

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, leading us into
everlasting life:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God have mercy on us..... **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

**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.**

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD**FIRST READING Acts 15:1-2. 22-29**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without

any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 66:2-3.5-6.8

**R. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

- O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. **[R]**
- Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. **[R]**
- Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **[R]**

SECOND READING Apocalypse 21:10-14. 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!'

GOSPEL John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. Jesus said to his disciples:

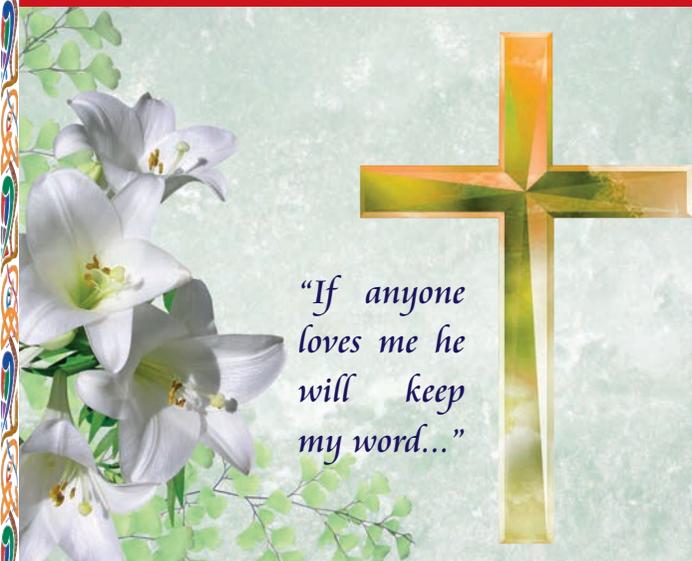
'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and



focus on sunday

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 22nd May 2022

**Easter is a promise of God's peace,
the promise of today's gospel. A peace which is at the depth
of all life's turmoil, a calm beneath every storm.**



*"If anyone
loves me he
will keep
my word..."*

make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,**

**All bow for following two lines:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from
the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
catholic Church, the communion
of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**



Very often people ask us to pray for them, or pray for people close to them. Praying for others is part of our Christian life and in the gospel today we see that Jesus is praying for his disciples, and for all who will believe through them.

He prays that we will always be with him. Love means wanting to be with someone, like friends, spouses, family. We need to give time to be with each other in ways that our relationships flourish. It's the same with our friendship with Jesus. Our moments of prayer bring us into his company; he is always there for us. There are many ways of praying: silence, vocal, meditation and contemplation, praise, sorrow and often asking for protection or help for oneself or for others. It is a good thing to give some time each day to answer the Lord's prayer that we be with him.

He prays also that others may believe through his disciples and through each of us. Prayer can help this – making our hearts more loving and compassionate and accepting of others. Our helping of others in generosity and love can nourish our prayer.

Lord may your kingdom come in our hearts and in our service in your name.

Donal Neary SJ (Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger)