

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 30:3-4

**Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

THE COLLECT

O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. 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

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts

he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 31:1-2, 5, 11, R.v.7

**R) You are my refuge, O Lord;
you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.

O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. **(R)**

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. **(R)**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
10:31-11:1

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to

anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
**A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.**
Alleluia! Lk 7:16

GOSPEL

Mark 1:40-45

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want

to!' he said, 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse and renew us
and may it become for those who do your will
the source of eternal reward.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 3:16

**God so loved the world
that he gave his Only Begotten Son,
so that all who believe in him may not perish,
but may have eternal life.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having fed upon these heavenly delights,
we pray, O Lord,
that we may always long
for that food by which we truly live.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

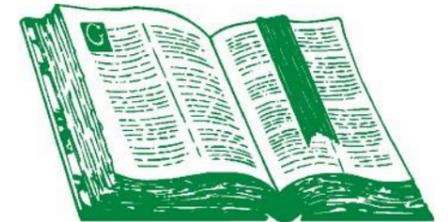
GOSPEL REFLECTION



As in last Sunday's Gospel, we see Jesus healing, this time a leper, ordering him sternly to say nothing to anyone, apart from reporting to the local priest 'as evidence' of his recovery. Nevertheless, and also understandably, the man is so

delighted to have been miraculously cured, that he tells everyone he meets. Because of this Jesus tried to avoid the crowds by keeping away from populated areas. However, people still flocked to wherever he was. So, was Jesus a 'reluctant' healer? Surely he must have known that the former leper would blab and that people would seek him out. Jesus says many times that he had come to do the will of the Father, which was much more than being a faith healer. The Father had a plan for Jesus, just as he has for us, and he was determined to be faithful to it. If we are sincere in trying to fulfil

God's plan for us, sometimes it involves not doing the 'good' that immediately appeals to us. For example, a mother might wish to spend more time in prayer, something which is undoubtedly good. But the will of God for her is to devote that time to her children which, when done out of love, becomes prayer in action and pleases God immensely.



POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL FRATELLI TUTTI BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL



I. DARK CLOUDS OVER A CLOSED WORLD LACKING A PLAN FOR EVERYONE (CONT'D)

16. Amid the fray of conflicting interests, where victory consists in eliminating one's opponents, how is it possible to raise our sights to recognize our neighbours or to help those who have fallen along the way? A plan that would set great goals for the development of our entire human family nowadays sounds like madness. We are growing ever more distant from one another, while the slow and demanding march towards an increasingly united and just world is suffering a new and dramatic setback.

Prayer of Consecration to Blessed Mother of the Miraculous Medal at the spread of Corona Pandemic

O Mother of God, Blessed Virgin and conceived immaculate, we sanctify and consecrate ourselves to you in the name of the Blessed Mother of the Miraculous Medal.



May this medal be an unfailing sign of your boundless love towards us and our fidelity towards you, O Mother!

All those who wear the Miraculous Medal in faith, may enjoy your loving protection and be sustained in the grace of Jesus, your beloved Son!

O Blessed Mother!

Keep us close to you and obtain for us, your children, a happy and healthy life and protect us and all other contagious diseases and dangers.

Through our prayers, penance and acts of charity we may receive remission of our sins.

By the grace of Jesus, your beloved Son and our Saviour, and through your powerful intercession, may we be blessed with a healthy life, a happy death and eternal bliss in heaven.

Amen.

**O Mary, conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to you.**