

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK

Bringing holy communion to the sick person links them with the community of the Church and nourishes them with the body of Christ. A parish minister or a member of the family may be designated by the priest for this ministry of pastoral care.

GREETING

May God grant the blessing of peace to this house and all who live here. BLESSED BE GOD.

PENITENTIAL RITE

May almighty God have mercy on us and lead us, with our sins forgiven, to eternal life. AMEN.

READING OF GOD'S WORD

(Jn 6:51)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Jesus says: I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh for the life of the world.

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Silent reflection and prayer.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Prayer is said together

Showing the eucharistic bread, the minister says:

This is the bread of life.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

LORD, I AM NOT WORTHY THAT YOU SHOULD
ENTER UNDER MY ROOF, BUT ONLY SAY THE
WORD AND MY SOUL SHALL BE HEALED.

In giving communion the minister says:

The body of Christ. AMEN.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All-powerful God, we thank you for the
nourishment you give us through your holy gift.
Pour out your Spirit upon us and
in the strength of this food from heaven
keep us single-minded in your service.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

BLESSING

May the almighty and merciful God bless and
protect us, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy
Spirit. AMEN.

The rite may conclude with a sign of peace.

PRAYING WITH THE SICK

Visiting a sick person is not just an occasion to offer support and encouragement, but also an opportunity to pray with the sick. One or more of the following readings and prayers may be chosen to help the sick person join their sufferings with Christ's.

READING OF GOD'S WORD

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

The Spirit too comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God. (8:27)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Christ Jesus not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us. Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ.. (8:31f)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

'Sir,' the man said to Jesus, 'if you want to, you can cure me.' Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him and said, 'Of course I want to! Be cured!' (8:2)

PSALM 26

R. THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION.

The Lord is my light and my help;

whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

before whom shall I shrink? R.

When evil-doers draw near

to devour my flesh,

it is they, my enemies and foes,

who stumble and fall. R.

For there he keeps me safe in his tent

in the day of evil.

He hides me in the shelter of his tent,

on a rock he sets me safe. R.

PRAYERS

Father, your Son accepted our sufferings
to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness.
Hear the prayers we offer for our brother/sister N.

May all who suffer pain, illness, or disease

realise that they have been chosen to be saints
and know that they are joined to Christ
in his suffering for the salvation of the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

God of love,

ever caring, ever strong,

stand by us in our time of need.

Watch over N. who is sick,

look after him/her in every danger,

and grant him/her your healing and peace.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. AMEN.

All-powerful and ever-living God,
we find security in your forgiveness.

Give us serenity and peace of mind;

may we rejoice in your gifts of kindness

and use them always for your glory and our good.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. AMEN.

All praise and glory is yours, Lord our God,
for you have called us to serve you in love.

Bless N. so that he/she may bear this illness

in union with your Son's obedient suffering.

Restore him/her to health,

and lead him/her to glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

For an elderly person

All praise and glory are yours, Lord our God,
for you have called us to serve you in love.

Bless all who have grown old in your service

and give N. strength and courage

to continue to follow Jesus your Son.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer may be said together.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life. AMEN.