

A DOSE OF GOD TODAY

Eucharist | Prayers | Readings | Reflections

Each of us is also a product of our vast family history. It is not that we are doomed and chained by the past, but we are being enriched by a vast history. Our families have our own history of both joys and sorrows, failures and successes, of horrors and victories.

Our family history tells us who we are and it is part of our identity. Hence, it is also very important that we become in touch with our own family history and see how God works within our story. Besides, knowing our family history, this will be an opportunity for us to allow God to heal our broken and painful past present in our family history.

Let me bring you now on how God works within a human family and how God reveals the Divine Plan in the family history of the whole humanity. The first reading from the Book of Genesis tells us how Jacob called his sons and bestowed the blessing to Judah the fourth son. The blessing also contains the prophecy of the rise of a King, in the person of David, the very lineage of Jesus claimed in the Gospel of Matthew.

This family of Jacob was not guiltless. The lineage had stories of repeated unfaithfulness and scandalous personalities. Jesus' lineage is not perfect and not wholesome at all. In fact, Judah sold his own brother, Joseph for money. There was King David who raped Bathsheba and then later ordered to murder her husband. There was Rahab, who was a prostitute. There was King Ahaz who burned his own son alive as a human sacrifice. There was another King, Joash, who committed idolatry against Yahweh and murdered the people in the Temple area. And there was the

once revered King Solomon who built the Temple of God but later on, turned to be unfaithful to God by turning to the gods and goddesses of his many wives.

In this kind of family history, is there any good news here, when, in fact, Jesus did not come from a "good" and "blameless" family?

Despite the unfaithfulness and guilt within this family history, God never wavered His plan to make something good, wonderful and beautiful in this family. The Gospel of Matthew that has been proclaimed to us today, contained a long list of generations until the birth of Jesus.

Matthew recorded the family tree of Jesus with 42 generations divided into three, that makes it 14. 14 is the equivalent of two 7. Seven is a perfect number in Jewish belief. And the repeated use of 7

means that God works in this human family in an absolutely perfect way. The family tree though not perfect but with traces of sins and unfaithfulness, God works within this human family to bring healing and life.



The family tree of Jesus is God's statement to us that God indeed journeyed with us, in all our humanity, in all our

sins and unfaithfulness. Jesus, being born in a human family, tells us that God fully embraces our humanity. With our imperfection, God made it to be the very space for us to encounter him and to know him.

This calls us now to own and recognize the gift of our family. Some of us must have been traumatized

and carrying deep wounds because of what happened in our family, others could have been divided because of conflict over material possessions, many families are also struggling to live because of so much poverty. And with all of this, God invites us today, that as we recognize our sins and failures, God is also telling us to recognize how God unfolds blessings and graces in our human family.

Let us also ask the Lord to grant healing to our wounded families, to bring healing to any pain and shame that are haunting us until now, healing to broken relationships, and freedom to our hearts and memories imprisoned by anger, hatred and indifference. Hinaut pa.

Jom Baring, CSSR

INTRODUCTION

A Blessed evening/morning, brothers and sisters. God chose to be born in a human family to tell us now how our family also plays a significant part in the story of our salvation. On this second day of our Misa de Aguinaldo, our liturgy invites us to recognize the gift of our family and to ask God to heal the pain and wounds in our family tree.

Let us all stand and offer to the Lord our hymn of praise and thanksgiving.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, O Heavens, and exult, O earth, for our Lord will come to show mercy to his poor. (cf Is 49:13)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

PENITENTIAL ACT

Gloria is sung or recited.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, Almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten son, Lord God, lamb of God, son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

Let us pray. *(pause)*

Creator and Redeemer of the human race, it was your holy will that your WORD should take flesh in the womb of the ever-Virgin Mary. Look with kindness on our prayers and grant that your only Son, who came to share our human nature, may lead us to share in his divine life.

We ask this 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.

FIRST READING

A Reading from Book of Genesis (49:2, 8-10)

Jacob called his sons and said to them: "Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob, listen to Israel, your father. "You, Judah, shall your brothers praise –your hand on the neck of your enemies; the sons of your father shall bow down to you. Judah, like a lion's whelp, you have grown up on prey, my son. He crouches like a lion recumbent, the king of beasts—who would dare rouse him? The scepter shall never depart from Judah, or the mace from between his legs, While tribute is brought to him, and he receives the people's homage."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

72:1-2, 3-4AB, 7-8, 17

**JUSTICE SHALL FLOURISH IN HIS TIME,
AND FULLNESS OF PEACE FOR EVER.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment. **(R.)**

The mountains shall yield peace for the people, and the hills justice. He shall defend the afflicted among the people, save the children of the poor. **(R.)**

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. **(R.)**

May his name be blessed forever; as long as the sun his name shall remain. In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all the

nations shall proclaim his happiness. **(R.)**

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge! Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (1:1-17)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham became the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab. Amminadab became the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of David the king.

David became the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon became the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asaph.

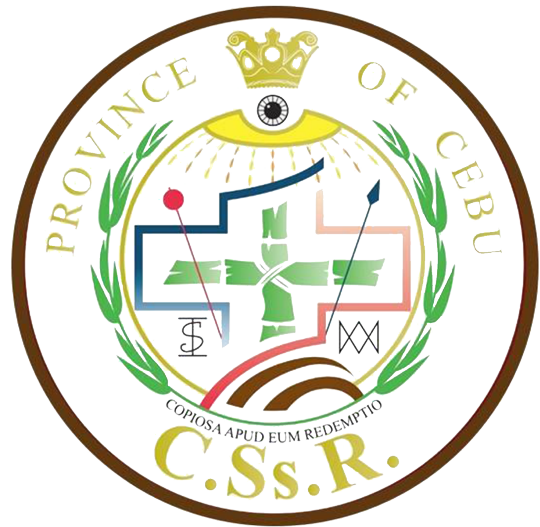
Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat,
 Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,
 Joram the father of Uzziah.
 Uzziah became the father of Jotham,
 Jotham the father of Ahaz,
 Ahaz the father of Hezekiah.
 Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh,
 Manasseh the father of Amos,
 Amos the father of Josiah.
 Josiah became the father of Jechoniah
 and his brothers
 at the time of the Babylonian exile.

After the Babylonian exile,
 Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel,
 Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
 Zerubbabel the father of Abiud.
 Abiud became the father of Eliakim,
 Eliakim the father of Azor,
 Azor the father of Zadok.
 Zadok became the father of Achim,
 Achim the father of Eliud,
 Eliud the father of Eleazar.
 Eleazar became the father of Matthan,
 Matthan the father of Jacob,
 Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband
 of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is
 called the Christ.

Thus the total number of generations
 from Abraham to David is fourteen
 generations; from David to the
 Babylonian exile, fourteen generations;
 from the Babylonian exile to the Christ,
 fourteen generations.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Homily



#RedemptoristMissionaries
#PlentifulRedemption

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

P: Almighty GOD, as you willed that Jesus be incarnated into a human family, bless us now your children, as we raise our petitions to you.

IN YOUR MERCY, BLESS US FATHER.

1. For our Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, that we may grow according to the will of God and become a sacrament of salvation in the world. We pray.
2. For our country, that our leaders may always uphold and protect the values of our families and come to faith to bring healing and aid into our families stricken with disaster and poverty. We pray.
3. For our individual families that we may always find strength, love and understanding and strive to become a family God desires it

to be. We pray.

4. For all of us gathered today on this second day of Misa de Aguinaldo, that our individual petitions and desires of our hearts be granted according to God's will. We pray.

5. For all the faithful departed that in God's mercy, all their sins be forgiven and be permitted to be received in heaven. We pray.

P: Our Loving God, as you have willed to be with us, we truly believe that you have listened to our prayers. Give us now the courage to become the people you want us to be. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

LORD sanctify the gifts of your Church, that through these sacred mysteries our life may be renewed by the true bread from heaven.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE II OF ADVENT

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the Desired of all the nations will come, and the house of the Lord will be filled with joy. (cf. Hg 2:7)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. (pause)

GOD of power, you have fed us with heavenly gifts. Fill us now with this desire: that, aflame with your Spirit, we may shine like stars in the heavens at the coming of Christ your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

Bow down for the blessing.

May God, who through the childbearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary willed in his great kindness to redeem the human race, be pleased to enrich you with his blessing.
R. Amen.

May you know always and everywhere the protection of her, through whom you have been found worthy to receive the author of life.
R. Amen.

May you, who have devoutly gathered on this day, carry away with you the gifts of spiritual joys and heavenly rewards.
R. Amen.

And may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.
R. Amen.

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.