

Sunday 17 August 2025
20th Sunday in OT Yr C

Liturgical Colour: Green. Year: C(I).

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 83: 10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Collect

O God, who have prepared for those who love you
good things which no eye can see,
fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love,
so that, loving you in all things and above all things,
we may attain your promises,
which surpass every human desire.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

‘You bore me, a man of contention to the whole land.’

In those days: The officials said to the king, ‘Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.’ King Zedekiah said, ‘Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.’ So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king’s son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud.

Ebed-melech went from the king’s house and said to the king, ‘My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.’ Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, ‘Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 40(39):2. 3. 4. 18. R14b

LORD, make haste to help me!

I waited, I waited for the LORD,
and he stooped down to me.
He heard my cry.

LORD, make haste to help me!

He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock,
made my footsteps firm.

LORD, make haste to help me!

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the LORD.

LORD, make haste to help me!

Wretched and poor though I am,
the Lord is mindful of me.
You are my rescuer, my help;
O my God, do not delay.

LORD, make haste to help me!

Second reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

‘Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.’

Brothers and Sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia.
My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,
and I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia.

Gospel

‘I have not come to give peace but division.’

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive our oblation, O Lord,
by which is brought about a glorious exchange,
that, by offering what you have given,
we may merit to receive your very self.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 129: 7

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

Or:

Jn 6: 51-52

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.
Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments,
we humbly implore your mercy, Lord,
that, conformed to his image on earth,
we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.