

## MASS IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

(Weekdays of Easter Time)

This Mass can be celebrated, according to the rubrics given for Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions, on any day except Solemnities, the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, days within the Octave of Easter, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day), Ash Wednesday and the days of Holy Week.

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Is 53:4

Truly the Lord has borne our infirmities, and he has carried our sorrows.

### COLLECT

Let us pray. (*pause*)

Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. 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. R. Amen.

FIRST READING (*Neither death nor life will be able to separate us from the love of God.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (8:31b-39)

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

As it is written: "For your sake we are being slain all the day; we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. —The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (123(122): 1-2a, 2bcd)

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. (Ps 123(122):3a)

Or:

R. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy. (Ps 123(122):2cd)

To you I lift up my eyes who are enthroned in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants are on the hands of their masters. *(R.)*

As the eyes of a maid are on the hands of her mistress, so are our eyes on the Lord, our God, till he have pity on us. *(R.)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (2 Cor 1:3b-4a)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed be the Father of compassion and God of all encouragement, who encourages us in our every affliction. *(R.)*

GOSPEL (*Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (4:35-41)

On that day, as evening drew on, Jesus said to his disciples:

“Let us cross to the other side.” Leaving the crowd, they took Jesus with them in the boat just as he was. And other boats were with him. A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up. Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Quiet! Be still!” The wind ceased and there was great calm. Then he asked them, “Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?” They were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?”—The Gospel of the Lord.

#### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the gifts we offer in this time of peril. May they become for us, by your power, a source of healing and peace. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen

#### PREFACE III OF EASTER

*(Christ living and always interceding for us)*

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, at all times to acclaim you, O Lord, but in this time above all to laud you yet more gloriously, when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

He never ceases to offer himself for us but defends us and ever pleads our cause before you: he is the sacrificial Victim who dies no more, the Lamb, once slain, who lives for ever.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in your praise and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts, sing together the unending hymn of your glory, as they acclaim:

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 11:28

Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will refresh you, says the Lord.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. (*pause*)

O God, from whose hand we have received the medicine of eternal life, grant that through this sacrament we may glory in the fullness of heavenly healing. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

#### PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

O God, protector of all who hope in you, bless your people, keep them safe, defend them, prepare them, that, free from sin and safe from the enemy, they may persevere always in your love. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen

Appendix to Decree dated 30 March 2020 (Prot. N. 156/20)

Released by the Hong Kong Diocesan Liturgy Commission

Imprimatur: Cardinal John Tong

Apostolic Administrator of Hong Kong, 16 April 2020

