

St Muredach or Murtagh

Killala diocese, circa 480

12th August

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

Muredach was an 'old man', perhaps a presbyter or priest, in St Patrick's household. At the conclusion of his mission to the West, Patrick left his companion to be bishop in West Sligo and Mayo. One tradition says that at the end of his life he went to live as a hermit on the island of Innismurray.

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 sinners
who righteously justifies all who err,
who ever-living lives.
May God be blessed for ages. **Amen.**

Moucan, Welsh, eighth century.

PENITENCE

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 2: 1-9

My son, if you come forward to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for temptation. Such your heart right and be steadfast, and do not be hasty in time of calamity. Cleave to him and do not depart, that you may be honoured at the end of your life. Accept whatever is brought upon you, and in changes that humble you be patient. For gold is tested in the fire, and those who are acceptable in the furnace of humiliation. Trust in him, and he will help you; make your ways straight, and hope in him. You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; and turn not aside, lest you fall. You who fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will not fail; you who fear the Lord, hope for good things, for everlasting joy and mercy.

or

Malachi 2: 5-7

My covenant with him was a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him, that he might fear; and he feared me, he stood in awe of my name. True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and instruction should be sought from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 15

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may rest upon your holy hill?

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may rest upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads an uncorrupt life
and does the thing that is right; *℟*

Who speaks the truth from the heart
and bears no deceit on the tongue;
Who does no evil to a friend
and pours no scorn on a neighbour;
in whose sight the wicked are not esteemed,
but who honours those who fear the Lord. *℟*

Whoever has sworn to a neighbour
and never goes back on the word;
Who does not lend money in hope of gain,
nor takes a bribe against the innocent;
Whoever does these things shall never fall. *℟*

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 4: 4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let all people know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is

just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

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

Mark 10: 42-45

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ,
according to St. Mark, chapter 10, beginning at verse 42.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them but shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Prayers of the People

We pray for companionship for those who are lonely, and we give thanks for those who go to unfamiliar places in the service of Christ's mission. We pray also for the faithful members of the church in Co. Mayo and the north west of Co Sligo, especially as they welcome visitors at holiday time.

Powerful God,
whose power holds us and leads us in the service of Christ
and whose ear hearkens to our needs:
like Muredach of Patrick's household,
may we find Christ in the hearts of all that love us
and in the mouth of friend and stranger.
We ask this in Jesus' Name. **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

PRAYERS AT 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

Faithful God,
who called Muredach to serve you
and gave him joy in walking the path of holiness:
by this eucharist,
in which you renew within us the vision of your glory,
strengthen us all to follow the way of perfection
until we come to see you face to face;
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.