

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year A

Season of Easter

First Reading † Acts 8:5-8,14-17

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

And Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Messiah to them. The people unanimously paid attention to what Philip was saying, hearing and seeing the signs which he did, for unclean spirits came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralysed and lame people were healed. And there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. These went down and prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet the Spirit had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † Psalm 65:1-7,16,20

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God, 'How fearsome your deeds!

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Before you all the earth shall bow down,
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God:
fearsome his deeds among the children of Adam.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.
Let our joy, then, be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Come and hear, all who fear God;
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer,
nor withhold from me his merciful love.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second Reading † 1 Peter 3:15-18

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always ready to make your defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope. But do it with gentleness and respect and with a clear conscience, so that, while you are being slandered, those who are disparaging your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For if it is the will of God, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Christ himself suffered once and for all for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to lead you to God. He was put to death in the body; he was raised to life in the spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them
and we will come to them.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel † John 14:15-21

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Paraclete
to be with you for ever,
the Spirit of truth
whom the world can never accept
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he dwells with you, he will be in you.

I shall not leave you orphans;
I shall come to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me because I live
and you also will live.

On that day
you will know that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Whoever holds to my commandments and keeps them
is the one who loves me;
and whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I shall love and reveal myself to that person.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Monday of the sixth week of Easter