

This Memorial Day weekend we remember all those who gave their lives in wars and other hostilities. These are our sons and daughters, our brothers and sisters, our fathers and mothers whose lives were tragically cut short in violent conflict. Today we also approach the end of the Easter season. We listen to Jesus pray for his disciples. We hear his disciples' devotion to prayer after Jesus ascended to the Father. May our prayers today connect us with those who are no longer with us.

As we gather together let us begin our service by professing what we believe.

Profession of Faith: Page 102

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (*bow as we say*) and by the Holy Spirit he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Introductory Rite:

Greeting:

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

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be God for ever.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Penitential Rite:

My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves for this celebration, let us call to mind our sins.

Lord Jesus, you are the eternal word of the Father: Lord, have mercy.	<b>Lord, have mercy.</b>
Lord Jesus, you are the Savior of the world: Christ, have mercy	<b>Christ, have mercy.</b>
Lord Jesus, you are the way to eternal life: Lord, have mercy.	<b>Lord, have mercy.</b>

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Opening Prayer:

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord, so that we, who believe that the Savior of the human race is with you in your glory, may experience, as he promised, until the end of the world, his abiding presence among us.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word:First Reading Page 48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*Acts 1:12-14*

After Jesus had been taken up to heaven the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they entered the city they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**Responsorial Psalm Page 48

R/. I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

*Psalm 27:1, 4 7-8***R/. I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?

The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid? **R/.**

One thing I ask of the LORD; this I seek: To dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,  
That I may gaze on the loveliness of the LORD and contemplate his temple. **R/.**

Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me.

Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks. **R/.**Second Reading Page 50

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter

*1 Peter 4:13-16*

Beloved: Rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that when his glory is revealed you may also rejoice exultantly. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let no one among you be made to suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as an intriguer. But whoever is made to suffer as a Christian should not be ashamed but glorify God because of the name.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**Gospel Page 50

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*John 17:1-11A***Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people, so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began. "I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you gave me is from you, because the words you gave to me I have given to them, and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for the ones you have given me, because they are yours, and everything of mine is yours and everything of yours is mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I will no longer be in the world, but they are in the world, while I am coming to you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reflection on the Word:

Within the transitional state the disciples had to navigate between following Jesus and leading his church after his resurrection, they experienced an even briefer transition: from Jesus' ascension to the coming of the Holy Spirit. In the passage of Acts immediately preceding this one, Jesus told his disciples to stay in Jerusalem for in a few days they would receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit descends upon them in the following chapter. In between, in this short passage that is today's first reading, the disciples did two things. They gathered together and they prayed. Though we already have the Holy Spirit's presence within us, every year we have the opportunity to imagine the state of the disciples during this anticipatory period, gathering together to pray during this ten-day period between Ascension and Pentecost.

Before ascending to his Father, Jesus told his disciples that once they received the Holy Spirit they would become his witnesses: first, to Jerusalem, next, to Judea and Samaria, finally, to the ends of the earth. This mission, for which they had to wait, can be ours at once. We too can move outward, from our home to our community, to our country, to the whole world. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit we can build the kingdom of God anywhere anytime.

Every Sunday for the last six weeks the second reading has been taken from the First Letter of Peter. Though unlikely to have been written by Saint Peter himself, the letter is written like a pastor addressing his faithful sojourners. The writer repeatedly encourages them to conduct themselves with reverence and humility despite persecution. Sharing in the undeserved sufferings of Christ is an opportunity to glorify God. God's tender arms, which supported his Son in his time of trial, support us as well.

Question - How can I emulate the first disciples? Can I endure suffering without fighting back? Can I devote myself to prayer? Can I become aware of the Holy Spirit's effect on my life?

Prayer of the Faithful:

On the final evening Jesus spent with his disciples, he prayed to his Father for those he loved in the world. Let us pray today for the needs of all whom God loves in the world.

- For our holy Church, that we may of one accord devote ourselves to building the kingdom of God in the world today, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For world leaders, that they may promote basic freedoms in their countries and put an end to religious and political persecution, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For those who gave their lives in armed conflict and for their families and loved ones, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For all those who suffer in mind or body from physical or mental illness, from physical or emotional trauma, and from hardships of all kinds, that their sufferings may be softened as they are joined with Christ's sufferings for us all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For our parish community, that we may glorify God in the way we live out our commitment to the gospel,, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For what else should we pray? \_\_\_\_\_ let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, may our lives give you glory as we continue the work of your Son in our world today. Hear the prayers we make and grant them through the One whom you sent, Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer: Page 134

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Rite of Peace:

The sign of peace outwardly expresses a deep spiritual reality; through this sign we acknowledge Christ's presence in each other and share the peace we have received from Him. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

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 that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

The body of Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion:

Hear us, O God our Savior, and grant us confidence, that through these sacred mysteries there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church what has already come to pass in Christ her Head.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Concluding Rite:

Final Blessing:

May the Lord bless us, ☩ protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ! **Thanks be to God.**