

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year C

Season of Easter

First Reading † Acts 5:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

By the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. One in heart, they all used to meet in the Portico of Solomon. No one else dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and those who came to believe in the Lord continued to increase, great numbers of both men and women, so that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past.

People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † Psalm 117:2-4.22-27

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'
Let the house of Aaron say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'
Let those who fear the Lord say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the Lord has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.
This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

O Lord, grant salvation;
O Lord, grant success.
Blessed is one who comes
in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord is God, and has given us light.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading † Revelation 1:9-13.17-19

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I, John, your brother and partner in hardships, in the kingdom and in perseverance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the Word of God and of testimony to Jesus; it was the Lord's Day and I was in spirit, and I heard a loud voice behind me, like the sound of a trumpet, saying,

'Write down in a book all that you see, and send it to the seven churches of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.'

I turned round to see the voice which was speaking to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, in the middle of them, one like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe with a golden sash across his chest.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead, but he placed his right hand on me, saying,

'Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and look – I am alive for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of Hades. Now write down what you have seen, what is and what is still to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

blest are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel † John 20:19-31

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

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 and said to them,

'Peace be with you,'

and, after saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced at seeing the Lord, and he said to them again,

'Peace be with you.

'As the Father has sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive anyone's sins,
they are forgiven;

if you retain anyone's sins,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him,

'We have seen the Lord,'

but he answered,

'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails
and put my finger in the mark of the nails,
and my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were closed, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

'Peace be with you.'

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.'

Thomas replied,

'My Lord and my God!'

Jesus said to him:

'Do you believe because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Jesus did many other signs in the sight of the disciples, which are not written in this book. These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.