

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Acts 5.27-32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 117

Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

1. Let the sons of Israel say: "His love has no end."
Let the sons of Aaron say: "His love has no end."
Let those who fear the Lord say:
"His love has no end." R.
2. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone:
This is the work of the Lord a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. R.
3. O Lord, grant us salvation O Lord, grant success:
Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord God is our light. R.

SECOND READING Revelation 1.4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and
who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before
his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.
To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his
blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his
God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and
ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is
and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 20.19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week,
and the doors of the house where the disciples had met
were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood
among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said
this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disci-
ples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them
again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I
send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and
said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins
of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any,
they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve,
was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples
told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them,
'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my
finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will
not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and
Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus
came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with
you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see
my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do
not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and
my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you
have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet
have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disci-
ples, which are not written in this book. But these are written
so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messia-
h, the Son of God, and that through believing you may
have life in his name.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

