

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year C

Season of Easter

First Reading † Acts 5:27-32.40-41

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

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When they had brought them before the council, the high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you a strong warning not to teach in this name, and see, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you want to bring this man's death down on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to human beings; the God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you executed by hanging on a tree. God exalted him to his right hand as leader and Saviour, to give to Israel repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses to these things, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' This so infuriated the council that they wanted to put them to death.

They called in the apostles, had them flogged, forbade them to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the council, rejoicing to have been found worthy 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 extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up,
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have lifted up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from those who sink into the pit.

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

Sing psalms to the Lord, you faithful ones;
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.
At night come tears, but dawn brings joy.

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

Hear, O Lord, and grant me your favour;
be my helper, O Lord.
You have changed my mourning into dancing,
removed my sackcloth and girded me with joy.
So my soul sings psalms to you, and will not be silent.
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

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

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

And in my vision, I, John, looked and heard the sound of many angels in a circle round the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands upon thousands, chanting in a loud voice,

‘Worthy is the Lamb that was sacrificed
to receive power, riches, wisdom,
strength, honour, glory and blessing.’

Then I heard every creature in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and in the sea, singing,

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

And the four living creatures said, ‘Amen’; and the elders prostrated themselves and worshipped.

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

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After this, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way: 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 to them,

‘I am going fishing.’

They replied,

‘We will come with you.’

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

When it was getting light, Jesus was standing on the shore, though the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus called out,

‘Children, have you anything to eat?’

They answered, ‘No.’ He said to them,

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

So they threw the net out and did not have strength to haul it in because of the number of fish. The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter,

‘It is the Lord.’

So Simon Peter, hearing that it was the Lord tied his outer garment round him (for he was stripped) and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net with the fish; they were only about a hundred metres from land.

When they came ashore they saw a charcoal fire there with fish cooking on it and bread. Jesus said,

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

Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net onto the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them, and although there were so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them,

'Come and have breakfast.'

None of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus came, 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 being raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter,

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

He answered,

'Yes, Lord, you know that 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 that 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 hurt that he asked him a 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.'

'Amen, Amen I say to you,
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 someone else will put a belt round you
and take you where you would rather not go.'

He said this indicating by what sort of death he would glorify God. After this he said,

'Follow me.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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