

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.**

COLLECT

May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection. 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 3:13-15.17-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses; Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'
The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 4

Response:
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

1. When I call, answer me, O God of justice; from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me! (R.)
2. It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves; the Lord hears me whenever I call him. (R.)
3. 'What can bring us happiness?' many say. Lift up the light of your face on us, O lord. (R.)
4. I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. (R.)

SECOND READING 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St John
I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God

only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.
The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
**Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL 24:35-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. They were still talking about this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes. Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms has to be fulfilled'. He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'
The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive, O Lord, we pray, these offerings of your exultant Church, and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness, grant also that the gifts we bring may bear fruit in perpetual happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

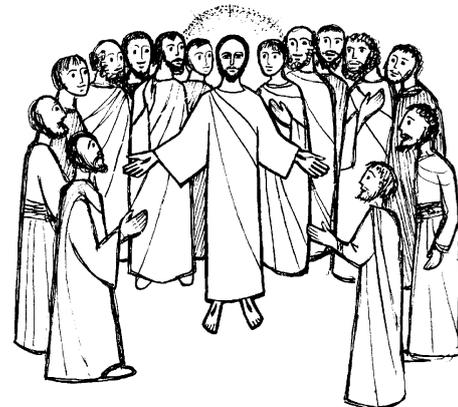
COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Christ had to suffer and on the third day rise from the dead;
in his name repentance and remission of sins must be preached to all the nations,
alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord, and grant, we pray, that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries may attain in their flesh the incorruptible glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL REFLECTION



How were you called to follow Jesus? Were you asked to leave everything behind?

What does it mean to be a disciple? Does it always mean that you must lay down your daily life and turn your back on the world? Why or why not?

How does a faith community show acceptance to the call to discipleship?

What must disciples do in order to continue having the grace and courage to follow Jesus? How might Christians help one another be strong in following Jesus?

What are some of the basic ministries that a disciple can work in? What are some basic ministries that rise out of a faith community?

Does being a good Christian mean discipleship will be an easy task?

How can you learn to minister on an ecumenical basis? Is ecumenical Christian service a good way to share your basic faith with others?

GOSPEL ACTION

Find out about at least one other Christian denomination this week. What do they believe? How is their religion different from Catholicism? How is it the same?

Readings – 4th Sunday of Easter Year B

First Reading: Acts 4:8-12
Second Reading: John 3:1-2
Gospel: John 10:11-18

Homily

18th April 2021 – 3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B

Dear friends, last week we reflected on the Risen Jesus who appeared to his disciples and greeted them with the words **‘Peace be with you’** and how we are all in need of the Lord’s peace in our lives.

The news this week has been dominated by Prince Philip and there have been many tributes paid to him over these last days since he died. It’s interesting to note that often it is only after someone has died that you really get to know them and find out so much about them; that has been the case for me about Prince Philip.

I am writing these words before the funeral takes place on Saturday afternoon, but Prince Philip made it clear that he didn’t want a fuss and in these Covid times even a member of the Royal Family can only have 30 people in attendance at their funeral.

Prince Philip lived a life of service and support to the Queen, his family and our nation. He didn’t have an easy childhood and I’m sure that he would have wanted to continue his naval career that he had to give up in order to support his wife, the Queen. In the early years of marriage he had to overcome hostility from the establishment who considered him to be untrustworthy.

One legacy that he leaves is the Duke of Edinburgh Award, a programme started over 60 years ago, which is now active in over 100 countries, helping young people discover their true potential. Prince Philip was a committed champion of young people; I know many people locally who over the years have benefitted from taking part in this scheme.

Prince Philip was a family man and it is right that at his funeral he will have the most important members of his family there. He was also a man of faith and he maintained close links with his Christian roots throughout his life. In the 1960s he helped set up St George’s House, a religious study centre at Windsor.

Prince Philip made mistakes at times, don’t we all, and some of these have been well documented but he was a good man and it is right that as a nation we pay tribute to him this weekend as we join in prayer together and pray for him, and for all the faithful departed, that they may now rest in peace.

Homily

18th April 2021 – 3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B

Let's also pray for Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family at this time of loss.

As we continue to witness to the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus may the Lord fill you and your loved ones with Easter joy and peace, sending my love and prayers as always, **Fr Phil x**

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion

18th April 2021 – 3rd Sunday of Easter, Year B

The Risen Lord offers us the gift of peace and through him we offer our prayers to the Father.

For the Church and for all Christians; 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** and all those who have died recently: **“Eternal rest grant unto them...”**

We pray for the Queen and all 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,
We offer these and all our prayers to you,
through the Risen Lord Jesus,
who is Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion
18th April 2021 – 3rd 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