

## ASH WEDNESDAY

17 FEBRUARY 2021

*Hymns are only given here to accompany the on-line Celebration of Mass during the covid-19 Pandemic.  
Unless otherwise stated all hymns are taken from our parish hymn books,  
'Laudate,' and 'Hymns Old & New,' and my own hymn book collections.*

**Entrance:** Fr John McLoughlin © 2015

World redeemed by Christ our Saviour  
By the 'key of love' once formed  
To her cries the Church responding  
opens wide her mother's arms     **Refrain**

***Door of mercy opened for us in the pierced side of Christ;  
Living water, life restoring, flows through us to humankind.***

Mercy breathes beyond our limits  
Welcomes when we close the door  
Loves the loveless, feeds the hungry  
Life to sinners doth restore.     **Refrain**

When we fall His love preserves us  
By His mercy we are raised  
So to be His joy, His honour,  
and His crown to endless days.     **Refrain**

When the day its shadows falling  
And the restless heart seeks peace  
Knowing we are loved forever  
is the hope that mercy speaks.     **Last Refrain**

***Father, Lord of all creation. Jesus, Lord redeeming Son.  
Spirit, Lord who sanctifies us. Praise to you the Three in One***

### OPENING PRAYER

### LITURGY OF THE WORD



**First Reading:** Joel, 2:12-18

**Psalm:** - *Psalm 50:*     **Have mercy on us Lord, for we have sinned.**

**Second Reading:** From the Second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians, 5:20-6:2

**Acclamation:** 'Glory to you O Christ, you are the Word of God.'

**Gospel:** Matthew 6:1-6,16-18

**Homily**

### **Blessing and of Ashes**



At home, you may wish to have ready before Mass in a small dish or plate a little soil from the garden or from a house plant. Keep the little earth in view today and every time you look at it let it remind you that we are dust of the earth always in need of God's mercy and love.

**Or**

You may wish to dampen the earth with a little water and as I mark my forehead with the ash you may wish to make a mark on your forehead and say:

*'Lord, you made me from the clay of the earth; you gave me a body of flesh;  
Lord when I return to the earth from which I came raise me up on the last day.'*

You could also do this after Mass.

The *Prayer of the Faithful* will be in silence today

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**



**Preparation of the Gifts:** Hymns Old & New. No. 592

*Remember, remember your mercy Lord.  
Remember, remember your mercy Lord.  
Hear your people's prayer as they call to you;  
remember, remember your mercy Lord.*

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
For you are God my saviour.

*Remember, remember your mercy Lord.  
Remember, remember your mercy Lord.  
Hear your people's prayer as they call to you;  
remember, remember your mercy Lord.*

**Communion:** Hymns Old & New. No. 700

Vaster far than any ocean,  
Deeper than the deepest sea  
Is the love of Christ my Saviour,  
Reaching through eternity.

But my sins are truly many,  
Is God's grace so vast, so deep?  
Yes, there's grace o'er sin abounding,  
Grace to pardon, grace to keep.

Can he quench my thirst for ever?  
Will his Spirit strength impart?  
Yes, he gives me living water  
Springing up within my heart.



**Blessing and Dismissal**

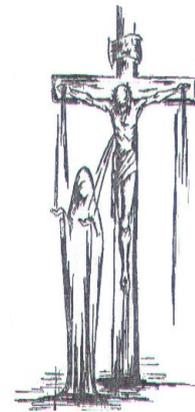
**Recessional:**

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained  
to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,  
to turn, turn, will be our delight  
till by turning, turning we come round right.

The Earth is our gift from God above,  
her streets, her slums, as well as stars above.  
Salvation we seek where we laugh, where we cry,  
where we love and hope, where we live and die.

When true liberty is found,  
By fear and by hate we will no more be bound.  
In Christ our true light we will find our new birth  
And in peace and freedom, redeem the Earth.



*"Simple Gifts" is a Shaker work song written and composed in 1848 by Elder Joseph Brackett. The second verse is a latter addition and adapted by Fr John McLoughlin in Feb 2016*