



**Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
August 16, 2015**

Sunday Liturgy Guide for the Church of the Poor in the Spirit of the New Evangelization

The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, lives the Eucharist by keeping the wisdom of the Cross: obeying the will of the Father is responding to the deepest human need.

Today we celebrate the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Our theme for this Sunday is: **The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, lives the Eucharist by keeping the wisdom of the Cross: obeying the will of the Father is responding to the deepest human need. With this theme, let us reflect on “A Renewed Integral Evangelization” with PCP-II, when it says:**

“PART III. A RENEWED INTEGRAL EVANGELIZATION

A. ANNOUNCING A MESSAGE OF SALVATION

1. A Renewed Catechesis

b) Authentically Filipino and Systematic

(160) Catechesis must also be authentically Filipino. It must be inculturated so that both the means of transmission of the Message and the resources for assimilating it are Filipino. This would require that the Good News be preached in the language of the people.

(161) Pope John XXIII pointed out clearly the distinction between the substance of the message and the ways of transmitting it, which can differ while the message remains the same.

(162) This inculturation of catechesis is a very necessary and urgent task. Without such an inculturation, either the Christian message remains alien to the Filipino, or the Filipino in accepting it risks being alienated from his culture.”

How do you understand “inculturation”? In what sense can the message of the gospel be filipinized? In what sense can the Filipino culture be penetrated by the gospel message? What will become of the Good News once it is filipinized? To the Filipino culture once it is penetrated by the Good News? Give examples? ■

Introductory Rites

Entrance Antiphon:(Ps 84 (83): 10-11)

*Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed
one; one day within your courts is
better than a thousand elsewhere.*

Introductory Rites

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

C: Amen

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

C: And with your spirit.

Introduction and Welcome

P: Dear brothers and sisters: on this Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, let us continue to ask God's special grace to be aware of our Christian and Catholic heritage as the prophetic conscience of our people. In particular, let us ask for the grace to filipinize the good news and to allow the good news to penetrate our Filipino culture. Once the good news that the world was created for all is filipinized, then we shall have genuine land reform; once our feudal culture is penetrated with the gospel message, then we shall reject landlordism and the hacienda system!

Penitential Act

P: And so dear brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate worthily these sacred mysteries, let us now acknowledge our sins, and ask God for pardon and strength:

P: Lord Jesus, you have called us to share all the world's resources as one family. Lord, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Christ Jesus, you have called us to share our lives as brothers and sisters. Christ, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord Jesus, you have called us to see you in our lives and to see ourselves in your life, by the mystery of the incarnation. Lord, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

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: Let us pray: O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire. 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.

C: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Prv 9:1-6

L: A reading from the Book of Proverbs

Wisdom has built her house, she has set up her seven columns; she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine, yes, she has spread her table. She has sent out her maidens; she calls from the heights out over the city: "Let whoever is simple turn in here; To the one who lacks understanding, she says, Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed! Forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Commentary on Prv 9:1-6:

It seems that the house of wisdom described here refers to the Temple. The banquet spoken of here seems to be the temple rituals or sacred meals common to Jewish religious practices. What is important to note here is the free gift of wisdom to those who wish to come to her.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

R: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the LORD; the lowly will hear me and be glad.

R: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Glorify the LORD with me, let us together extol his name. I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

R: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame. When the poor one called out, the LORD heard, and from all his distress he saved him.

R: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Commentary on Psalm 34:

This is an acrostic poem, or an alphabetical song. Each verse begins with the letter of the Hebrew alphabet. These opening verses speak of a never-ending blessing and thanksgiving to the Lord, for he answers the cry of the distressed.

Second Reading: Eph 5:15-20

L: A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters: Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Commentary on Eph 5:15-20

From exhorting the Christian converts in Ephesus to live from darkness to light, Paul now urges them to pass from foolishness to wisdom. Evil days, the days of foolishness, mean the moral decadence that characterizes the empire at that time: vices and

corruptions, legitimized by hymns and rituals dedicated to the idols. Wisdom, on the other hand, means the radical alternative way of life characterized by understanding the will of the Lord. Wine and debauchery are contrasted with the ways of the Holy Spirit that are articulated and legitimized by songs and grateful melodies centered in Jesus Christ and his ways.

Alleluia Verse: John 6:56

R: Alleluia, alleluia. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel: John 6:51-58

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And with your spirit.*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus said to the crowds: “I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.” The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.*

Commentary on John 6:51-58

Jesus is the bread of life. He is the God who nourishes the people as it was from of old. But, the old bread was perishable; this new bread enlivens with eternal life. But for this living bread and blood to be eaten and drunk for eternal life, Jesus must first offer these on the Cross. It is from the Cross, and the cause of his crucifixion, that blood and water would flow, for the life of the world. Thus one must be united with his Cross and the cause of his crucifixion, to partake of his flesh and blood for eternal life!

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Homily: The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, lives the Eucharist by keeping the wisdom of the Cross: obeying the will of the Father is responding to the deepest human need.

Summary of the Sunday Reading Message	Concrete description of the poor people and their situation	Reflection/ Points for reflection/ Call/ Challenge
The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, lives the Eucharist by keeping the wisdom of the Cross: obeying the will of the Father is responding to the deepest human need.	In your BEC or parish, try to make a survey of what are the most basic and deepest human need, especially among the poor and in the environment. How is the BEC or parish responding to this human need? How is this related to the celebration of the Eucharist?	Without inculturation, the Gospel remains alien to the Filipino, or the Filipino in accepting it may be alienated from his culture. Embrace the cause of Jesus' crucifixion to have his flesh and blood for eternal life.

Profession of Faith

A: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
 I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the

Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful:

P: Dear sisters and brothers, let us humbly and confidently raise our voices in prayer to our heavenly Father. For every prayer let our response be: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

R: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

L: Let us pray for the Church: that, being a Church of the Poor spread all over the world, she may continue to share the mission of Jesus by making alive the Eucharist through keeping the wisdom of the Cross: to obey the will of the Father is to respond to the deepest human need. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

L: For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, for the bishops, priests, deacons, for those in consecrated life and for all those who are entrusted with the care and administration of the church as People of God: that they may continue

to strive to inculturate the Gospel Message so that cultures may become hotbeds of liberation and Jesus Christ may be worshiped as Lord and Savior, Food and Drink for Eternal Life. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

L: For world leaders and all those entrusted with governance and administration of the goods of the earth: that they make laws, policies and structures that respond to the deepest human needs: land and space for everyone, housing and homes for people and their loved ones, work and decent living wages for all, especially the youth. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

L: For all of us, inhabitants of the earth and citizens of heaven: that we may live our lives according to the values of the new life lived in common by promoting and living the alternative wisdom of a fuller humanity, based on the centrality of the human person and creation, rather than the logic of the world characterized by moral decadence due to the idolatry of money, an economy that excludes and creates the poor, a culture that throws away anyone who is unproductive like children, the sick and the elderly. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

L: For our beloved dead: that in the forgiveness of their sins, they may find eternal rest in the heart of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

L: For our special intentions, in the silence of our hearts. (*pause*)... Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us inculturate the Good News.

P: Lord, these are the prayers we present to you today. In this ordinary time, help us to love you and know you more, by encountering you alive in our lives and in creation, yesterday, today and tomorrow. Make us embrace the cause of Jesus' crucifixion by unselfishly responding to the deepest genuine human need and so be worthy to partake of his flesh and blood for eternal life. Mold us to become the gentle but firm hearts of your heart in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

P: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,

C: Blessed be God forever.

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

C: 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: Receive our oblation, O Lord, by which is brought about a glorious exchange, that, by offering what you have given, we may merit to receive your very self. Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Eucharist

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And with your spirit.*

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

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

C: *It is right and just.*

P: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For out of compassion for the waywardness that is ours, he humbled himself and was born of the Virgin; by the passion of the Cross he freed us from unending death, and by rising from the dead he gave us life eternal.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

A: 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.

Acclamation

P: The mystery of faith.

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

(Concluding the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest says:)

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

C: *Amen.*

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

Doxology

C: For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

Sign of Peace

P: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles; Peace ... Who live and reign for ever and ever.

C: *Amen.*

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

C: *And with your spirit.*

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

Breaking of the Bread

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

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.

A: 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 130 (129): 7)

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray: Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments, we humbly implore your mercy, Lord, that, conformed to his image on earth, we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Final Blessing

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Bow down for the blessing: Bestow the grace of your kindness upon your supplicant people, O Lord, that, formed by you, their creator, and restored by your, their sustainer, through your constant action they may be saved. Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: And may the blessings of almighty God, + the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace.

C: Thanks be to God. ■

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