



Mary of Magdala, ECC September 26, 2021 -

Celebrating the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - In Sanctuary and on Zoom

Participants at home may wish to prepare their home worship space with a lit candle
and the food and drink to be remotely shared.

Announcements Lector Matt Chavez

BLM/Social Justice reflection Tom Moos, Chair Social Justice Ministry

(Pause to hold this message in our hearts.)

Entrance Song (please join in singing)

Come, Lord Jesus

Refrain

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Come and fill my heart with your life.

Hold me close, Lord, hold me tight,
and come, Lord Jesus, come.

1. Where there's despair in life, Lord,
let me be your voice of hope.
Where there's injury, Lord,

let me be your voice of peace.

2. Where there is sadness
let me be your comfort and your joy.
When there's fear in our hearts
let me be a sign of faith.

Verses text based on a prayer ascr. to St. Francis of Assisi, ca. 1182–
1226. Text and music © 1997, Steve Angrisano and Thomas N.
Tomaszek. Published by Spirit & Song, a division of OCP, 5536 NE
Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved....

Greeting Father Michael Nicosia

In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

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

All: And also with you.

Penitential Rite – Father Michael Nicosia

Last Sunday the Church anointed a new bishop.
The bishops of our Communion laid hands upon
our sister Kae and the people of God prayed that
the Holy Spirit empower her for the ministry
before her.

One of our sacred texts recounts how the job of
guiding God's people was too great a task for
Moses alone, so a share of that Spirit was given
to the elders of the community. As the story
goes, if Moses had had his way, all the people
would be so empowered.

Let us pause for a moment to recall the times we,
who receive that Spirit in the Sacraments we
celebrate, have been slow to exercise the
ministry that is ours as members of the Body of
Christ.

Holy One, you are the God of Liberation
who calls us to be a people of liberation.
When we are not, have mercy on us. **All: Have
mercy on us.**

Compassionate One, you are aware of every
need and call us to such awareness. When we



see not, have mercy on us. **All: Have mercy on us.**

Just One, you established the Law and sent your Prophets to help us live together well. When we do not, have mercy on us. **All: Have mercy on us.**

Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

Let us sing our praises to our God.

May the God of Moses, Aaron and Miriam have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, ✠ and bring us to life everlasting. **All: Amen**

Glory to God – *(please join in singing)*

Mass of the Desert

Refrain

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

Text © 2010, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music © 2011, Tom Booth. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Opening Prayer – *Father Michael Nicosia*

Let us pray

God of Liberation, in your unbounded
compassion and mercy you have repeated your
challenge throughout the ages that our eyes and
hearts might be open to the needs of the most
vulnerable in our midst.

Continue to challenge us to love and empower us
through Jesus Christ, your Son and our brother,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and works
in our midst, now and forever.

ALL: Amen

Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

Now let us joyfully listen to the Word of God, the Good News, in our midst.

Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading - *The Birth of a Prophet* by Macrina Wiederkehr, from *Seasons of Your Heart* - Lector Matt Chavez

The Moses in my heart trembles
not quite willing
to accept the prophet hidden in my being
wondering how much it will cost
to allow that prophet to emerge.

O child of unnecessary shoes
cast them off
and stand in readiness
on this holy ground.



For the Egypt in people's lives
demands that you see the burning bushes
all around you
aflame burning wildly
calling you
away from the comfort
of well-protected feet.

The ground you stand on is holy.

Take off your shoes!
The ground of your being is holy.
Take off your shoes!
Awaken your sleeping prophet
Believe in your Moses
and go. . .

Words inspired by God.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 19 – *Lector Matt Chavez*

The response is: The wisdom of God refreshes the soul.

All: The wisdom of God refreshes the soul.

The heavens themselves sing of God's glory!
Fertile darkness gives birth to the divine dance!
Day unto day proclamations ring out.
Night unto night wisdom is revealed.
Their music resounds through all the earth,
their words, to the ends of the world.

R:/ The wisdom of God refreshes the soul.

This Wisdom of God is all-embracing, refreshing the soul. The precepts of God are sure, making wise the simple. The words of God are true.

All of them are just, good and right.

R:/ The wisdom of God refreshes the soul.

Your wisdom, O God, is more desirable than gold,
than a treasure of pure gold; Sweeter also than
honey, and drippings of honeycomb.

R:/ The wisdom of God refreshes the soul.

May the words of our mouths, and the thoughts
of our hearts, be sweet and pleasing to You, O
God, our Source, our All.

R:/ The wisdom of God refreshes the soul.

The Second Reading from Ephesians 4. 7, 11-16 – *Lector Cindy Cloyd*

Sisters and Brothers,
Grace was given to each of us according to the
measure of Christ's gift. .some of us as apostles,
others as prophets, others as evangelists, others
as pastors and teachers.

Each helps to equip the holy ones for the work of
ministry, the building up the body of Christ,
until we all attain the unity of faith
and knowledge of God's Chosen One,
maturing into the fullness of humanity.

For we are not infants, tossed by waves
and swept by every wind of teaching arising from
deceitful interests.

Living the truth in love, we should grow in every
way into the one who is the head, the Christ.

In Christ, the whole body is joined and held
together by every supporting ligament.
The proper functioning of each part brings about
the body's growth and builds itself up in Love.

Hear what the Spirit is speaking to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God



Gospel Acclamation – Join in singing

Mass of the Desert

Refrain

Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

6. Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

Text: Verses 1, 2, 3, 7 © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved.
Used with permission. Verses 4, 5, 6 © 1970, 1997, 1998, CCD. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music © 2011, Tom Booth.
Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Gospel Reading – Mark 9. 14-29, 38-41- Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

God is with you. **All: And also with you.**

A reading from the holy gospel attributed to Mark. **All: Glory to you, O God**

After Peter, James, and John experienced Jesus transfigured, they came down from the mountain. When they rejoined the others, they saw that a large crowd had gathered around the disciples. Some religious scholars were debating with them.

Immediately, when the crowds saw Jesus, they ran to greet him. He asked, “What are you arguing about?” Someone from the crowd answered, “Sir, I brought to you my child who has a mute spirit. Whenever the spirit comes, it seizes my child, and dashes the body to the ground. The poor child grinds teeth, foams at the mouth, and goes rigid.

I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they couldn’t.” Jesus said to the disciples, “You faithless generation! How much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring the child to me.” So they did.

Immediately, the mute spirit threw the child into convulsions. Falling to the ground, the child writhed and foamed at the mouth. Jesus asked, “How long has this been happening?” The parent responded, “From infancy. It has often thrown our child into the fire, and into the water, with one end in mind: death. If you are able to do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

“If you are able!” retorted Jesus.

“All things can be done for those who believe.”

Immediately, the parent cried out, “I believe. Help my unbelief.”

Seeing that crowds were coming, Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, saying, “You! Spirit that keeps this child from speaking and hearing! I command you—come out, and never again return!” After shouting and convulsing the child terribly, the spirit came out.

The child looked like a corpse, so that most of them said, “Your child is dead.” Taking the child’s hand in his own, Jesus raised the child, who was able to stand. When Jesus had returned to the house where they all were staying, the disciples asked him in private, “Why couldn’t we drive the spirit out?” Jesus said to them, “This kind can only come out through prayer and fasting.”

... Sometime later, John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name. We tried to stop them since they’re not one of us.” Jesus responded, “Do not stop such a one! No one who does a powerful act of compassion in my name can, in the next moment, say anything ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in my name, because you follow the Christ, will not lose God’s gratitude.” The Good News of Jesus our Christ.

All: Praise to you, Jesus, our Christ.



Homily “engagement matters” *Father Michael Nicosia*

Our Truth

All: We believe in God, our Mother out-pouring, our Father uniting, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and yet to be revealed.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word eternally spoken by God, our brother and teacher, through whom all things were made and hold together.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became fully human. For the sake of the truth he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; and on the third day rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven yet remains active in our midst.

He will come again in glory to unite the living

and the dead, and our communion with him will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the spirit of truth and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son as the dynamic expression of their relationship and channel of their love.

With the Father and the Son, She is worshiped and glorified. We believe in the ways She unites us: through her prophetic challenge, through the Body of Christ, the Church, in our shared baptism, in our sacrifices on behalf of others, in our hope in the resurrection, and in the fulfillment of God’s promise in eternity. Amen.

(Fr. Michael J. Nicosia © 2020)

Prayers of the People

Father Michael Nicosia

God has given each of us a share in the Holy Spirit, that we might be empowered to meet the many needs of our diverse community. We continue our ministry now in prayer.

Lector Cindy Cloyd

Our response is: Loving God, Receive our prayers. **All: Loving God, Receive our prayers.**

For the Rocky Mountain Region of the ECC, that all our communities may welcome our first Bishop Kae Madden with open hearts, open minds, and open spirits so our communities may deepen in faith, we pray, **Response: Loving God receive our prayers.**

For the people of Afghanistan, especially the women, that their voices may be heard and respected by the new government and not be

oppressed, we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

For all those harvesting crops at this time of year, that their farms will yield a good harvest and that the food they provide be received gratefully and paid for equitably, we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

I will now read the prayer requests our members have written. Kerrie will read the prayers from our members on Zoom. we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

And for those on our Prayer List and all the prayers held in our hearts, we pray,



Loving God, Receive our prayers.

Father Michael Nicosia

God of compassion and care, by invoking the name of your Son we are able to perform deeds of power in the lives of those in need. Increase our awareness by these prayers that we may share in his mission of liberation and love. We ask this through Christ, who works for us and through us. **All: Amen**

Sign of Peace

Father Michael Nicosia

Jesus, our Christ, you said to your apostles, “I leave you peace, my peace I give you.” Such a gift heals relationships and empowers our service to one another. Look not on our sins but on the faith of your church, and grant us the peace and unity of your Kin-dom where you live forever and ever. **All: Amen.**

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

Virtually and in the sanctuary, let us share with one another a sign of Christ’s peace.

Preparation of our Tables

Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

As we prepare our tables, offering food and drink here and in our homes, we are reminded that our offerings of time, talent and treasure sustain the mission of God’s Church. Continue to give as you

are called and able. The offertory basket is here in front of the altar for any offering you may have.

Offertory Song *(please join in singing)*

Christ in Me Arise

Refrain

Christ in me arise and dispel all the darkness.
Christ in me arise with your power and your strength.
Christ in me pour out your blessing and healing.
Christ in me arise and I shall rise with you.

1. Be now my vision; open these eyes,
showing me all that I must see.
Onward to the kingdom, you are the way.
Arise in me and I shall rise with you.

2. Be now my footsteps, leading the way,
taking me where I must go.
Onward to the kingdom, you are the way.
Arise in me and I shall rise with you.

Bridge

You know my heart and you know my ways,
you who formed me in my mother’s womb.
I live and move in you, my whole being thrives in you.

Final Refrain

Christ in me arise and dispel all the darkness.
Christ in me arise with your power and your strength.

Christ in me pour out your blessing and healing.
Christ in me arise and I shall rise with you.
Christ in me arise, Christ in me arise,
Christ in me arise and I shall rise with you.



Eucharistic Prayer - Father Michael Nicosia

The following is said during the offertory song

Blessed are you, Loving God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to
offer which earth has given and human hands
have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever.

Dcn. Pastor Rosean:

By the mystery of this water ✠ and wine
may we come to share in the divinity of Christ,
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Blessed are you, Loving God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to
offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God
forever**

The Washing of Hands

God, we ask you to receive us and to be pleased
with the sacrifice we offer you with humble and
contrite hearts. God, wash away my iniquity;
cleanse me from my sin.

Prayer Over the Gifts - Father Michael Nicosia

Pray, my siblings in Christ, that our sacrifice
may be acceptable to God.

**All: May God accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of God's name, for our
good, and the good of all the Church.**

God of mercy, accept our offering and make it a
source of blessing for us and for our world. We
ask this in the name of Jesus our brother.

Preface of the Holy Spirit - Father Michael Nicosia

© Liturgical Commission of the Catholic Diocese of the Old Catholics in Germany 1995, adapted

God is with you
Lift your hearts
Let us give thanks to our loving God

All: And also with you.
All: We lift them up to God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, and a good and joyful thing, to
praise you, eternal Father/Mother God, always
and everywhere through Jesus Christ.

You have called the Church from among all
peoples and have kept it by your Holy Spirit up to
this very day. You do not cease to call all of us to
the unity of the Spirit [and the work of your just
Reign].

Therefore we praise your mercy now and
forever, joining the choirs of angels in praising
your glory:

Holy – *(Please join in singing)*
Mass of the Desert

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God,
Lord God, Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**



**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Text © 2010, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music © 2011, Tom Booth. Published by OCP. All rights reserved

We commit ourselves to the community of faith in which this song resonates, calling upon You, most merciful God, to send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon the offerings we have set before You.

Bless ✠ these gifts that they may become for us the body and blood of your Anointed One — indeed, the bread of life and the cup of ever-deepening awareness.

United to him we gather near and far, to remember what Jesus did at table and in life, foreshadowing the self-gift that was his death.

Jesus took bread, gave you thanks and praise, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples saying:

**All: Take this, all of you, and eat it.
This is my body, which will be given up for you.**

When the supper was ended, he took the cup of wine. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to the disciples, and said:

All: Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this, in memory of me.

Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation— *(Please join in singing)*
When we Eat this Bread *Mass of the Desert*

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

Text © 2010, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music © 2011, Tom Booth. Published by OCP. All rights reserved..

Father Michael Nicosia

Loving God, we celebrate the memory of Christ, your Son, and, having entered into his challenge, death and resurrection, and gifted with the Holy Spirit, we are readied for the work of ministry, the building up the body of Christ.

While we ask you to remember all our siblings of many faiths and spiritual paths, who each bring their own insights and blessings to our world, remember, too, your Church, united across the miles.

Make us grow in love, together with all who have heard and follow the calling handed down to us from the Apostles.

Bless especially our 301 Faith Partners for, in Christ, the whole body is joined and held together by every supporting ligament.

Continue to empower us as laypersons, deacons and priests for the special ministry given to the Body of Christ, praying especially for its local incarnation, in union with our local bishops, Kae, Kym and Jim.

Remember, O God, Michael Six's father Leo and all those who have died ...

Welcome them into your glorious presence with Mary, your Mother, our patron Mary of Magdala, and all your apostles, martyrs, and saints as they enjoy the fullness of your embrace in heaven.

All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, All Loving God, forever and ever

AMEN - *(Join in singing)*
Mass of the Desert

Amen, amen, amen.

Music © 2011, Tom Booth. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.



The Prayer of Jesus

Father Michael Nicosia

Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

All: Abba/Amma, God who are in heaven, holy is your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we

forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

The Shared Table - *Father Michael Nicosia*

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are we who are called to this supper.

All: Jesus, our Christ, I am worthy to receive you, because you have said the Word and I am healed

As we partake of the sustenance laid before us, let us affirm together:

All: In this we are a Eucharistic People, the Body of Christ incarnate, the Blood of Christ poured out for the life of the world. Amen.

Invitation to Communion – *Father Michael Nicosia*

And so we commit ourselves to the community of faith in which this wonder unfolds.
May the mystery of our participation in this sacred mystery enliven our faith, inspire our service, and incarnate God's Compassionate Love wherever we may be.

This food from God is offered to the people of God, without exception. All are welcome, here and virtually at this banquet of Love. Let your hunger be satisfied

May all who choose, enjoy bread and wine at your own table-altar!

Communion Song – *(please join in singing)*

The Summons

1. Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?



4. Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,

Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Text: 76 76 77 76; John L. Bell, © 1987, The Iona Community. All rights reserved. Used with permission of GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent. Music: Trad. Scottish melody.

Prayer after Communion and Blessing-

Co-Pastor Rosean Amaral
Let us pray

Father Michael Nicosia

God of Moses and all the prophets, we have
opened our ears to hear your words of challenge
and our mouths to receive the Bread of Life and
the Cup of Salvation. Open our eyes to the
burning bushes in our lives and all around us,
and our mouths to make a difference in our

church and our world. All in the name of Jesus, to
your honor and glory, now and for evermore.

All: Amen.

God is with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

May almighty God bless you: the Source and
Ground of All-Being, the Eternal Word ✠ and the
Holy Spirit

Dismissal

Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

The Mass is ended; go in peace to love and serve God and one other

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song (please join in singing)

Can We Love?

Refrain
Can we love?
Can we lay down our lives?
Can we wear his crown of thorns?
Can we drink the cup that He drinks?
We must lay down our lives!

1. It's more than raising our hands,
it's more than singing this song.
It's saying "yes" to the Giver of life,
it's righting the ways that are wrong! **(to Refrain)**

2. It's more than shouting God's name,
it's more than singing His praise.
It's bringing forgiveness to injury's wound,
and hope to those imprisoned by shame. **(to Refrain)**

3. Loving the Lord our God
with all our heart, mind and soul,
loving our neighbor as ourselves,
the kingdom of love we will know! **((to Refrain))**

© 2007, Tom Booth. Published by Spirit & Song, a division of OCP. All rights reserved.