

impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

### PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

*Or the Nicene Creed may be said.*

**I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

#### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:*

**R. Blessed be God for ever.**

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. O Lord, we bring to your altar these offerings of our service: be pleased to receive them, we pray, and transform them into the Sacrament of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**R. We lift them up to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R. It is right and just.**

### PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

*After the Preface, we sing or say:*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he**

**who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

### COMMUNION RITE

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

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

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

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

**R. Amen.**

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All exchange a sign of peace*

### LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. 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.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy**

**that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word**

**and my soul shall be healed.**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 30: 17-18

**Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.**

or

Mt 5: 3-4

**Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the land.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

#### WHAT COMES FROM WITHIN

At his death, Moses was praised because 'never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face' (Deuteronomy 34:10). He was the mediator between the people of Israel and the living God. They could not bear to be in God's presence for long at Horeb and so they had begged him to be the one to represent them and bring God's message back to them in ways they could understand. Today's first reading reminds the reader that Moses' mission was only the beginning of a larger mission that would be completed in the future. In the meantime, the people would have to wait for the promised prophet.

When Jesus began his ministry, his exorcisms, healing and teaching led his contemporaries to recognise his authority. The word for authority is ἐξουσία and it is a beautiful way of describing what others could see coming out of his very being. While Moses knew God face to face, it is clear that Jesus has something more because it comes from within. The demons have insight that we need to make our own – this is more than a prophet, this is the Holy One of God.

Paul continues his advice to the Corinthians reminding them we need to do more than simply proclaim that Jesus is the Holy One of God. Our proclamation is a great start, but it must be lived out in our daily lives. We are called to find the right balance between the attention we give to the Lord and our family commitments.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

31 JANUARY 2021

A TEACHING WITH AUTHORITY BEHIND IT. Power and authority usually go together and are often confused. If Jesus exercised authority it was not in the oppressive fashion of many earthly rulers but in service of the poor. His power was directed towards liberating people from unjust laws, evil spirits, debilitating illnesses and the slavery of sin. It is this power that is at work in us.

### INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 105: 47

**Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.**

### GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**R. And with your spirit.**

### PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

**R. For we have sinned against you.**

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**R. Amen.**

V. Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

V. Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

V. Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

### GLORIA

**Glory to 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.**

### COLLECT

P. Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. 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.

**R. Amen.**

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### FIRST READING

Deut 18: 15-20

**A reading from the book of Deuteronomy**

*I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.*

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."'

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### RESPONSORIAL PS Ps 94: 1-2, 6-9. R. v. 9

**R. If today you hear his voice harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;/hail the rock who saves us./Let us come before him, giving thanks,/with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us kneel and bend low;/let us kneel before the God who made us;/for he is our God and we/the people who belong to his pasture,/the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!/'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,/as on that day at Massah in the desert/when your fathers put me to the test;/when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



### SECOND READING

1 Cor 7: 32-35

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

*The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.*

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 16

**Alleluia, alleluia! / A people in darkness have seen a great light: / a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. / Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

Mk 1: 21-28

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.*

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep