to God's word recorded for us and spoken to us in the scripture, and we celebrate God's Word made flesh who came among us to share His life and His love with us. God has and continues to communicate with the creation He made, to give Himself to His creation; in Christ, He gave and gives Himself most fully and completely to us; and in Christ, with Him and through Him, sharing His very life in this Holy communion, we can give ourselves To God and join in the most full and intimate communication between God and man. We can do so, and He wants us to do so; but how often do we really do so? We find it hard enough to really listen to what our fellowmen try to say to us --- and there are so many words, words, words in the world today! Our Lord described some of the ways and difficulties with which God's word is received, His message that goes out to everyman in one form or another; like the sower's seed, it falls on all sorts of ground, and doesn't always produce the fruit it is capable of and intended to bear. Like any of His parables, it's easy to apply this one to other people, trying to put them into

one category or another, and forgetting that He's speaking to you and me personally too. There is power, creative power, in the word of God, as the OT reminds us; God speaks and acts (they're very closely related ideas) for a purpose; He reveals Himself, communicates Himself to change and transform us in His love, having made us freely able to love or to refuse to love. Christ, the Word of God, came into our world to save and liberate it, to bring it all and all of us into the family of God. So our liberation and salvation depend on being united with Christ; and the Eucharist is both a sign of that and, unless we resist and refuse, also brings it about. But as the Word of God is not just to be heard and then forgotten, but listened to and acted by, so ~~like~~ our Communion with Christ in the Eucharist is not only for ourselves nor an occasional grace, but is also to be acted by and become effective in every area of our lives, to bring about the unity of mankind and all creation in the love of God. The good seed that is sown and falls in receptive soil will produce the fruitfulness the sower intends -- and then the scattered grain must be collected together to make the one bread which will become an offering and sacrifice of all creation. We who listen to God's word and receive His Word into ourselves have a part to play in this unifying and liberating of the world. The Eucharist is too a sign of hope for the future, and with this hope we must work for the betterment of mankind and our world, to spread the good news of God's message and the joy and encouragement of His love. None of us can claim to be perfect yet, and our own lives too need the change and transformation God's word can effect in them. But at the same time, what we've heard and celebrated here this morning only begins here, to be brought by us into the life and part of the world in which we live, to the men and women we live with everyday.

Acclamation after the prayer 'Deliver us'



For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours,

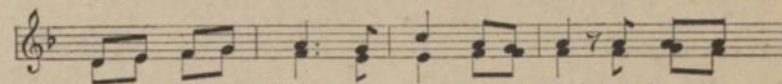


now and for ev- er.

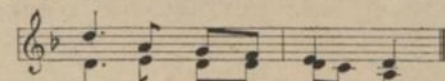
Communion Song

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest in which she puts her young. Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my king and my God! Happy they who dwell in your house! continually they praise you.

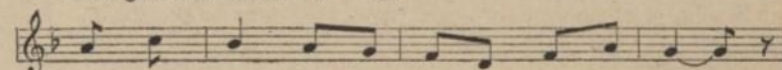
ALL SING :



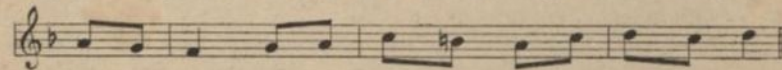
ANT. With the fin-est wheat, his peo- ple he fed and from the



rock gave won-drous wa - ter.



1. For their food, all his crea-tures look to him,
2. This, the bread which I give you, is my flesh,
3. You who thirst, come to me and drink my blood;
4. So when- ev - er we take his flesh and blood,
5. To the Fa - ther and Son and Spi - rit blest,



1. Then he o - pens his hands and all are sa - ted.
2. He who eats of this bread, shall live for ev - er.
3. Eat my flesh, thus a - bide in me and I in you.
4. We do her - ald his death un - til he comes a - gain.
5. We give glo - ry and praise now and for ev - er.

Prayer after Communion

P. Let us pray.

O Lord, may we be cleansed and strengthened by the power and assistance of your gifts, with which we have been filled. Through Christ our Lord.

ALL : Amen.

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(Cum approbatione ecclesiastica)

PRINTED BY CARITAS PRINTING TRAINING CENTRE, ABERDEEN

Mass Leaflet
No. 418

ADVENIAT

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

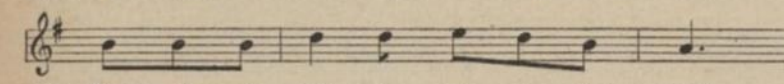
Entry Song

READER : But I in justice shall behold your face; on waking, I shall be content in your presence.

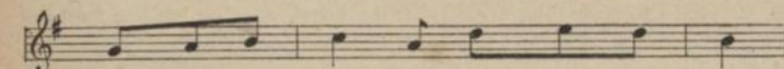
ALL SING :



ANT. The joy of the Lord, our ram- part and pow'r!



1. Bless- ed are you, O mer- ci- ful Lord,
2. O Lord on high, your glo- ri- ous name
3. Glo- ry and pow'r to Fa- ther, and Son,



1. Praised by all men for a- ges to come!
2. Let all the earth pro- claim with- out end!
3. And to the Spir- it, joy of our life!

Opening Prayer

P. Let us pray.

O Mighty God, author of every good thing, implant in our hearts a deep love of your name. Increase in us the true spirit of devotion and sincere virtue so that we may be supported by you and protected by your loving care. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

ALL : Amen. (Sit)

First Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (55, 10-11)

(Theme: The rain makes the earth fruitful)

Thus says the Lord: "As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and return not thither but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in

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the thing for which I sent it." — This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 65)

READER : Thou visitest the earth and waterest it, thou greatly enrichest it; the river of God is full of water; thou providest their grain.

ALL : The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

READER : For so thou hast prepared it. Thou waterest its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

ALL : The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

READER : Thou crownest the year with thy bounty; the tracks of thy chariot drip with fatness. The pastures of the wilderness drip, the hills gird themselves with joy.

ALL : The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

READER : The meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain. They shout and sing together for joy.

ALL : The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (8, 18-23)

(Theme: All creation is waiting for God to reveal his sons)

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. — This is the Word of the Lord.

Alleluia (All stand)

READER SINGS : (Alleluia, Alleluia)

ALL : (repeat the refrain)

READER : I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life.

ALL : (repeat the refrain)

Gospel

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew (13, 1-9)

(Theme: A sower went out to sow)

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away. Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear." — This is the gospel of the Lord.

General Intercessions

PRIEST : My dear friends, God has brought us together to praise his holy name and to celebrate our unity in Christ. Let us ask our Father to hear the prayers of the people he has made his own.

LEADER : May all Christians live no longer for themselves but for Christ, who gives himself for every man. We pray to the Lord.



We pray you, O Lord. O Lord, have mer-cy.

May all those who work in commerce and industry enrich our lives by their efforts and give us the opportunity to be generous with others. We pray to the Lord.

May God grant hope to those in despair, patience to those in anger and kindness to everyone. We pray to the Lord.

May the love of God fill our hearts and lives in Christ Jesus. We pray to the Lord.

PRIEST : Lord God, our earth is the place where you live with men. Help us to see you in the world around us and to love you through everything we do. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL : Amen. (Sit)

Prayer over the Gifts

Let our prayers win peace for your people, O Lord, so that their offerings may be pleasing in your sight. Grant us the requests we confidently make of you, so that it cannot be said that anyone hopes or calls upon you in vain. Through Christ our Lord.

ALL : Amen.