

Mission Mass 2024

Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet



GO AND INVITE
EVERYONE
to the banquet 

PRESIDER:

VENUE:

TIME:



Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet

Checklist of items and personnel required for this Mass:

ITEMS
Coloured fabric and boxes for a focus space with book holders to support laminated photos
Clapping sticks
Photo of the Ger Church
Statue of Our Lady
Photo of the Mongolian flag (or actual flag if it can be sourced)
Photo of Ger
Photo of herd animals as part of the Mongolian culture
Photo of Mongolian landscape
A clear container of water
School candles or banners
Candle/s and lighter/match
Catholic Mission video (can be played at one of two times)
Catholic Mission PowerPoint resource
Computer















GATHERING

Acknowledgement of Country

— *Student Led*

Introducing Mongolia

Student: Welcome to our liturgy for World Mission Month 2024: Our theme is “Go and invite everyone to the Banquet” Today we will celebrate the work of the Church in Mongolia.

Let us create a focus space.

Student: **We bring forward the image of the Ger Church.**

Currently Mongolia has approximately 1,500 Catholics in the country. There are eight parishes, three mission stations (without resident priests), and one other pastoral centre. The Mongolian Catholic Church is young and lives on the periphery.

The image is placed in the focus space.

Student: **We bring forward a statue of our Lady.**

This statue of Our Lady was miraculously discovered in a landfill in the northern region of that country by a Buddhist woman. Pope Francis chose ‘Heavenly Mother’ as the most fitting title, recognising the significance of heaven in Mongolian culture during his visit to Ulaanbaatar in 2023.

The image is placed in the focus space.

Student: We bring forward the flag of Mongolia. It is a vertical triband with a red stripe at each side and a blue stripe in the middle, with the Mongolian Soyombo symbol, the national symbol, centering on the leftmost stripe. The blue stripe represents the eternal blue sky, and the red stripes striving for eternity. The flag represents pride, nationhood, and identity.

The image is placed in the focus space.

Student: We bring forward an image of the ger. The ger is a portable, round tent covered and insulated with skins or felt and traditionally used as a dwelling by several distinct nomadic groups in the steppes and mountains of Inner Asia.

The image is placed in the focus space.

Student: We bring forward an image of animals such as horses, goats, sheep, cattle and camels, that are vital to the lives of the Mongolian people.

The image is placed in the focus space.

Student: Much of Mongolia is home to a vast mountainous plateau, covered in grassland- the Mongolian steppe. The south is dominated by the Gobi Desert, one of the earth's coldest deserts. The climate in Mongolia is challenging with harsh temperatures in summer and winter.

The image is placed in the focus space.

Student: Water is the most important need of living things. Mongolians highly value water, referring to it as ‘chandmani erdene’ (pronounced chand-mani er-dene) or precious.

A jug of water is placed in the focus space.

Student: Student/s are now invited to place their school candles and/or banners around the focus space. The candle reflects the light of Christ.

Candles are placed in the focus space.

Student: That we may be informed of the good work of the Church in Mongolia, let us watch a video presentation prepared by Catholic Mission.

Play the 2024 Socktober Campaign video.

Student: Please stand for our gathering hymn.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Gathering Song

Please stand.

Suggested for Primary Schools: *Gathered as One* – John Burland

Suggested for High Schools: *All Are Welcome* – Jesse Manibusan

[Please find the songs' resource files on ONELICENSE, find the relevant links on our webpage.]

Welcome

Presider: We gather as followers of Jesus called to life and mission.

We gather ... In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Slight pause before proceeding.

Presider: Lord Jesus, you help and support all peoples:

Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Presider: You bring hope to the poor:

Christ, have mercy.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

Presider: You are food for the world:

Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

Generous God, we come today to pray for the many people who work for mission around the world and all who support their efforts. May we open our hearts and respond to your call to bring the Good News to all people. By listening to your Word may we understand more clearly the gift of sharing we are called to be to one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Student: A reading from Isaiah 25: 6-10

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation. ¹⁰ For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain. The Moabites shall be trodden down in their place as straw is trodden down in a dung-pit.

The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Pause in silence for personal reflection on the reading.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 23:1-6

Reader: The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

Response: **The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.**

Reader: He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me
beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in
right paths For his name's sake.

All: **The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.**

Reader: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
For you are with me; Your rod and Your staff they comfort
me.

All: **The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.**

Reader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies, You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

All: **The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.**

Reader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of
my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole
life long.

All: **The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.**

Pause in silence for personal reflection.

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Halle - Marty Haugen

[Please find the song's resource files on GIA Music, find the relevant links on our webpage.]

Gospel

Please remain seated.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your Spirit.**

Presider: A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 22:14

All: **Glory to you O Lord**

Presider: Matthew 22:1-14

22 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.

⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so, the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord

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

Reflection of Gospel

Chorus of *Come to the Banquet* - Josh Blakesly

[Please find the song’s resource files on ONELICENSE, find the relevant links on our webpage.]

Student: The readings today connect with Catholic Mission’s work with the Catholic Community in Mongolia this year. A fledgling church of 1,500 Catholics, they have, like the community in Matthew’s Gospel reflected on the expectation that being a Christian, a Jesus-follower, will make a difference and be obvious in the way they live their lives and reflect their faith to those around them.

Sing a Chorus of *Come to the Banquet*- Curtis Stephan

Student: In the first reading, the feast in Isaiah is noteworthy for several reasons. First, it is prepared by God himself. How typical of God! God meets us in food and drink, even as we meet each other over meals. Second, God isn’t content

with a simple meal here. No, what God has done calls for a “feast of rich food.” And the prophet is specific—the best of meats and the finest aged wines. Third, “his people” include “all peoples” and “all nations.” This is not a feast reserved only for God’s chosen nation of Israel. It is for everyone, of whatever national or ethnic group.

Sing a Chorus of *Come to the Banquet*- Curtis Stephan

Student:

In today’s Gospel, ‘The Wedding Feast’, we, all of us, are *invited by God*. But a wedding banquet requires time and commitment on our part it requires a “yes” to go, to go to the Lord’s invitation. He invites, but he leaves us free. Let us ask ourselves, then how do I respond to God’s invitations? What space do I give him in my days? Does the quality of my life depend on my affairs and my free time, or on love for the Lord and for my friends and family, especially those most in need? Let us ask ourselves this. May Mary, who with her “yes” made room for God, help us not to be deaf to his invitations.

Sing a Chorus of *Come to the Banquet*- Curtis Stephan

Homily

Prayers of intercession

Presider:

As a community of God, called to be merciful, let us turn to God in prayer, asking for his grace to always welcome and show love to our neighbours.

Student: Loving God we pray for the Church in Mongolia, that it will continue to work in harmony with its culture and people. May it whisper the Gospel to the heart of Asia.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Student: Loving God we pray for Pope Francis, that he will continue to lead the world towards, mercy, tenderness, healing, peace, and security.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Student: Loving God, we pray for our world leaders. That they may heed upon the urgency of climate change, and work towards creating a brighter and more sustainable world for future generations.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Student: Loving God, we pray for peace in our world. Guide our hearts to stand up against the injustices of the world. Strengthen us to stand in solidarity with all peoples experiencing injustices. Give us the courage to build your kingdom, following in Christ's footsteps to be the voice of the voiceless, acting when there is a need.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Staff: Loving God, we pray for First Nations peoples, the traditional custodians of this land, and thank them for caring for your precious creation. May we learn from their wisdom, working towards a sustainable future where the land is nurtured, respected, and shared by all.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Staff: Loving God, we pray for the children/youth of the world. That they may grow to be just leaders, inspired by your Son Jesus to bring about your kingdom on earth.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: God of all people, fill our hearts with your Holy Spirit that we will act justly to rid our world of all that harms our brothers and sisters. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Reflection song:

Suggested song: *The Feast Meant for Everyone* – Sarah Hart & Tom Booth

[Please find the song's resource files on ONELICENSE, find the relevant links on our webpage.]

The Our Father

Presider: Please join us in saying the prayer Jesus has taught us.

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

Amen

CONCLUDING RITE

Presider: Let us pray. O Lord we pray. May the mission of Jesus be our constant hope. May the Lord help us to reach out with love. May he grant us the strength to proclaim his Good News. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Let us go in peace to love and serve God and one another.

All: **Amen**

Recessional song:

Suggested song: *Just A Little Bit* - Sweetman, Beiers, Thomsen & Smith

[Please find the song's resource files on our webpage.]

Acknowledgements

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