

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year C

# Season of Easter

*First Reading † Acts 5:27-32.40-41*

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*We are witnesses of these words, and so is the Holy Spirit.*

When the officials had brought the apostles in to face the Sanhedrin, the high priest demanded an explanation.

‘We gave you a formal warning’ he said

‘not to preach in this name, and what have you done?

You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man’s death on us.’

In reply Peter and the apostles said,

‘Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree.

‘By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel.

‘We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.’

They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial † Psalm 29:2.4-6.11-13*

### ***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me  
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,  
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

### ***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,  
give thanks to his holy name.

His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life.  
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

### ***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***

The Lord listened and had pity.

The Lord came to my help.

For me you have changed my mourning into dancing;  
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

### ***I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.***

## *Second Reading † Revelation 5:11-14*

### **A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

*The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.*

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting,

‘The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.’

Then I heard all the living things in creation — everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying,

‘To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.’

And the four animals said,

‘Amen’;

and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

The word of the Lord.

### *Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation;  
he has shown pity on all people.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### *Gospel [longer form] † John 21:1-19*

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

*Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.*

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said,

‘I’m going fishing.’

They replied,

‘We’ll come with you.’

They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out,

‘Have you caught anything, friends?’

And when they answered,

‘No’,

he said,

‘Throw the net out to starboard and you’ll find something.’

So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in.

The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter,

'It is the Lord'.

At these words 'It is the Lord,' Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it.

Jesus said,

'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.'

Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken.

Jesus said to them,

'Come and have breakfast.'

None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well that it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish.

This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter,

'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?'

He answered,

'Yes Lord, you know I love you.'

Jesus said to him,

'Feed my lambs.'

A second time he said to him,

'Simon son of John, do you love me?'

He replied,

'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.'

Jesus said to him,

'Look after my sheep.'

Then he said to him a third time,

'Simon son of John, do you love me?'

Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said,

'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.'

Jesus said to him,

'Feed my sheep.

'I tell you most solemnly,  
when you were young  
you put on your own belt  
and walked where you liked;  
but when you grow old  
you will stretch out your hands,  
and somebody else will put a belt around you  
and take you where you would rather not go.'

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said,

‘Follow me.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

***Gospel [shorter form] † John 21:1-14***

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