

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
 I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
 I know my own sheep and my own know me.
 Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 10:1–10

The Lord be with you.
 And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
 Glory to you, O Lord.

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gate-keeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
 that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,
 so that the renewal constantly at work within us
 may be the cause of our unending joy.
 Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface of Easter, pp 74–75.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,
 who laid down his life for his sheep
 and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
 and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
 the sheep you have redeemed
 by the Precious Blood of your Son.
 Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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A solemn blessing may be used.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf Psalm 97:1–2

O sing a new song to the Lord,
 for he has worked wonders;
 in the sight of the nations
 he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

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COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
 constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,
 that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism
 may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
 and come to the joys of life eternal.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Acts 6:1–7

They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: In the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to

the service of the word'. The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19, response v 22

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

or

Alleluia! (may be repeated two or three times)

- 1 Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.
- 2 For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.
- 3 The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:4-9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but

for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word: it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.'

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 14:1-12

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I

been with you all this time, Philip', said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform ever greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Preface of Easter, pp 74-75.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf John 15:1, 5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord,
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries
to pass from former ways to newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A solemn blessing may be used.

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**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER****ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *cf Isaiah 48:20*

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

COLLECT

Grant, almighty God,
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy,
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,
and that what we relive in remembrance
we may always hold to in what we do.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Acts 8:5–8, 14–17*

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

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result 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, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 65:1–7, 16, 20 response v 1*

Cry out with joy to God all the earth.

or

Alleluia! *(may be repeated two or three times)*

- 1 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 tremendous your deeds!'
- 2 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men.
- 3 He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.
- 4 Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me.

SECOND READING *1 Peter 3:15–18*

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

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer,

it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 14:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'**

Alleluia!