

# ASH WEDNESDAY



Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18



## Entrance Antiphon

You are merciful to all, O Lord, and despite nothing that you have made. You overlook people's sins, to bring them to repentance, and you spare them, for you are the Lord our God.

## GREETING

## PENITENTIAL ACT

## COLLECT (OPENING PRAYER)

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### READING: Genesis 9:8-15

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment. Perhaps he will again relent and leave behind him a blessing, offerings and libations, for the LORD, your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion! Proclaim a fast, call an assembly; Gather the people, notify the congregation; Assemble the elders, gather the children and the infants at the breast; Let the bridegroom quit his room and the bride her chamber. Between the porch and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep, and say, "Spare, O LORD, your people, and make not your heritage a reproach, with the nations ruling over them! Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land and took pity on his people.

The Word of the Lord.      **R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 51:3-6, 12-14, 17



**READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20–6:2**

Brothers and sisters:

We are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him. Working together, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain.

For he says:

*In an acceptable time I heard you,  
and on the day of salvation I helped you.*

Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

The Word of the Lord.      **R. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

**GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18**

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father.

When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others.

Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

“When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them.

Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

“When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward.

But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**HOMILY**

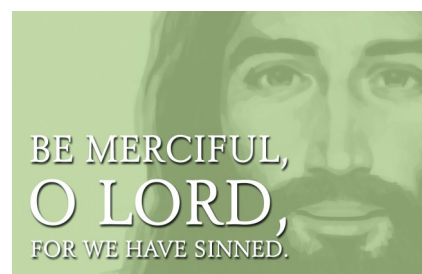
**BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES**

**CREED:**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**

R. Merciful Father, hear our prayer.



## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### PSALM 51: CREATE IN ME

Tom Kendzia

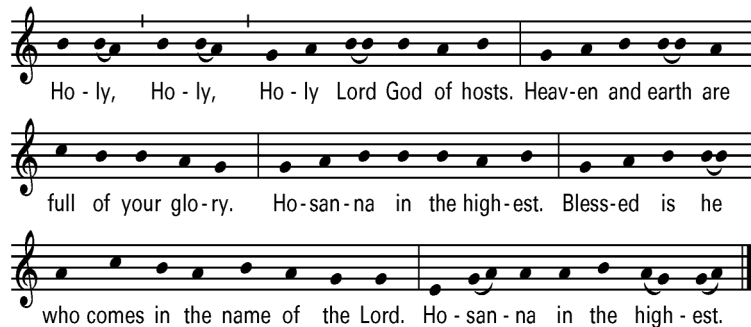


1. O God, in your goodness have mercy on me.  
In your compassion wipe out my offense.  
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt,  
and cleanse me from my sins.
2. For I acknowledge my offense  
and my sin is always before me;  
against only you have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your eyes.
3. A clean heart create for me, O God,  
a steadfast spirit renew in me.  
Cast me not out from your presence,  
O God.  
Take not your Holy Spirit from me.
4. Give us back the joy of our salvation,  
and renew in us a willing spirit.  
O Lord, open my lips, Lord, open my lips.  
And we will sing your praise.

Text: Psalm 51:3-6, 12-14, 17. Refrain text © 1969, 1981, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
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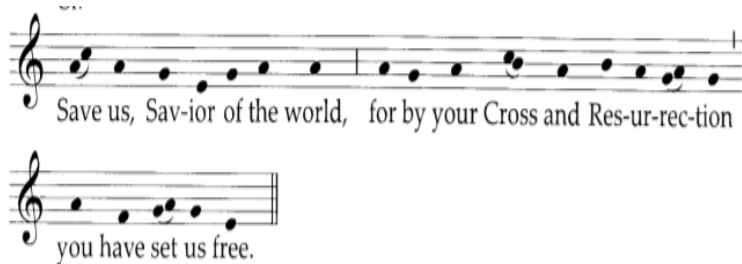
## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### HOLY

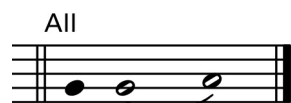


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## MYSTERY OF FAITH



## DOXOLOGY

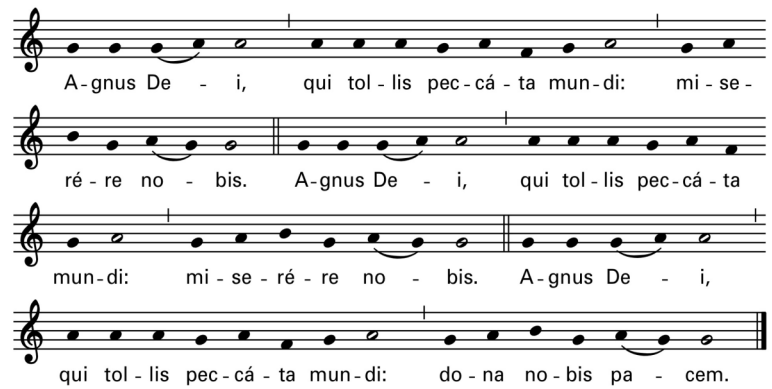


A-men.

## LORD'S PRAYER

## SIGN OF PEACE

## AGNUS DEI XVIII

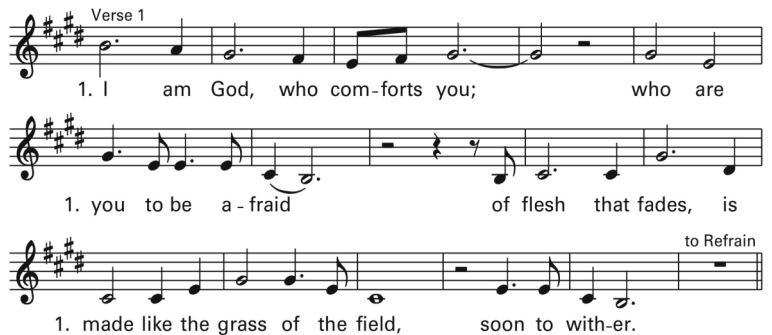
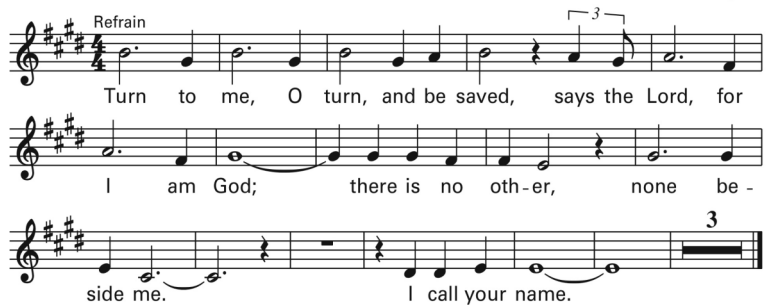


Text and music: Chant; *Graduale Romanum*, 1974.

## COMMUNION

### TURN TO ME

John Foley, S.J.



Text: Based on Isaiah 45:22-23; 51:12, 4, 6. Text and music © 1975, John B. Foley, S.J., and OCP. All rights reserved.





## Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## BLESSING

## DISMISSAL

## PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

## GOD BE IN MY HEAD

Grayson Warren Brown

1. God be in my head, God be in my heart,  
2. God be in my work, God be in my play,

1. God be in my mind, God be in my soul,  
2. God be in my home, God be in my prayer,

1. God be in my eyes, so that I may see your face;  
2. God be in my song, so that I may sing your praise;

1. God be on my lips, God be in my life.  
2. God be in my night, God be in my day.

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