

**Opening Prayer:**

Fr Chris will say opening Prayer

**All:** Amen

(Please sit)

**First Reading: A reading from the  
Song of Songs 2:8-10,14,16; 8:6-7a**

I hear my Beloved.  
See how he comes  
leaping on the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My Beloved is like a gazelle,  
like a young stag.  
See where he stands  
behind our wall.  
He looks in at the windows,  
He peers through the lattice.

My beloved lifts up his voice,  
he says to me,  
'Come here, my love,  
my lovely one, come.  
My dove, hiding in the clefts of the rock.  
In the covert of the cliff,  
Show me your face, let me hear your voice;  
for your voice is sweet,  
and your face is beautiful.'

My beloved is mine and I am his.  
Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal on your arm.  
For love is strong as Death,  
Jealousy relentless as Sheol.  
The flash of it is a flash of fire,  
a flame of the Lord himself.  
Love no flood can quench, no torrents drown.

The word of the lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 32 (Ps 32:12,18,20-22, R: v.5)**

**All: Response: The Lord fills the earth with his love.**

They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own.  
The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love.  
(Response)

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. In him do  
our hearts find joy. We trust in his holy name.  
(Response)

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.  
(Response)

## **Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

**12:31-13:8a**

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better  
than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply  
a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding  
all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its  
fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give  
away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn  
it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or  
conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful.  
Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always  
ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not  
come to an end.

The word of the Lord.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God

(Please Stand)

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia Alleluia!

God is love; let us love one another as God has loved us.

Alleluia!

## **Reading From the Gospel**

### **Mark 10:6-9**

Fr Chris: The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your Spirit.

Fr Chris: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said:

“From the beginning of creation,

God made them male and female.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother

and be joined to his wife,

and the two shall become one flesh.

So they are no longer two but one flesh.

Therefore what God has joined together,

no human being must separate.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

(Please Sit)

## **Homily**

By Fr Chris

(Please Stand)

**Hymm: Give Me Joy in my Heart**

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,  
Give me joy in my heart, I pray,  
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,  
Keep me praising 'till the break of day.

**(Refrain)**

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!  
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
Sing hosanna to the King.

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,  
Give me peace in my heart, I pray,  
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,  
Keep me resting 'till the break of day.

**(Refrain)**

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
Give me love in my heart, I pray,  
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
Keep me serving 'till the break of day.

**(Refrain)**