

**Affirmation Prayer...**

In Jesus Christ dead and risen lies our salvation:  
let us give thanks and praise!

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**  
**Alleluia!**

**Hymn** **Meter: 87 87**

Living Lord, our praise we render!  
His the blood for sinners shed.  
In the Father's power and splendor  
Christ is risen from the dead.  
Death's dominion, burst and broken  
By that Life which no more dies;  
We to whom the Lord has spoken,  
One with Christ, in freedom rise.  
One with Christ, both dead and risen;  
Dead to self and Satan's claim,  
Raised from death and sin's dark prison,  
Life is ours through Jesus' Name.

**Psalm** **18:2-7, 17-18**

*It was fitting that he, for whom and through whom  
all things exist, in bringing many children to glory,  
should make the leader to their salvation perfect  
through suffering.* (Heb 2:10)

*To be "perfect" is to be complete. Through his  
suffering, Death, and Resurrection, Christ  
completed our humanity, deformed and stunted as  
it was by sin. Let us pray for the grace to live in this  
gift of true maturity, knowing that God will bring it to  
fullness through our own participation in the  
mystery of the cross, anticipated and deepened  
through every Sunday celebration of the Paschal  
Mystery.*

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my savior.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes.  
The waves of death rose about me;  
the torrents of destruction assailed me;  
the snares of the grave entangled me;  
the traps of death confronted me.  
In my anguish I called to the Lord;  
I cried to my God for help.  
From his temple he heard my voice;  
my cry came to his ears.  
From on high he reached down and seized me;  
he drew me forth from the mighty waters.  
He snatched me from my powerful foe,  
from my enemies whose strength I could not  
match.

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

To this you have been called, because Christ also  
suffered for you, leaving you an example that you  
should follow in his footsteps. "He committed no  
sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When  
he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he  
suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed  
himself over to the one who judges justly. He  
himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross,  
so that, free from sin, we might live for  
righteousness. By his wounds you have been  
healed.

By the grace of God, he tasted death for everyone.  
(cf. Heb 2:9)

**Canticle of Zechariah**

*For the sake of the joy that lay before him he  
endured the cross, despising its shame, and has  
taken his seat at the right of the throne of God.*  
(Heb 12:2)

**All: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he  
has come to his people and set them free. He  
has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of  
the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our enemies, from  
the hands of all who hate us. He promised to  
show mercy to our fathers and to remember his  
holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father  
Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our  
enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy  
and righteous in his sight all the days of our  
life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the  
Most High; for you will go before the Lord to  
prepare his way, to give his people knowledge  
of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn  
from on high shall break upon us, to shine on  
those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of  
death, and to guide our feet into the way of  
peace.

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**Intercessions**

With grateful joy we pray:

**R/ Lead us to life, O Lord!**

For all who suffer: grant them the courage of the  
cross: **R/**

For all who struggle with fear, doubt, and  
purposelessness in their suffering: illumine them  
by the light of the cross: **R/**

For all those who have lost faith under the burden  
of suffering: restore them to life through the cross:  
**R/**

**Personal intentions**

**All: 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.**

God of all the living, you sent your only Son to deliver us from the power of sin and death through the mystery of the cross. Raise us from darkness to light in him, that we may grow into the holiness he won for us by our participation in the Paschal Mystery. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

**SUNDAY, October 3, 2021**  
**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Reading 1** **Genesis 2:18-24**

The Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

**Reading 2** **Hebrews 2:9-11**

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers and sisters.

**Gospel**

**Mark 10: 2-16**

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.'

Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

**Men of St. Joseph Prayer**

**All: St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!**

***Prayer for the text used with permission  
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