

# **Diocesan Commission for Liturgy, Vasai**

(Prayer service for those who cannot attend Eucharist due to Corona Virus threat)

**Wednesday 01<sup>st</sup> April 2020**

## **The Angelus**

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary

And she conceived by the Holy Spirit

Hail Mary .....

Behold the handmaid of the Lord

Be it done unto me according to your word

Hail Mary .....

And the Word was made Flesh

And dwelt among us

Hail Mary .....

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

**Let us pray:** Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn: Come back to me ..... (86)**

**Head of the family:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

**All:** Amen

## **Penitential Act**

**Head:** My dear family members, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves for this prayer service:

**All:** I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do. (And, striking their breast, they say) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore, I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**Head:** May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**All :** Amen.

**Head:** Lord, have mercy

**All:** Lord, have mercy

**Head:** Christ, have mercy

**All:** Christ, have mercy

**Head:** Lord, have mercy

**All:** Lord, have mercy

**Let us pray:** Enlighten, O God of compassion, the hearts of your children, sanctified by penance, and in your kindness grant those you stir to a sense of devotion a gracious hearing when they cry out 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.

**All:** Amen.

## **Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading:** Daniel 3:14-20,24-25,28

**Reader:** A Reading from the book of Daniel

King Nebuchadnezzar said, ‘Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, is it true that you do not serve my gods, and that you refuse to worship the golden statue I have erected? When you hear the sound of horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, or any other instrument, are you prepared to prostrate yourselves and worship the statue I have made? If you refuse to worship it, you must be thrown straight away into the burning fiery furnace; and where is the god who could save you from my power?’ Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to King Nebuchadnezzar, ‘Your question hardly requires an answer: if our God, the one we serve, is able to save us from the burning fiery furnace and from your power, O king, he will save us; and even if he does not, then you must know, O king, that we will not serve your god or worship the statue you have erected.’ These words infuriated King Nebuchadnezzar; his expression was very

different now as he looked at Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He gave orders for the furnace to be made seven times hotter than usual, and commanded certain stalwarts from his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the burning fiery furnace.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar sprang to his feet in amazement. He said to his advisers, 'Did we not have these three men thrown bound into the fire?' They replied, 'Certainly, O king.' 'But,' he went on 'I can see four men walking about freely in the heart of the fire without coming to any harm. And the fourth looks like a son of the gods.'

Nebuchadnezzar exclaimed, 'Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego: he has sent his angel to rescue the servants who, putting their trust in him, defied the order of the king, and preferred to forfeit their bodies rather than serve or worship any god but their own.'

The Word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**Daniel 3:52-56**

**Response:** To you glory and praise for evermore.

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.  
Blest your glorious holy name.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

**Response:** To you glory and praise for evermore.

2. You are blest in the temple of your glory.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

**Response:** To you glory and praise for evermore.

3. You are blest on the throne of your kingdom.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

**Response:** To you glory and praise for evermore.

4. You are blest who gaze into the depths.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

**Response:** To you glory and praise for evermore.

5. You are blest in the firmament of heaven.  
To you glory and praise for evermore.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Mt4:4

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!  
Man does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

**Gospel :**

John 8:31-42

**Reader** : A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**All** : Glory to you, O Lord.

To the Jews who believed in him Jesus said: 'If you make my word your home you will indeed be my disciples, you will learn the truth and the truth will make you free.'

They answered, 'We are descended from Abraham and we have never been the slaves of anyone; what do you mean, "You will be made free"?' Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, everyone who commits sin is a slave. Now the slave's place in the house is not assured, but the son's place is assured. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are descended from Abraham; but in spite of that you want to kill me because nothing I say has penetrated into you. What I, for my part, speak of is what I have seen with my Father; but you, you put into action the lessons learnt from your father.'

They repeated, 'Our father is Abraham.' Jesus said to them: 'If you were Abraham's children, you would do as Abraham did. As it is, you want to kill me when I tell you the truth as I have learnt it from God; that is not what Abraham did. What you are doing is what your father does.' 'We were not born of prostitution,' they went on 'we have one father: God.' Jesus answered: 'If God were your father, you would love me, since I have come here from God; yes, I have come from him; not that I came because I chose, no, I was sent, and by him.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**All** : Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Reflection:** Jesus' words, 'the truth will set you free' make a stunning statement, indeed, it is truth alone that will set you free from your own wrong judgements that make you stumble, e.g. inbuilt prejudices, or proud self-projections. Jesus invites you to be true to yourself recognizing not only your abilities and achievements, but also the faults in your life. Too often we see people enslaved to their own rooted habits, cultivated conceit and unreasoned convictions. Love for truth alone will protect them

from false propaganda and deceptive advertisements, keep them safe from childish credulity, hasty generalizations, thoughtless conclusions, and impulsive stereotyping of other people. And finally, love for truth alone will guide all of us to understand in depth who Jesus really is and what he means to us. (source: God's Word, St. Pauls India)

**Let us pray:** Receive our prayers, O Lord, which we offer to the honour of your name, and grant that they may become remedies for our healing. Through Christ our Lord.

**All :** Amen

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Head:** At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**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.

**Head :** Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All:** For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

**Head :** Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles; peace I leave to you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will, who live and reign forever and ever.

**All :** Amen.

**Head :** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

### **The concluding rites**

**Let us pray:** Attend, almighty God, to the prayers of your people, and, as you endow them with confident hope in your compassion, let them feel as ever the effects of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

**All :** Amen.

**Head :** May almighty God bless us, keep us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

**All :** Amen

**Head :** Let us go in the peace of the Lord,

**All :** Amen

### **Prayer for those infected by the Corona Virus**

Almighty and ever merciful God,  
You show your love to the entire universe.

Hear our prayers as we lift up  
all the people infected by Corona virus  
in different parts of the world.

We beg you to touch the victims and  
their families with your healing touch.

We thank you for the persistent efforts  
put in by the doctors to research  
an effective solution to this virus.  
May you bring success to their  
tireless efforts in this field

We pray for the people working  
through the governmental and health  
organizations that they may be guided by you to  
take appropriate measures to overcome this difficult situation  
and work towards the safety of the people.

We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn:** I have decided ..... (188)

