



Liturgy of the Word 5th Sunday Easter – Mother’s Day

Note: If you are by yourself, read all the parts, otherwise, take turns. You need a Bible.

SONG: I am the Way ©Paul McIntyre <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-MMwy9qFos>

SIGN OF THE CROSS: In name of the Father... OR Ki te ingoa... *Extend a warm welcome anyone else with you.* Today is the 5th Sunday of Easter. Jesus tells us not to let our hearts be troubled, but instead, to know that he is the Way. It is also mother’s Day. Giving is so often what mothers do, and have always done. We pause today for a moment and remember to say ‘thank you,’ to our own mother and all mothers. *(A moments silence.)*

Reader: Let’s turn toward God in prayer, remembering God’s rich mercy which pours down on us like rain that renews the earth.

Do not let your hearts be troubled; Lord have mercy	(All) Lord have mercy
Believe in God, believe also in me; Christ have mercy	(All) Christ have mercy
I go to prepare a place for you; Lord have mercy	(All) Lord have mercy

READER: Jesus said, ‘I am The Way’. As we pray this litany together, we can ponder what Jesus meant by those words.

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way gave bread to the hungry

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way touched the unclean leper.

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way healed a man born blind.

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way forgave a woman condemned.

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way ate in the houses of sinners.

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way washed the feet of his friends.

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way preached a Gospel of love.

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way said, ‘do not be troubled.’

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way said, ‘I will take you to myself.’

ALL: Jesus said ‘I am the Way,’

READER: The Way said, ‘I am in the Father, the Father is in me.’

Pause for a time to reflect on these words – notice which words touch you more strongly.

COLLECT: Let us bring to mind all we want to pray for. *(Allow silence, 1 minute)*

Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bare much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **All: Amen.**

First READING: Acts 6:1-7 *Allow a time of silence after the reading. (1-2 minutes).*

PSALM: Psalm 33:1-2,4-5,18-19 *(These words can be sung to the tune, Amazing Grace)*

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| 1. Ring out your-- joy to God just people,
For praise is-- right for-- you
Give thanks to-- God upon the harp
Sing praise with a ten stringed lute. | 2. The Word of-- God is true and right,
And all God’s-- works are-- trusted.
For how the-- Lord loves justice and right,
And fills the-- earth with love. |
| 3. The Lord looks-- on those who fear God, On those who-- hope in God’s love,
To rescue-- them from dy—ing, Keep them a—live in famine, | |

Second READING: 1Peter 2:4-9

Allow a time of silence after the reading (1-2 minutes).

GOSPEL: John 14:1-12

SILENT REFLECTION: Recall a few words from the reading that seemed to stand out as you read or listened. Sit quietly and let these words go over and over in your mind.

Then, a Question: Jesus said 'I am the Way. No-one comes to the Father except through me.' How do you understand these words? If you are with someone else, discuss this. If by yourself, you could write your reflection. **Allow 5 or more minutes for this.**

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. **All Amen.**

Prayer of the Faithful: As God's people, we are called to pray for the needs of the whole world.

If you are by yourself pray the petition and the whole response.

For the Church – that Jesus' words, 'I am in the Father and the Father is in me,' leads us all to a deeper appreciation of the mystery of God who dwells within.

Silence: **Reader:** Christ has died, Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia. Let us rejoice!

For leaders of nations – that they be people of integrity, empathy, and dignity, showing in their own lives, the importance of these qualities in building just societies.

Silence: **Reader:** Christ has died, Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia. Let us rejoice!

For all who are struggling with the requirements of lockdown – that a sense of community deepens, and people understand they are working together for the good of all.

Silence: **Reader:** Christ has died, Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia. Let us rejoice!

For countries with large populations of poor or indigenous people – that national leaders will act to protect the poor, and vulnerable people in their countries.

Silence: **Reader:** Christ has died, Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia. Let us rejoice!

For those who struggle with mental illness or anxiety – that they learn, not to let their hearts be troubled, but rather come to trust in the goodness and providence of God.

Silence: **Reader:** Christ has died, Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia. Let us rejoice!

For all who grieve the loss of a loved one – that grief will give way to calm acceptance, sorrow to new hope, and lethargy to fullness of life.

Silence: **Reader:** Christ has died, Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia. Let us rejoice!

For mothers - that as they guide their children to value all that is good, mothers themselves be blessed with a rich sense of participation in the meaning and fullness of life.

Silence: **Reader:** Christ has died, Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia. Let us rejoice!

THE LORD'S PRAYER: We pray the prayer Jesus gave us.

COLLECTION: Part of our commitment as Christian is to give to those in need. Think about what you might like to make a donation to, or offer to help in another way. These are some ideas.

- **Your Parish:** your parish and presbytery still have operating costs.
- **The Caring Foundation Covid-19 appeal** to donate, click [here](#)
- **Catholic Social Services Auckland** to donate, click [here](#)
- **The Catholic aid agency Caritas** to support their work, click [here](#)
- **St Vincent de Paul** contact your parish or click [here](#)
- **Pacific Islands after cyclone Harold**

Thank you for your kindness. Thank you for your participation in today's Liturgy of the Word. Let us go in peace to love and serve God –**All:** Thanks be to God.

READER: *Let's sing.*

SONG: Mo Maria <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyzEDDRbZIs>

OR: I am the Resurrection by John Michael Talbot. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJtZaUHn_Mo

Songs for Mother's Day

Ave Maria (by Michal Lorenc) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66zUY8UZn4M>

Ave Maria (by Bach – Gounod) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyGOOoXyWTA>

Ave Maria (by Schubert) sung by Pavarotti <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XpYGgtrMTYs>

A Mother's Love <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3V4PM1oL7Xs>

Happy mother's Day <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQ-h6WCVm6Q&list=RDSC2l5skGzYU&index=3>

My Mum is a superstar <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bntv78HY724&list=RDSC2l5skGzYU&index=2>