

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

COLLECT

God everlasting mercy,
Who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect. None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 117

Response:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the
Lord,
but not doomed to die. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

SECOND READING

5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God;
and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.
We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;
this is what loving God is-
keeping his commandments;
and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God
has already overcome the world;
this is the victory over the world-
our faith.

Who can overcome the world?
only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only,
but with water and blood;
with the Spirit as another witness-
since the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

Alleluia!

GOSPEL 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you'.

'As the Father sent me,

so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe'. Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but

Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (and of those you have brought to new birth), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

What is reconciliation? If Jesus reconciled us with the Father by his death on the cross, why do we celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation?

Are you always successful at changing your life when you recognize that you may be living in a sinful manner? Is trying to convert from a sinful life a sign of a change of heart? Why or why not?

How do you reconcile with others when you have done something wrong to them? Why is it necessary to reconcile our wrong doing with God as well as with one another?

GOSPEL ACTION

Take advantage of the sacrament of reconciliation if you have not already done so during this Easter season. Reconcile with another person this week who has hurt you or whom you may have hurt.

Readings – 3rd Sunday in Easter Year B

First Reading: Acts 3:13-15.17-19

Second Reading: John 2:1-5

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

Homily

11th April 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B

Dear friends, last week on Easter Sunday we heard how the women who went to the tomb early in the morning to anoint Jesus were struck with amazement when they found that Jesus was no longer there, they were told 'he is not here, he has risen'. They were the first witnesses of the Resurrection, however they witnessed only the empty tomb.

Today we hear how it is the Risen Jesus who appears to his disciples and the first words that he says to them are, '**Peace be with you**' and he greets them with these words twice. The disciples who had been locked in the room for fear of the Jews are now filled with joy and the Holy Spirit through their encounter with the Risen Lord, their experience of the Risen Jesus changes them; they are the first witnesses to the Risen Jesus.

Thomas is the one who is not with them for this first encounter, we don't know why, perhaps he is so afraid or sad that he doesn't want to even be with the other disciples? We know that he has doubts and in many ways this endears me to him. However, we are told that 8 days later Thomas is with them and Jesus appears to them again. Again he greets them with those familiar and comforting words, '**Peace be with you.**'

Jesus then offers Thomas his hands and his side, but Thomas doesn't need any more evidence to believe he simply replies, 'My Lord and my God!' A wonderful profession of faith and belief.

On this second Sunday of Easter Jesus says to us, '**Peace be with you!**' We all need peace in our lives, but the peace that Jesus gives us is a special peace, a peace that the world cannot give, a peace that enables us to cope with anything that life throws at us. Jesus is the one who brings peace and hope into the uncertainty of our lives at this time.

Like the women last week and the disciples this week we are called to witness to the Resurrection and the Risen Lord Jesus, the one who reveals God's love and mercy to us, particularly this Easter time.

Jesus is risen, he is no longer dead but alive, he has risen from the dead and brings light and new life into our world. Jesus through his death and resurrection has won that great victory over sin and death. Jesus is the one who brings peace, light and hope into our world.

Homily

11th April 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B

Let us join with Thomas in that great statement of faith, as we quite simply pray, My Lord and my God on this Easter Sunday, **'Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'**

May the Lord continue to fill you and your loved ones with Easter joy and peace, sending my love and prayers, **Fr Phil x**

HRH Prince Philip RIP

On Friday we heard the sad news about the death of Prince Philip, we pray that he may rest in peace. Prince Philip's life was devoted to public service and he was a great support to his wife the Queen, we pray for Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family at this time of loss.

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion

11th April 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B

On this Easter Day the Risen Lord offers us the gift of peace and through him we offer our prayers to the Father.

For the Church and for Christians everywhere; may they spread the peace of the Risen Lord Jesus to the ends of the earth.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For ourselves; may we always walk in the light, love and peace of the Risen Lord Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for peace throughout the world, particularly in Northern Ireland at this time and an end to war, violence and hatred everywhere.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who are sick, housebound or struggling in any way: that they may experience the healing love and grace of the Risen Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our parish and our local community: that through the grace of God we may hear the urgent cry of the earth and of the poor and be inspired to respond at this crucial time. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for world leaders: that God may grant them wisdom to make just decisions which respect the earth and all that lives in it, especially those who are poorest and most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all the faithful departed especially **Prince Philip, Pat Noonan, Anne Barry, Canon Brendan Hoban, Deacon Philip White** and all those who have died recently: **“Eternal rest grant unto them...”**

We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones; may Christ’s message of hope in eternal life bring them comfort and consolation.

Lord, in your mercy.....

We ask Our Lady and all the Saints to join their prayers with ours as we say: **“Hail Mary...”**

Loving Father,

You have already granted us more than we can ask for in the Resurrection of Christ. As you answer these our prayers, make us ever more faithful to him, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion
11th April 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B

Spiritual Communion

Prayer of St Alphonsus

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things and
I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.
Amen.

CAFOD Prayer for Glasgow

Creator God,
We cry out to you
The earth is damaged and in chaos
People in poverty are suffering the most
Greed and consumerism are a disease
And your Church is too often asleep

Merciful Lord,
Protect your people and restore your earth,
Embolden governments to take action,
Awaken Church leaders
Give the youth influence
And guide businesses to change

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord
May we unite and be bold
Take heart and find hope in you,
Worship you with our lifestyles
Walk in your truth
and see justice and renewal in the earth

Amen