

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YR C)

FIRST READING: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (7:55-60)

Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. 'I can see heaven thrown open' he said 'and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' At this all the members of the council shouted out and stopped their ears with their hands; then they all rushed at him, sent him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses put down their clothes at the feet of a young man called Saul. As they were stoning him, Stephen said in invocation, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and said aloud, 'Lord do not hold this sin against them'; and with these words he fell asleep.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 96:1-2,6-7,9. R. vv. 1-9)

R. The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

Or: Alleluia!

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,
the many coastlands be glad.
His throne is justice and right. **R.**

The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory.
All you spirits, worship him. **R.**

For you indeed are the Lord
most high above all the earth
exalted far above all spirits. **R.**

SECOND READING: A reading from the book of the Apocalypse (22:12-14, 16-17,20)

I, John, heard a voice speaking to me: 'Very soon now, I shall be with you again, bringing the reward to be given to every man according to what he deserves. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Happy are those who will have washed their robes clean, so that they will have the right to feed on the tree of life and can come through the gates into the city.'

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to make these revelations to you for the sake of the churches. I am of David's line, the root of David and the bright star of the morning.

The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' Let everyone who listens answer, 'Come.' Then let all who are thirsty come; all who want it may have the water of life, and have it free.

The one who guarantees these revelations repeats his promise: I shall indeed be with you soon. Amen; come, Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (Cf. Jn 14:18)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, say the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (17:20-26)

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:
'Holy Father, I pray not only for these,
but for those also
who through their words will believe in me.
May they all be one.
Father, may they be one in us
as you are in me and I am in you,
so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.
I have given them the glory you gave to me,
that they may be one as we are one.
With me in them and you in me,
may they be so completely one
that the world will realise that it was you who sent me
and that I have loved them as much as you love me.
Father, I want those you have given me
to be with me where I am,
so that they may always see the glory
you have given me because you loved me
before the foundation of the world.
Father, Righteous One,
the world has not known you,
but I have known you,
and these have known
that you have sent me.
I have made your name known to them
and will continue to make it known,
so that the love with which you loved me may be in
them, and so that I may be in them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.