

# 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time (b) 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## World Day of Prayer for Grandparents & the Elderly

### Introduction

*leader: Greet the people and name the Sunday of the Year (see above)  
Acknowledge visitors and welcome them.  
Remind everyone about refreshments at the end of Mass ???  
Announce the theme of the liturgy ( see next )*

### Theme – THE FEEDING OF THE CROWD WITH BREAD & FISH

*leader: We have come together for our weekly Eucharist – as we do every week. But why is it important for us? Although we do it every week, how well do we as a community engage in this activity of celebrating the Eucharist? Giving thanks to the Father, in union with Jesus, while being empowered by the Spirit, is an activity. How well do we do this as the group of disciples, who gather here each Sunday? These are important questions for us. So, over the next five weeks we are going to be reading passages from St. John’s gospel, on the Eucharist. And these will challenge us to reflect on what we are doing when we gather; why we are gathering for this meal; and how well we are celebrating it:*

*( Announce the opening hymn: . . . . . )*

### Greeting

*presider: Ki te ingoa o te Matua, ✠ o te Tamaiti, o te Wairua Tapu: /  
In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit:  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose table we share,  
be with us: . . . . .*

*or*

*Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord,  
be with you all: . . . . .*

*all: **And with your spirit.***

### Penitential Rite *Invitation to Repentance*

*either (confer with the Projectionist beforehand if you choose the: ‘I confess’.)*

*leader: Gathered together in Christ, let us ask forgiveness with confidence, for God is gentle and compassionate.*

*all: **I confess: . . .***

*and / or*

*leader: Let us reflect that we are gathered in the Holy Spirit and about to celebrate the Lord’s meal and with him offer thanks to the Father: Lord Jesus, you gave thanks over five barley loaves and two fish – and fed all who had gathered about you: - ( pause ) - Lord, have mercy:*

*all: **Lord, have mercy:***

*leader: Lord Jesus, you instructed the disciples to gather up all the fragments so that nothing would be lost: - ( pause ) - Christ, have mercy:*

*all: **Christ, have mercy:***

*leader: Lord Jesus, you were acclaimed as 'the prophet who is to come into the world': - ( pause ) - Lord, have mercy:*

*all: **Lord, have mercy:***

*leader: May almighty God, cleanse us of our sins and through the celebration of this Eucharist make us worthy to sit at the table of the kingdom.*

*all: **Amen***

**GLORIA** *invitation*

*either*

*leader: With all the voices of heaven, let us sing praise, honour and glory to God.*

*or*

*leader: With peoples everywhere, let us glorify our God in joyful song.*

**Opening Prayer**

*leader: ( Kia inoi tatou / Let us pray: ... ) O God,  
You open wide Your hand, giving us food in due season.  
Out of Your never-failing abundance,  
satisfy the hungers of body and soul  
and lead all peoples of the Earth  
to the feast of the world to come.  
We make our prayer 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:*

*all: **Amen.***

**Introduction to the first reading:** *( 2 Kings 4 : 42 – 44 )*

*leader: Twenty barley loaves and fresh grain are brought to the man of God, Elisha. It is objected that it is not enough to feed the hundred-strong crowd. Elisha's miracle is above all a sign that the Lord God's marvellous creative power is active and does good. The Lord's servant is able to give people relief from distress, health, nourishment and life.*

**Introduction to the second reading:** *( Ephesians 4 : 1 – 6 )*

*leader: Saint Paul clarifies the meaning of Jesus' message as Lord. The love of God, revealed in Jesus, forms us into one body, one hope. This implies mutual service in the different parts of the body. Therefore we have to ask ourselves: as Christians, are we ready for this in our torn-apart world? However little we may have, are we willing to share?*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

*all: **Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!***

**Introduction to the gospel reading:** (*John 6: 1 – 15*)

*leader: Jesus withdrew across the lake. A great crowd pursue him. They're impressed – more by his raising up the sick than the meaning of his practise. Jesus is embarrassed by the unruly growth of this popular movement. He climbed a hillside and sat there with his disciples. Mention of passover time, gives a clue to the significance of what follows.*

**Homily Notes** (*presider*)

- *We learn that Elisha has done the same thing that Jesus will do. He asks his servant to feed the people and receives the same answer; "There's not enough to feed them all"! The prophet simply repeats his command.*
- *Paul clarifies the meaning of Jesus' message as Lord. The love of God, revealed in Jesus, forms us into one body, one hope. This implies mutual service in the different parts of the body. Therefore we have to ask ourselves: as Christians, are we ready for this in our torn-apart world? However little we may have, are we willing to share? Sharing bread is the Word of life.*
- *The story of Jesus feeding the crowd is the only miracle account that appears in all four Gospels. Early Christians obviously considered this an important story, one that could not be left out of any account of our faith. The reason is plain to see when we look at what Jesus does. He takes bread, gives thanks and shares it with the people, who then eat it. Those are the four hallmark gestures of the Eucharist: taking, blessing, breaking and sharing. The story teaches us that the Eucharist is real food for those who follow Christ and that there is no limit to its ability to feed us or to the number of people for whom it is meant. Jesus is at the centre of the story, but I once read J.K.Baxter's account of the story that gave a big place to the boy who had the loaves and fish. Only Andrew mentions the lad and that's all.*
- *There are two other people in the account whom it would be easy to overlook. Yet I think they provide an opportunity to put myself into the story in a way that Jesus and the boy do not. I am not a miracle worker. I do not often have exactly what is needed like the boy.*
- *Granted, I have needs like the crowd, but I can't identify with a crowd. Philip and Andrew, though, fit me. Philip is in an uncomfortable position. Jesus looks to him and says, in effect, "We have an impossible situation here. What are you going to do about it?" Philip has been a follower of Jesus from the start. He has come to look to Jesus for leadership and for signs of God's power. It must have been a shock, then, to have the Lord turn to him for a solution, asking "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?"*
- *Philip gives the answer most of us would give "Not even with two hundred days' wages could we buy loaves enough to give each of them*

*a mouthful!" He sees the size of the problem, recognises his small abilities, does an analysis of the situation and decides that nothing can be done. Very smart. Very prudent.*

- *Philip and I have a lot in common. I look around at my world and evaluate the problems and situations I see. I hear the Lord saying, "We have an impossible situation here. What are you going to do about it?" I look at my own abilities and weaknesses, count up the number of hours in a day, think it all over, and answer as Philip: "I can't do anything!" Very smart. Very prudent. But there's Andrew to look at as well. Andrew has looked at the same situation. He knows the size of the problem. However, rather than admit defeat, he looks for what can be done. So, he comes to Jesus and says, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and a couple of dried fish, but what good its that for som many?" He knows that nothing much can be done, but he is a t least on the lookout, keeping his eyes open for anything that might alleviate the situation.*
- *Andrew does not offer much, but it is enough for the Lord to work a miracle. He did what little he could, and everyone ate. There are times when I am like Andrew. There is not much I can do, but, I can do something. I can remain sensitive to the world's needs and alert to all that might answer those needs.*
- *The Eucharist is the miracle in which Christ takes "the work of human hands" and presents it to the Father as himself. Our own little bit, our own willingness to search out what we can do, becomes part of that. God is looking for the Andrew in each of us.*
- *We must host this moment with respect, awe and patience. For Jesus' first disciples the moment of worship is a moment of deep ambiguity that must not be rushed. It is that precious moment on the threshold – that makes serious transformations possible. As the liturgy leads us beyond the hegemony of the Western scientific explanation of natural 'laws' to be amazed at the interventions of the true Power-For-Life-giving for us, we enter a season of standing on the threshold when the Spirit of Jesus may bring newness.*
- *Such conduct is dangerous, if others come expecting doctrinal certainty, or moral absolutes. But if affirmations of trust in the God of Life is what we intend, the risk must be run. In our fearful desperate society, we have few occasions for such experience. The moment of Eucharistic worship is the primary place of this experience – the manifestation of visible signs of the invisible reality of God's self-giving in Christ! We come to this moment with the strange expectation that we will be subverted. The texts of the liturgy is claimed to be the 'Word of God'. In a mixture of wonder and weariness, of confidence and trembling, partly out of habit and partly in passionate hope, we respond, "Thanks be to God!"*

**Creed / Statement of Faith**

**Intercessions – 17<sup>th</sup> Week Ordinary Time** [ Sun 28<sup>th</sup> July – Sat 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024 ]*invitation to pray:*

*leader: Friends in Christ, gathered in the one Spirit, we are one Body in the one Lord and now we call on the one God who is Father of all, through all, and within all:*

*1: For the People of God, scattered across the world; that we shall draw new life from our celebration of the Eucharist:*

*- (pause) - God of Community, hear us:*

*all: **God of Community, hear us.***

*2: For our community: that our gatherings may be celebrations of joy and thanksgiving, that they may renew us in Christ, and strengthen us to be his disciples: - (pause) - God of Refreshment, hear us:*

*all: **God of Refreshment, hear us.***

*3: For survivors of abuse: that where there has been darkness, we sow light, with our commitment to bring healing to the harmed:*

*- (pause) – God of Integrity, hear us:*

*all: **God of Integrity, hear us.***

*4: For grandparents: that they will be trustworthy and caring, helping children learn how to be prayerful, compassionate and generous, how to forgive and be forgiven: - (pause) - God of Wisdom, hear us:*

*all: **God of Wisdom, hear us.***

*5: For the health of all who believe in You, including:*

*Mangawhai: **Matteo Gray, Petronella Brom, Lorna Boccock, Geraldine Choromanski, Judy Perry, Veronica Grigg, Margaret Rissman, Roselle & Owen McGrane, Richard Henry, Bob Walters, Colleen Griffith, John Zacwinskis, Anne Griffith, Teresa McCarthy, Tom Ryan, Kathy Brokliss (Hokianga), Lee McCarthy, . . . . .***

*Maungaturoto: **Trevor Brljevich, Tony Ruiterman, Bill Lewis, Beverly Simons, Adolph Layec, . . . . .***

*Wellsford: **Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Lucille Jenneker, Wilma Jansen, Gerard McCurran, Iris Barrow, Lagi Sands, Tim Emberson, Theresa Graham, . . .***

*May they have the comfort of Christ's presence to relieve their distress, remove their fears, give them peace, and restore their health:*

*- (pause) - God of Well-being, hear us:*

*all: **God of Well-being, hear us.***

*6: For those who have died: **June Bycroft, Christine Casey-Stiles. . . . .**And the anniversaries of: **Violet Gallagher, Tom Sutton, . . . . .** Number them among Your saints: - (pause) - God of New Life, hear us:*

*all: **God of New Life, hear us.***

*Concluding Prayer:*

*leader: God of graciousness, give answers to our prayers in Your great kindness, through Christ our Lord:                      all: **Amen***

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*( If no priest presider, the leader introduces Lord's Prayer. )*

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### **Prayer over the Gifts**

*presider: ( Kia inoi tatou / Let us pray: ... ) Lord,  
accept these offerings,  
which we have drawn from Your bountiful goodness,  
that by the working of Your grace  
these sacred mysteries may sanctify our lives on Earth  
and lead us to the joys of life eternal.  
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord:*

*all: **Amen***

### **Preface**

*presider: The Lord be with you.*

*all: **And also with you.***

*presider: Lift up your hearts.*

*all: **We lift them up to the Lord.***

*presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

*all: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*presider: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give You thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Out of compassion for us sinners  
he humbled himself to be born of the Virgin.  
By suffering on the cross, he freed us from unending death;  
by rising from the dead, he gave us eternal life.  
And so, with angels and archangels,  
with all the heavenly host, we proclaim Your glory  
and join their unending chorus of praise:*

*all: **Holy holy holy!***

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER – II**

#### **Memorial Acclamation**

*( the Eucharistic Prayer ends with the great 'AMEN' )*

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### **Introduction to the Lord's Prayer**

*either*

*presider: With trust in God, who nourishes us in the hour of need,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

*or*

*Let us pray for the coming of God's realm as Jesus taught us.*

*all: **Our Father, . . .***

*presider: 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 freed 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 for ever. Amen.***

**Sign of Peace**

*presider: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:  
'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you'.  
Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church  
and grant us the peace and unity of your Realm,  
where you live, now and always:*

*all: **Amen.***

*presider: The peace of the Lord be with you:*

*all: **And with your spirit.***

*presider: Let us offer each other a sign of peace:*

**Lamb of God**

*all: **Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us (x2)  
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.***

*presider: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
who by the will of the Father  
and the work of the Holy Spirit,  
through your death gave life to the world;  
free us by this your most holy Body and Blood  
from all our sins and from every evil:  
keep us always faithful to your commandments  
and never let us be parted from you.*

*all: **Amen***

*either*

*presider: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of  
the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.*

*or*

*presider: This is the bread come down from heaven;  
whoever eats this bread will never die.  
This is the cup of eternal life;  
whoever drinks of it will live forever:*

*all: **Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof,  
but only say the Word and my soul shall be healed.***

### Holy Communion

*presider: Ko te Tinana o te Karaiti:  
( Ko nga Toto o te Karaiti: )*

### Prayer after Communion

*presider: ( Kia inoi tatou / Let us pray: ... ) We have shared, Lord, in the sacrament which is the lasting memorial of your Son's passion. Grant, we pray, that this gift of his surpassing love may bring us closer to our salvation. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord:*

*all: **Amen.***

*( an opportunity for announcements/notices etc. . . . )*

### Dismissal

*leader: We are sent in the name of God of Moses and the Prophets. When the Issraelites tired from the journey murmured against You and against Moses and forgot Your faithfulness; You supplied manna on the morning dew and quail in the evening! We thank You for Your invitation to share a simple meal that can transform our existence. Encourage us to continue on Your mission of justice and compassion. God of the unexpected, to Your name be glory and honour until we gather again:*

*all: **Amen***

### The Blessing

*presider: Kia whakapaingia koutou e te Atua kaha rawa, e te Matua, ✠ e te Tamaiti e te Wairua Tapu. / May the blessing of God, the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with us now and always:*

*all: **Amene***

*leader: The Mass has ended, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

*all: **Thanks be to God.***

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