

The 2nd Sunday of Easter

19 April 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pr54po5s0nQ>

1. **Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!**
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
2. **Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!**
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
3. **Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!**
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

1 Peter 2.2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Christ is risen, alleluia.

He is risen indeed, alleluia.

Penitential Act

Dear friends,
this water will be sprinkled on us
as a memorial of our Baptism.
May the Lord our God help us by his grace
to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

The celebrant sprinkles all present with holy water, moving through the church.
Meanwhile, the chant I saw water (Vidi aquam), or another appropriate chant is sung.

The chant, in Latin,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=429smHGuy3I>

I saw water flowing from the Temple,
from its right-hand side, alleluia:
and all to whom this water came
were saved and shall say: alleluia, alleluia.

Verses from Psalm 118 and the doxology Glory to God may also be sung.

The celebrant says:

May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,
and through the celebration of this Eucharist
make us worthy to share at the table of his Kingdom.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God,
the strength of those who believe
and the hope of those who doubt:
may we, who have not seen, have faith
and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Acts 2.14a, 22-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, ‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know – this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.” Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.” This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.’

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 16

- 1 Preserve me, O God:
for in you have I taken refuge.
- 2 I have said to the Lord, You are my lord:
and all my good depends on you.
- 3 As for those who are held holy on the earth:
the other gods in whom people delight,
- 4 Though the idols are many that they run after:
their offerings of blood I will not offer, nor take their name upon my lips.
- 5 The Lord is my appointed portion and my cup:
you hold my lot in your hands.
- 6 The share that has fallen to me is in pleasant places:
and a fair land is my possession.
- 7 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel:
at night also he has instructed my heart.
- 8 I have set the Lord always before me:
he is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices:
my flesh also shall rest secure.
- 10 For you will not give me over to the power of death:
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

11 You will show me the path of life:
in your presence is the fulness of joy,
and from your right hand flow delights for evermore.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1.3-9

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith – being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Sequence

Victimae paschali laudes

Victimate paschali from Notre-Dame de Paris
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zlSK8vn55ZA>

Christians, to the Paschal victim
Offer your thankful praises!
A Lamb the sheep redeems:
Christ, who only is sinless,
Reconciles sinners to the Father.
Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous:
The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.
Speak, Mary, declaring
What you saw, wayfaring:
“The tomb of Christ, who is living,
The glory of Jesus’ resurrection;
Bright angels attesting,
The shroud and napkin resting.
Yes, Christ my hope is arisen;
To Galilee he will go before you.”
Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining;
Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!
Amen. Alleluia.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 20.29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said, ‘You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’
Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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 answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Pause to reflect on the Word.

Reflection

Fr Graeme Kaines

Is very fitting for us all at present to read Jesus' words "Peace be with you." It is peace we long for amidst panic, anxiety, and needing to live in, for most of us, unusual ways. One day we shall return to a new normal whatever that may be.

The disciples were afraid. When Jesus was arrested they had been terrified and they had let Jesus down by running away. Now they had heard that Jesus was alive and doubtless they were afraid of what he might have been intending to say to them about their failure. They feared recrimination. However, Jesus' first words to them are "Peace be with you." Possibly sensing their fear and confusion he repeats the words, "Peace be with you."

Can we imagine Jesus saying this to us where we are in our lives? Most of us continue to think that we have to make ourselves good enough for Jesus to love us. Were that the case we would all have good cause to be afraid. Jesus died for us because we cannot make ourselves good enough. God is good. The peace Jesus offers us comes from the "Prince of Peace" and it is not a peace of our own making.

If we can accept Jesus' offer of peace then we shall find that we can be at peace with ourselves and at peace with God. It is then we can become people who can truly help to make peace a reality between us and others, and legitimately become people of peace in our world which really needs a new kind of peace.

Today's Gospel includes, too, an account of Thomas's doubts about the risen Jesus. Despite the world outside the Church thinking that people of faith cannot doubt and are instructed strictly in what to believe, we have, in the Church, come to understand that doubts can be a very important experience which lead up to eventual faith. In the Church we are all people who are exploring doubt and faith and we call help each other.

We might be tempted to wonder if we could have done better than Thomas at the time. After all, Thomas was present with the other disciples when Judas had betrayed Jesus into the hands of his enemies, and he had witnessed the degradation of Jesus as he was ill-treated and crucified. What was Thomas thinking as they waited for Jesus to come to them? Was he afraid, too? Did he wish, in a way, that Jesus was still dead?

But this speculation is pointless: Jesus's first words to Thomas and the others are "Peace be with you." Before long, Thomas is saying from his heart to Jesus, "My Lord and My God!" I think we can say that Thomas speaks these words humbly, with relief, and joyfully.

Can we all take Jesus' words of peace deeply into our hearts so that we are changed? Then we can become truly people of peace in our communities and families and have no fear of God. God is love and Jesus offers us his peace no matter what we may have done. Happy Easter to everyone!

The Apostles' Creed

Let us profess the faith of the church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pray for the world and the church.

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

God's Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

When all is prepared, the Priest says,

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice
for the praise and glory of God's name,
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

God of grace,
you have freed us from our sins
and made us a kingdom in your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Accept all we offer you this day,
and strengthen us in the new life you have given us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, faithful God,
always and everywhere,
for with your only begotten Son and life-giving Spirit,
you are the one true God
from everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing
a universe of beauty and splendour,
bringing light from darkness
and order from chaos.

You formed us, male and female, in your image,
and endowed us with creative power.

We turned away from you but you did not abandon us.
You called us by name and searched us out,
making a covenant of mercy,
giving the law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you,
joining with your faithful people of every time and place,
singing the eternal song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

When the fullness of time was come,
you sent your Son to be born of Mary.

Bright image of your glory,
he learnt obedience to you in all things,
even to death on a cross,
breaking the power of evil,
freeing us from sin, and putting death to flight.

You raised him from death,
exalting him to glory,
and the new day dawned.

On the night he was betrayed
your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends,
his companions on the way.

While at table he took bread,
blessed, and broke it,
and giving it to them, said:
'Take, eat; this is my body.'

He took a cup of wine,
and, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
'This is my blood of the covenant
which is poured out for many.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,
we remember his life of obedience to you,
his suffering and death,
his resurrection and exaltation,
and his promise to be with us for ever.
With this bread and this cup
we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
and send your Holy Spirit
upon us and our celebration
that all who eat and drink at this table
may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood
to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people,
may we proclaim the everlasting gospel
of Jesus Christ our Lord,
through whom, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence to the Father
in the words our Saviour against us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the bread, saying –

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung –

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Music for Reflection

O filii et filiae, “O sons and daughters of the King”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uz9akqofziE>

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

O filii et filiae,
Rex caelestis, Rex gloriae
morte surrexit hodie. Alleluia.

Ex mane prima Sabbati
ad ostium monumenti
accesserunt discipuli. Alleluia.

Et Maria Magdalene,
et Iacobi, et Salome
Venerunt corpus ungere. Alleluia.

In albis sedens angelus
praedixit mulieribus:
In Galilaea est Dominus. Alleluia.

Discipulis astantibus,
in medio stetit Christus,
dicens: Pax vobis omnibus. Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Ye sons and daughters of the King
Whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
To-day the grave hath lost its sting! Alleluia.

On that first morning of the week,
Before the day began to break,
They went their buried Lord to seek. Alleluia.

Both Mary, as it came to pass,
And Mary Magdalene it was,
And Mary, wife of Cleophas. Alleluia.

An Angel clad in white was he
That sate and spake unto the three,
“Your Lord is gone to Galilee!” Alleluia.

That night the Apostles met in fear:
Amidst them came their Lord most dear,
And said, “Peace be unto all here!” Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon

Cf 1 John 20.27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Father,
we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands
the bread of life.
Strengthen our faith
that we may grow in love for you and for each other;
through Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Postcommunion Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaoV5w2Qfag>

1. **Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son:
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

2. **Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.**

3. **No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors, thro' thy deathless love:
bring us safe thro' Jordan to thy home above.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing and Dismissal

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you what is pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace, alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

At the Shrine of Our Lady

Regina Coeli

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!
He whom thou was meet to bear, alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God,
Who gave joy to the world
through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
grant we pray, that with his mother, the Virgin Mary,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**