

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (YR C)

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (5:27-32, 40-41)

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 29:2,4-6,11-13. R. v.2)

**R. I will praise you, Lord,
you have rescued me.**

Or: Alleluia!

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the
grave. **R.**

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through
life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with
dawn. **R.**

The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into
dancing; O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse (5:11-14)

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen', and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (Cf. Lk 24:32)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.

R. Alleluia!

Or:

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has risen: he who created all things,
and has granted his mercy to men.

R. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (21:1-19)

[Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: 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, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

[The Gospel of the Lord.]

Shorter Form, verses 1-14. Read between []

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything friends?' And when they answered, 'No,' he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples were bold enough to ask 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, 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 rising from the dead.]

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered 'Yes Lord, you know 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 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 upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

'I tell you most solemnly,
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 somebody else will put a belt round
you and take you where you would rather
not go.'