

Our Lady of Loretto and St Michael

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(YR C)

The Gloria

**Glorify God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God Heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen**

FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Isaiah (66:18-21)

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, in horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 116.R. Mk 16:15)

R. Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! **R.**

Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (12:5-7, 11-13)

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; there the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again. **The word of the Lord.**

Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me they will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we shall come to them. Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (13:22-30)

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

"Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

The Nicene 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.**

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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 (all Bow until man)
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



Pope Francis and Patriarch Bartholomew

Pope Francis speaking personally shortly after he had been elected.

I will recount the story.

In the election, I had beside me the archbishop emeritus of Sao Paolo, and also the prefect emeritus of the office of the Congregation for the Clergy, Cardinal Claudio Hummes. A great friend, a great friend.

When the thing became a little dangerous, he comforted me. And when the votes were up to two-thirds, there was the expected applause because the

pope had been elected. And he embraced me, and kissed me, and he said to me: "Don't forget about the poor."

And that word entered here, the poor, the poor. Immediately with the thought of the poor, I thought of St Francis of Assisi.

I thought of wars, while the vote counting continued. Until the end of all the votes .. And Francis the man of peace. That was how the name came into my heart. Francis of Assisi. And for me the man of poverty, the man of peace, who loves and guard's creation. At this time that we have a relationship with creation that is not very good, right? And the man who gives us this spirit of peace – the poor man. How I would like a Church that is poor and for the poor.

This gives us an insight to the Popes heart and why Recognising the custom and spiritual insight of the Orthodox Church he followed their tradition and established the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation for the Catholic Church and positively responded to existing ecumenical initiatives by encouraging active participation in the Season of Creation.

This is not an extra to our Catholicism but the very first article of our faith – **I believe in God the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.** As children of God we are responsible to the Father of all things for our Stewardship of Creation. So, all the things that are now on humanities agenda: our food waste, over reliance on plastic, our throw away culture, our over use of gas and electricity are thing we need to personally take seriously and to change our lifestyles and challenge governments to change too.

It starts with us. One day God will ask each of us to give an account of our Stewardship – what will we say?

