

Third Sunday of Easter, 14 April 2024

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19 Peter's message in the temple

¹² When Peter saw this, he said to them: 'Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. ¹⁴ You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. ¹⁵ You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶ By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. ¹⁷ 'Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸ But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

PSALM 4

¹ Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer. ² How long will you people turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false gods? ³ Know that the LORD has set apart his faithful servant for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. ⁴ Tremble and do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent. ⁵ Offer the sacrifices of the righteous and trust in the LORD. ⁶ Many, LORD, are asking, 'Who will bring us prosperity?' Let the light of your face shine on us. ⁷ Fill my heart with joy when their grain and new wine abound. ⁸ In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7 We are children of God

3 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **2** Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,^[a] we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. **3** All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. **4** Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. **5** But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. **6** No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. **7** Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48 Christ has fulfilled the Scriptures

36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' **37** They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. **38** He said to them, 'Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? **39** Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.' **40** When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. **41** And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, 'Do you have anything here to eat?' **42** They gave him a piece of broiled fish, **43** and he took it and ate it in their presence. **44** He said to them, 'This is what I told you while I was still with you: everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.' **45** Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. **46** He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, **47** and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **48** You are witnesses of these things.