

**Service at Home for those unable to attend Mass.  
TWENTY EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**PREPARATION:**

- Comfortable seating, place in a semicircle if possible.
- A table with a candle, crucifix or image of Jesus,
- Identify family members who will proclaim the Scripture and perhaps give a brief reflection.
- Select 2 or 3 hymns that everyone knows

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

**ALL:** Amen

**LEADER:** “In truth I tell you once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I am there among them.” (*Mt: 18:19-20*)

*The Candle is now lit*

**LEADER:** Instead of the joys of an honest life we choose at times the sadness of sin. Let us ask the Lord to forgive us. (PAUSE)

**LEADER:** Lord Jesus; you offer us the joy of forgiveness and acceptance and love:  
Lord, have mercy.

**ALL:** Lord, have mercy.

**LEADER:** Christ Jesus; in the name of the Father you came to invite us to the everlasting wedding feast of the Kingdom: Christ, have mercy.

**ALL:** Christ, have mercy.

**LEADER:** Lord Jesus; you invite to your feast of love the weak and the humble with the strong and the healthy: Lord, have mercy.

**ALL:** Lord, have mercy.

**LEADER:** Have mercy on us, Lord; free us from the shame and sorrow of sin. Keep us in your caring love and welcome us to the everlasting banquet of heaven.

**ALL:** Amen.

**LEADER:** Let us Pray: Lord God, our Father, we come together here as a family to rejoice in Jesus, our Saviour. Let this gathering remain the sign of the feast without end which you have prepared for us. Make us rejoice with you and welcome all with open arms, the poor and the rich, the weak and the strong. Make all accept your invitation, that we may rejoice with all in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**ALL:** Amen.

**READINGS –**

1st Reading is taken from Isaiah 25:6-10

Responsorial Psalm 22

2nd Reading is taken from Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

GOSPEL is taken from Matthew 22:1-14

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. “Tell those who have been invited” he said “that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed

those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

### **The Gospel of the Lord**

*A Short Reflection can be given or a period of silent reflection*

### **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:**

**LEADER:** Let us bring before the Father our needs and the needs of our sisters and brothers, especially those who live on the margins of society.

*Family members are invited to make their petitions.*

### **LORD’S PRAYER:**

**LEADER:** We accept the invitation of Jesus our Lord to pray with him to our Father in heaven:

**ALL:** Our Father.....

**LEADER:** Jesus invites us to his banquet table. Though we cannot receive him in Holy Communion today let us invite him into our hearts as we pray the Act of Spiritual Communion

### **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:**

**ALL:** My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

**LEADER:** Let us pray: Lord, our faithful God, thank you for your invitation to feast on your Word in the presence of Jesus our Saviour. May the Holy Spirit be our companion as we journey along the road of life. May we go on believing in the unexpected and making the impossible come true: a world of justice and love, until you gather us around the table of your feast that lasts forever.

**ALL:** Amen

### **BLESSING:**

**LEADER:** May the Father remove all our sadness

**ALL:** Amen.

**LEADER:** May the Son fill us with joy.

**ALL:** Amen

**LEADER:** May the Holy Spirit lead us safely to God’s house

**ALL:** Amen

**LEADER:** And may Almighty God bless us and keep us: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

**ALL:** Amen.