

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life, and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered.

COLLECT

O God, who willed that your Only Begotten Son should undergo the Cross to save the human race, grant, we pray, that we, who have known his mystery on earth, may merit the grace of his redemption in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

The FIRST READING: Numbers 21 – 4 - 9

They left Mount Hor by the road to the Sea of Suph, to skirt round Edom. On the way the people lost patience.

They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in the desert? For there is neither food nor water here; we are sick of this meagre diet.'

At this, God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel.

The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against Yahweh and against you. Intercede for us with Yahweh to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people,

and Yahweh replied, 'Make a fiery serpent and raise it as a standard. Anyone who is bitten and looks at it will survive.'

Moses then made a serpent out of bronze and raised it as a standard, and anyone who was bitten by a serpent and looked at the bronze serpent survived.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD – THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 77:1-2, 34-38 R v7

R. Never forget, never forget the deeds of the Lord

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching
tun your ear to the words of my mouth
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past. **R**
2. When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their
rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. **R**
3. But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. **R**
4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his
rage. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 2: 6 – 11

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage,

Rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross!

Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD – THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia

GOSPEL – John 3: 13 – 17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

"No one has gone up to heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, in order that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may attain eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, O Lord, which on the altar of the Cross, cancelled the offence of the whole world, cleanse us, we pray, of all our sins.

Through Christ our Lord – **AMEN**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**When I am lifted up from the earth,
I will draw everyone to myself, says the Lord.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having been nourished by your holy banquet, we beseech you, Lord Jesus Christ, to bring those you have redeemed by the wood of your life-giving Cross to the glory of the resurrection. Who live and reign for ever and ever - **AMEN**