



**Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
HOME MISSION SUNDAY: 20 SEPTEMBER 2015**

LITURGICAL MATERIALS

Supporting the work of evangelisation in England and Wales

INTRODUCTION TO MASS

Today is Home Mission Sunday – the day annually when we are invited to pray for and support the Church's work of Evangelisation in England and Wales.

The theme this year is *PROCLAIM: God's Mercy*. We are invited to respond in a new way to the invitation to proclaim and share our faith more joyfully and confidently in our homes, parish and local area. We are also invited to consider afresh how we might present the 'balm of God's mercy' to others, in response to Pope Francis' announcement that there be a Jubilee Year of Mercy, starting in December.

**Prayers of the Faithful for Home Mission Sunday
20 September 2015 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Priest

Let us pray for the wisdom and the grace we need to grow together as a community, which is able to go forth as missionary disciples into the world to proclaim God's mercy.

Reader

As we celebrate Home Mission Sunday, let us pray for all those involved in the work of evangelisation in England and Wales.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for parents, teachers, catechists, clergy and religious.

May God inspire them as they pass on the faith, especially with the young.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those who brought us to know and love Jesus Christ.

May God reward them, and help us to be like them in sharing our faith.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our parish.

We ask God to bless all who come here, especially those whose visits are rare. May we all learn to see the world around us as Jesus Christ sees it, and may He make us instruments of His mercy to all who need it.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who are suffering in any way.

May God heal the sick, comfort the homeless and the bereaved, and lighten the burden of people here today who carry a cross the rest of us cannot see.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

Let us ask Mary, the Mother of God, to pray for us:

Hail, Mary.

Let us pray silently for a few moments.

Priest

Heavenly Father,

We ask you to pour out your Holy Spirit on our community,

Help us to become missionary disciples

and so to see with your eyes what our sisters and brothers need.

Make us into a family like the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph,

men, women and children of prayer,

always ready to hear your call and do your will.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

These prayers were written by Mgr Peter Fleetwood.

FOR THE NOTICES

Home Mission Sunday is celebrated today and is themed: PROCLAIM God's Mercy. On this day we are encouraged to pray for the work of evangelisation in England and Wales, remembering in our prayers especially those whom we know are distant from the life of faith. Please support the second collection which funds the bishops' national work of evangelisation and the development of this year's Proclaim '15: Building Missionary Parishes initiative. The collection also ensures that the Catholic Faith Centre is resourced to respond to those who have questions about the Catholic Faith. Commemorative prayer cards are available to take away. Please support the work of Home Mission through your prayers and generosity. God bless you and thank you.

MASS READINGS FOR HOME MISSION SUNDAY

Please visit: <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Sunday/OT5Sunday.shtml#OT25>

Thank you for your support and God bless you.

Bishops' Conference Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis

Home Mission Sunday is resourced by the Bishops' Conference, Home Mission Desk, in service of the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis. Email: **proclaim15@cbcew.org.uk**