

44 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

|| April

FIRST READING

Acts 4.32-35

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 32 The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul,
and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions,
but everything they owned was held in common.
- 33 With great power the apostles gave their testimony
to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus,
and great grace was upon them all.
- 34 There was not a needy person among them,
for as many as owned lands or houses
sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.
- 35 They laid it at the apostles' feet,
and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118.2-4, 16-18, 22-24 (R.1)

R. Give thanks, for the Lord is good,
God's love is everlasting.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- 2 Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."
- 3 Let the house of Aaron say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."
- 4 Let those who fear the Lord say,
"His steadfast love endures forever." R.
- 16 "The right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."
- 17 I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death. R.

22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
23 This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 John 5.1-6

Whatever is born of God conquers the world.

A reading from the first letter of John.

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ
has been born of God,
and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.
2 By this we know that we love the children of God,
when we love God and obey his commandments.
3 For the love of God is this,
that we obey his commandments.
And his commandments are not burdensome,
4 for whatever is born of God conquers the world.
And this is the victory that conquers the world,
our faith.
5 Who is it that conquers the world
but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ,
not with the water only but with the water and the blood.
And the Spirit is the one that testifies,
for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See John 20.29

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia.
If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

You believed in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

GOSPEL

John 20.19-31

A week later Jesus came and stood among them.

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

- 19 It was evening on the day Jesus rose from the dead,
the first day of the week,
and the doors of the house where the disciples had met
were locked for fear of the Jewish authorities.
Jesus came and stood among them and said,
"Peace be with you."
- 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.
Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
- 21 Jesus said to them again,
"Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
- 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit.
If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them;
if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
- 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them;
if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
- 24 But Thomas, who was called the Twin, one of the twelve,
was not with them when Jesus came.
- 25 So the other disciples told him,
"We have seen the Lord."
But he said to them,
"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands,
and put my finger in the mark of the nails
and my hand in his side,
I will not believe."
- 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house,
and Thomas was with them.
Although the doors were shut,
Jesus came and stood among them and said,
"Peace be with you."
- 27 Then he said to Thomas,
"Put your finger here and see my hands.
Reach out your hand and put it in my side.
Do not doubt but believe."
- 28 Thomas answered him,
"My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him,
"Have you believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to believe."

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples,
which are not written in this book.

31 But these are written so that you may come to believe
that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

47 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

18 April

FIRST READING

Acts 3.13-15, 17-19

You killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- At the temple gate, Peter addressed the people:
- 13 “The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob,
the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus,
whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate,
though he had decided to release him.
- 14 “But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One
and asked to have a murderer given to you,
15 and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead.
To this we are witnesses.
- 17 “And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance,
as did also your rulers.
- 18 In this way God fulfilled
what he had foretold through all the prophets,
that his Messiah would suffer.
- 19 “Repent therefore, and turn to God
so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 4.1, 3, 6, 8 (R.6b)

R. Lord, let your face shine on us.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer. R.
- 3 But know that the Lord has set apart
the faithful for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him. R.
- 6 There are many who say,
“O that we might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!” R.

8 I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O Lord,
make me lie down in safety. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 John 2.1-5

Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,
and for the sins of the whole world.

A reading from the first letter of John.

1 My little children,
I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.
But if anyone does sin,
we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
2 and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,
and not for ours only
but also for the sins of the whole world.
3 Now by this we may be sure that we know him,
if we obey his commandments.
4 Whoever says, "I have come to know him,"
but does not obey his commandments, is a liar,
and in such a person the truth does not exist;
5 but whoever obeys his word,
truly in this person the love of God has reached perfection.
By this we may be sure that we are in him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Luke 24.32

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia.
If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us;
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

GOSPEL

Luke 24.35-48

Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer
and to rise from the dead on the third day.

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

35 The two disciples told the eleven and their companions
what had happened on the road to Emmaus,
and how Jesus had been made known to them
in the breaking of the bread. ▶

36 While they were talking about this,
Jesus himself stood among them and said to them,
“Peace be with you.”

37 They were startled and terrified,
and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

38 He said to them,
“Why are you frightened,
and why do doubts arise in your hearts?
39 Look at my hands and my feet;
see that it is I myself.
Touch me and see;
for a ghost does not have flesh and bones
as you see that I have.”

40 And when he had said this,
he showed them his hands and his feet.

41 While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering,
he said to them,
“Have you anything here to eat?”

42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
43 and he took it and ate in their presence.

44 Then he said to them,
“These are my words that I spoke to you
while I was still with you—
that everything written about me in the law of Moses,
the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”

45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
46 and he said to them,
“Thus it is written,
that the Messiah is to suffer
and to rise from the dead on the third day,
47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins
is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations,
beginning from Jerusalem.

48 You are witnesses of these things.”

The gospel of the Lord.

50 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25 April

FIRST READING

Acts 4.7-12

There is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Peter and John were speaking to the people
about the resurrection of Jesus,
the captain of the temple arrested them and placed them in custody.

The next day the rulers, elders and scribes assembled.

7 When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired,
“By what power or by what name did you do this?”

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them,
“Rulers of the people and elders,

9 if we are questioned today
because of a good deed done to someone who was sick
and are asked how this man has been healed,

10 let it be known to all of you,
and to all the people of Israel,
that this man is standing before you in good health
by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,
whom you crucified,
whom God raised from the dead.

11 “This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.’

12 There is salvation in no one else,
for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals
by which we must be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118.1+8-9, 21-23, 26+28-29 (R.22)

R. The stone rejected by the builders
has become the cornerstone.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!
- 8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to put confidence in mortals.
- 9 It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to put confidence in princes. R.
- 21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes. R.
- 26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
- 28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.
- 29 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever. R.

SECOND READING

1 John 3.1-2

We will see God as he is.

A reading from the first letter of John.

- 1 See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called children of God;
and that is what we are.
The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.
- 2 Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we will be has not yet been revealed.
What we do know is this:
when he is revealed, we will be like him,
for we will see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia.
If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

GOSPEL

John 10.11-18

The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

- 11 "I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
- 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd
and does not own the sheep,
sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—
and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.
- 13 The hired hand runs away
because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.
- 14 "I am the good shepherd.
I know my own and my own know me,
15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.
And I lay down my life for the sheep.
- 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold.
I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice.
So there will be one flock, one shepherd.
- 17 "For this reason the Father loves me,
because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
- 18 No one takes it from me,
but I lay it down of my own accord.
I have power to lay it down,
and I have power to take it up again.
I have received this command from my Father."

The gospel of the Lord.

53 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

2 May

FIRST READING

Acts 9.26-31

Barnabas described for them how on the road
Saul had seen the Lord.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 26 When Saul had come to Jerusalem,
he attempted to join the disciples;
and they were all afraid of him,
for they did not believe that he was a disciple.
- 27 But Barnabas took him,
brought him to the apostles,
and described for them how on the road he had seen the Lord,
who had spoken to him,
and how in Damascus Saul had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus.
- 28 So Saul went in and out among them in Jerusalem,
speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.
- 29 He spoke and argued with the Hellenists;
but they were attempting to kill him.
- 30 When the believers learned of it,
they brought Saul down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.
- 31 Meanwhile the church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria
had peace and was built up.
Living in the fear of the Lord
and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit,
it increased in numbers.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 22.25b-26, 27+29, 30-31 (R.25a)

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- 25 My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
- 26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever. R.

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.
29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R.**
30 I shall live for him and posterity will serve him.
Future generations will be told about the Lord,
31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 John 3.18-24

**This is his commandment: we should believe in Jesus
and love one another.**

A reading from the first letter of John.

18 Little children, let us love,
not in word or speech, but in truth and action.
19 And by this we will know that we are from the truth
and will reassure our hearts before him
20 whenever our hearts condemn us;
for God is greater than our hearts,
and God knows everything.
21 Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us,
we have boldness before God;
22 and we receive from him whatever we ask,
because we obey his commandments and do what pleases God.
23 And this is God's commandment,
that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
24 All who obey his commandments abide in him,
and he abides in them.
And by this we know that he abides in us,
by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.4, 5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia.
If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

GOSPEL

John 15.1-8

Those who abide in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.

2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit.

Every branch that bears fruit
he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

3 You have already been cleansed
by the word that I have spoken to you.

4 "Abide in me as I abide in you.
Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself
unless it abides in the vine,
neither can you unless you abide in me.

5 I am the vine, you are the branches.
Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit,
because apart from me you can do nothing.

6 "Whoever does not abide in me
is thrown away like a branch and withers;
such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

7 "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you,
ask for whatever you wish,
and it will be done for you.

8 My Father is glorified by this,
that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The gospel of the Lord.

56 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9 May

When the Ascension is celebrated on the following Sunday, the second reading and the gospel given for the Seventh Sunday of Easter (see no. 60) may be used on the Sixth Sunday of Easter.

FIRST READING

Acts 10.25-26, 34-35, 44-48

*The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 25 On Peter's arrival at Caesarea,
Cornelius, a centurion of the Roman cohort, met him,
and falling at his feet, worshipped him.
- 26 But Peter made him get up, saying,
"Stand up; I am only a mortal."
- 34 Then Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius,
"I truly understand that God shows no partiality,
35 but in every nation anyone who fears him
and does what is right is acceptable to him.
- 44 While Peter was still speaking,
the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.
- 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded
that the gift of the Holy Spirit
had been poured out even on the Gentiles,
- 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God.
- Then Peter said,
- 47 "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people
who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"
- 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.
Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 (R.2b)

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- 1 O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought him victory. R.
- 2 The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- 3 He has remembered his steadfast love
and faithfulness to the house of Israel. R.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.
- 4 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises. R.

SECOND READING

1 John 4.7-10

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love

A reading from the first letter of John.

- 7 Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
- 8 Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.
- 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.
- 10 In this is love,
not that we loved God but that he loved us
and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
- The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia.
If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them, and we will come to them

GOSPEL

John 15.9-17

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

9 "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you;
abide in my love.

10 If you keep my commandments,
you will abide in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and abide in his love.

11 "I have said these things to you
so that my joy may be in you,
and that your joy may be complete.

12 This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
13 No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one's life for one's friends.

14 "You are my friends if you do what I command you.
15 I do not call you servants any longer,
because the servant does not know what the master is doing;
but I have called you friends,
because I have made known to you everything
that I have heard from my Father.

16 "You did not choose me but I chose you.
And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last,
so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The gospel of the Lord.