

St Comgall of Bangor

Abbot, Limerick Diocese, 7th century
10th May

The Gathering of God's People

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

SENTENCE

You are my strength, Lord, I will love you;
Under the shadow of your wings protect me.

The Prayers of Moucan, Welsh, eighth century.

INTRODUCTION

Comgall was the founder and first abbot of Bangor Abbey, said to have been the largest monastery in Ireland, with as many as three thousand in the community at one period. Comgall visited Columba in Iona and worked closely with him in spreading the gospel. Columbanus was trained at Bangor before setting out on his missionary journeys to Europe. There was a strong family spirit in the community life at Bangor. Counselling, as well as instruction, was an important part of the training. To Comgall is attributed the saying, "A man without soul-friend is a body without a head."

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray to God the Father, God the Son,
and to God the Holy Spirit
whose infinite greatness enfolds the whole world,
in persons three and one
in essence simple and triune,
suspending the earth above the waters,
hanging the upper air with stars,
that he may be favourable to sinner
who righteously justifies all who err,
who ever-living lives.
May God be blessed for ages. **Amen**

Moucan, Welsh, eighth century.

O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who trust in him.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Lord ransoms the lives of his servants
and none who trust in him will be destroyed.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Come my children, listen to me:
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
Grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

THE FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 39: 1-9

He who devotes himself to the study of the law of the Most High will seek out the wisdom of all the ancients and will be concerned with prophecies; he will preserve the Discourse of notable men and penetrate the subtleties of parables; he will seek out the hidden meanings of proverbs and be at home with the obscurities of parables. He will serve among great men and appear before rulers; he will travel through the lands of foreign nations, for he tests the good and the evil among men. He will set his heart to rise early to seek the Lord who made him, and will make supplication before the most high; he will open his mouth in prayer and make supplication for his sins. If the great Lord is willing, he will be filled with the spirit of understanding; he will pour forth words of wisdom and give thanks to the Lord in prayer. He will direct his counsel and knowledge aright, and meditate on his secrets. He will reveal instruction in his

teaching and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant. Many will praise his understanding, and it will never be blotted out; his memory will not Disappear, and his name will live through all generations.

or

Jeremiah 17: 7-10

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is in the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit." The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately corrupt; who can understand it? "I the Lord search the mind and try the heart, to give to everyone according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 34: 11-17

**Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

Come, my children, and listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
Who is there who delights in life
and longs for days to enjoy good things?
Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.
Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it. *℟*

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous
and his ears are open to their cry.
The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
The righteous cry and the Lord hears them
and delivers them out of all their troubles. *℟*

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2: 6-13

Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glorification. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified

the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him," God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the spirit searches everything even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thought except the spirit of the person which is in them? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who possess the Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God. Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL READING

St John 16: 12-15

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ,
according to Saint John, chapter 16, beginning at verse 12.

Glorify to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "I have yet many things to say to you but you cannot hear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Prayers of the People

We pray for universities and schools. We remember the work of the Church of Ireland Theological Institute and all who have responsibility for training candidates for the church's ministry.

Almighty God,
you raised your Son to be Lord of light and Saviour of our race
and to your saints have given wondrous grace:
We praise you for holy and learned Comgall
whose scholarship made this land
a bright shining light in ages of darkness:
Pour out your Spirit to renew your church in Ireland
making it once again a land of saints and scholars,
and bringing glory to your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE

Peace be to you, and peace to your house,
and peace to all who are yours. *1 Samuel 25: 6*

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory!
We do not live by bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

The priest takes the bread and cup

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Eucharistic prayer 1 with preface from the Stowe missal (9th c).

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, all powerful and everliving God,
We do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You, O Father, with your only begotten Son
and the Holy Spirit are God.

You are God,
one immortal; incorruptible and unmoving;
invisible and faithful;
wonderful and worthy of praise;
strong and worthy of honour;

You are God,
most high and magnificent;
living and true; wise and powerful;
holy and splendid; great and good;

You are God,
awesome and peace-loving;
beautiful and righteous; pure and kind;
blessed and just; tender and holy;

You are God,
not in the singularity of one person,
but in the Trinity of substance.
We believe you, we bless you;
We adore you and praise your name for evermore.

We praise you
through Christ who is the salvation of the universe;
through Christ who is the life of human beings;
through Christ who is the resurrection of the dead.

Through him the angels praise your majesty;
the dominations adore;
the powers of the heaven of heavens tremble,
the virtues and the blessed seraphim
concelebrate in exultation;
so grant, we pray you,
that our voices may be admitted to that of the chorus,
in humble declarations of your glory, as we say

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
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.**

Blessed are you, Father,
the creator and sustainer of all things;
you made us in your own image,
male and female you created us;
even when we turned away from you,
you never ceased to care for us,
but in your love and mercy
you freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving your only begotten Son to become man
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us;
he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world:
he instituted,
and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again.

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his Disciples, saying, Take, eat,
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you,

for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we do as Christ your Son commanded:
we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit
that we may be made one in your holy Church
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

or

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

**Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

They recognized the Lord, Alleluia;
in the breaking of the loaf, Alleluia;

For the loaf that we break is the body
of our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia;
**The cup which we bless is the blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ, Alleluia
for the remission of our sins. Alleluia;**

O Lord, let your mercy come upon us, Alleluia;
in you O Lord have I put my trust. Alleluia.

They recognized the Lord, Alleluia;
in the breaking of the loaf, Alleluia.

Lk 24:35 1 Cor 10:16-17; Mt 26:28 Ps 31:1 Stowe (9th c)

AGNUS DEI

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

or

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

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

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God,
who has taken away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

THE COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

THE GREAT SILENCE

Going out as God's People

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful God,
who gave such grace to your servant Comgall
that he served you with singleness of heart
and loved you above all things:
help us, whose communion with you
has been renewed in this sacrament,
to forsake all that holds us back from following Christ
and to grow into his likeness from glory to glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

DISMISSAL
The Blessing

God who in days of old gave to this land
the benediction of his holy Church,
fill you with his grace
to walk faithfully in the steps of the saints
and to bring forth fruit to his glory:
And the blessing of God almighty
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.