

# Australia Day Mass

## 26 January 2023

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### First Reading

Isaiah 32:15-18

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The effect of justice will be peace.*

Once more there will be poured on us  
the spirit from above;  
then shall the wilderness be fertile land;  
and fertile land become forest.

In the wilderness justice will come to live  
and integrity in the fertile land;  
integrity will bring peace,  
justice give lasting security.

My people will live in a peaceful home,  
in safe houses,  
in quiet dwellings.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14

**R. The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

## Second Reading

Romans 12:9-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Work for the Lord earnestly.*

Do not let your love be a pretence, but sincerely prefer good to evil. Love each other as much as brothers and sisters should, and have a profound respect for each other. Work for the Lord with untiring effort and with great earnestness of spirit. If you have hope, this will make you cheerful. Do not give up if trials come; and keep on praying. If any of the saints are in need you must share with them; and you should make hospitality your special care.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:9

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called children of God.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*

Jesus began to speak to the crowds. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:  
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown them.  
Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.  
Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called sons of God.  
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

