



The Archbishop Romero Trust

Ecumenical Service to Commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Martyrdom of Oscar Arnulfo Romero Archbishop of San Salvador

*After a word of welcome from the Dean and Chapter of York Minster
please stand as the procession begins.*

Entrance Hymn

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions;
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of all shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*
2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome...
3. Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God through Jesus
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome...

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of love's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome...

5. Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome...

Introduction and Welcome *by Cardinal Keith O'Brien*

Opening Prayer

Loving Creator you have made us in your image
and we yearn for the healing of all your people,
fill our hearts with the fire of your love
and our minds with the thirst for justice.
As we keep the memory of your servant, Oscar Romero,
embolden us to cry out against oppression,
empower us to work for the coming of your Kingdom,
and enrich us with your life-giving Spirit
so that all creation may feel your touch and be healed.
We ask this in the name of our crucified, risen Lord,
our liberator and redeemer, Jesus Christ.

All: Amen

Fr. Tony Lester, O.Carm., trustee of the Archbishop Romero Trust, recounts something of Oscar Romero's life and witness and we hear an excerpt from his final Sunday homily preached in the Cathedral in San Salvador on the day before he was killed.

Litany of Sorrow led by Bishop John Rawsthorne of Hallam

In the midst of hatred that divides people of different nations,
ethnic groups, classes, religions and genders,
God forgive us.

In the midst of our difficulty in accepting each other and in
respecting our differences,
God forgive us.

In the midst of the covetous desires of the people and nations
to possess what is not their own.
God forgive us.

In the midst of the greediness which exploits the work of
human hands and lays waste the earth,
God forgive us.

In the midst of our envy of the welfare and happiness of
others,
God forgive us.

In the midst of our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned,
the homeless, the refugees and the migrant workers,
God forgive us.

In the midst of the lust that dishonours the bodies of men,
women and children,
God forgive us.

In the midst of pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and
not in God,
God forgive us. Lord have mercy upon us. Amen.

Look around you, can you see?
Times are troubled, people grieve.
See the violence, feel the hardness;
All my people, weep with me.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Walk among them, I'll go with you.
Reach out to them with my hands.
Suffer with me, and together
We will serve them, help them stand.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Forgive us Father; hear our prayer.
We would walk with you anywhere,
Through your suffering, with forgiveness,
Take your life into the world.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Prayer before the readings – *led by Rev. Stephen Burgess, Methodist District Chair (York & Humberside)*

Liberator Christ,
you came into a holy place
and read the sacred word
about sight for blind folk and freedom for prisoners.
Come to this place now.
Read these words to *us*
till our own eyes are opened, our faith is unlocked,
and we can see the world as it is,
and as it could be;
till the yearnings of ordinary people are taken seriously,
and the visions of the young are valued,
and the potential of the old is released;
till your reign is celebrated everywhere,
and your Church is good news to the poor.

All: Amen

Reading Isaiah 40: 1-11
Celia Harris – Quaker Chaplain to the University of York

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord hears the cry of the poor,
Blessed be the Lord!

Reading From Romero's words
Carol Cross – Middlesbrough Diocese CAFOD worker

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you O Christ our Saviour,
Word of the Father, calling us to life;
Son of God who leads us to freedom:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Luke: 4: 14-30

Rev. David Gamble – President of the Methodist Conference

Homily *Archbishop John Sentamu of York*

Litany of Commitment *led by Bishop Terence Draine of Middlesbrough*

God, our strength,
enliven our resolve to seek bread which nourishes and sustains, that through our resistance of instant satisfaction we may learn to value what we take for granted and seek solidarity with those who have nothing.

Hear us in your mercy, and strengthen us to do your will.

God, our judge,
guard us against all arrogance, hypocrisy and self-righteousness, that through choosing the fast that undoes the fetters of injustice we may share our bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into our house.

Hear us in your mercy, and strengthen us to do your will.

God, our beginning and our end,
remind us that we are but dust and to dust we shall return, that through acknowledging our frailty and owning our mortality we may draw closer to those who live in the constant fear of death.

Hear us in your mercy, and strengthen us to do your will.

God, our challenger,
stir up our lives and shatter our complacency, that through the people we meet and the life stories we share we may be challenged to change and moved to action.

**Hear us in your mercy, and strengthen us to do your will,
and let our lives reflect your purpose.**

Amen.

During the hymn a collection will be taken which will be divided between the Minster and the Archbishop Romero Trust to meet the costs of the day. Any monies remaining will be sent to the Ospitalito where Archbishop Romero lived, where he was killed and which still continues its work amongst the very poor suffering with cancer.

- 1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- 2 Will you leave your self behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The Lord's Prayer and Sign of Peace

Introduced by Sr. Mary Walmsley CJ of the Bar Convent Community

Closing words *by Cardinal Keith O'Brien*

Final Prayer

Loving Creator, hear your people's prayer,
for we are human and often overwhelmed by the many
difficulties we face in our world, in our Church, in our lives.
We call upon the memory of Monseñor Romero who, in the
face of so many challenges, never ceased to act with love.
Help us to become instruments of peace in our world,
to confront violence and its causes, the toxic roots of injustice,
and the vicious hatred that disfigures the human person made
in your image.
This we ask through the transfigured Christ, who is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit for ever and
ever.

All: Amen

Final Hymn

- 1 We shall go out with hope of resurrection,
We shall go out, from strength to strength go on,
We shall go out and tell our stories boldly,
Tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted,
We'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed,
We'll weave a cloth of all the world united
Within the vision of a Christ who sets us free.

- 2 We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken,
We'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed,
We'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
Vibrating love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy with those who are still weeping,
Chant hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
We'll leap and dance the resurrection story
Including all within the circles of our love.

Thank you for joining us in prayer today in York Minster. We hope that this Liturgy has been a moment in which we can all draw renewed strength in our efforts to build God's reign, each of us in our own sphere.

We are especially grateful to two of our Patrons in the Archbishop Romero Trust, Archbishop John Sentamu and Cardinal Keith O'Brien who have been here to lead the Liturgy and preach. It has been a joy that other Ecumenical Church Leaders have been able to participate.

If you would like to know more about Archbishop Romero then St. Paul's Bookshop in Kings Square (just a few minutes walk from the Minster) has a wide selection of books on Romero which they have agreed to stock especially for our celebration today.

Finally our thanks to all who have made this Liturgy possible, the Dean and Chapter of York Minster, Rev. Sue Wallace, John Gannon and the music group from St. Wilfrid's Church, the staff at the Middlesbrough Diocesan CAFOD Office (www.cafod.org.uk) and the Carmelite Projects & Publications Office (www.carmelite.org)



Mural from the wall outside the Ospitalito where Romero lived and died

If you would like to join the Archbishop Romero Trust and become a "Friend of Romero" you can find information on our website at:

www.romerotrust.org.uk