

### COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who wonderfully created us in your  
own image  
and yet more wonderfully restored  
us  
through your Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as he came to share in  
our humanity,  
so we may share the life of his  
divinity;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my  
God; for he has clothed me with  
the garments of salvation, he  
has covered me with the robe of  
righteousness, as a bridegroom  
decks himself with a garland, and  
as a bride adorns herself with her  
jewels. For as the earth brings  
forth its shoots, and as a garden  
causes what is sown in it to spring  
up, so the Lord GOD will cause  
righteousness and praise to spring  
up before all the nations. For Zion's  
sake I will not keep silent, and for  
Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like  
the dawn, and her salvation like a  
burning torch. The nations shall see  
your vindication, and all the kings  
your glory; and you shall be called  
by a new name that the mouth of  
the LORD will give. You shall be a  
crown of beauty in the hand of the  
LORD, and a royal diadem in the  
hand of your God.

**PSALM Psalm 148 (or 148:7-end)**

**R** Praise, O praise the name of the  
Lord.

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise him in the heights.  
Praise him, all you his angels;  
praise him, all his host. **R**

Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you stars of light.  
Praise him, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens. **R**

Let them praise the name of the  
Lord;  
for he commanded and they were  
created.  
He made them fast for ever and  
ever;  
he gave them a law which shall not  
pass away. **R**

Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;  
Fire and hail, snow and mist,  
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his  
word;  
Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;  
Wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and birds on the  
wing; **R**

Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;  
Young men and women,  
old and young together;  
let them praise the name of the  
Lord. **R**

For his name only is exalted,  
his splendour above earth and  
heaven.

He has raised up the horn of his  
people  
and praise for all his faithful  
servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who  
are near him.

Alleluia. **R**

### SECOND READING

**Galatians 4:4-7**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.*

When the fullness of time had  
come, God sent his Son, born of a  
woman, born under the law, in order

to redeem those who were under  
the law, so that we might receive  
adoption as children. And because  
you are children, God has sent the  
Spirit of his Son into our hearts,  
crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are  
no longer a slave but a child, and  
if a child then also an heir, through  
God.

### GOSPEL Luke 2:15-21

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

When the angels had left them and  
gone into heaven, the shepherds  
said to one another, "Let us go now  
to Bethlehem and see this thing  
that has taken place, which the Lord  
has made known to us." So they  
went with haste and found Mary  
and Joseph, and the child lying in  
the manger. When they saw this,  
they made known what had been  
told them about this child; and  
all who heard it were amazed at  
what the shepherds told them. But  
Mary treasured all these words and  
pondered them in her heart. The  
shepherds returned, glorifying and  
praising God for all they had heard  
and seen, as it had been told them.  
After eight days had passed, it was  
time to circumcise the child; and he  
was called Jesus, the name given by  
the angel before he was conceived  
in the womb.

### POST COMMUNION

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son shared at  
Nazareth the life of an earthly  
home:  
help your Church to live as one  
family,  
united in love and obedience,  
and bring us all at last to our home  
in heaven;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.