



CONSOLATA SHRINE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (OF DIVINE MERCY)

7th April 2024



FIRST READING

Acts 4:32-35

“One heart and soul”

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The company of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not anyone needy among them, for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet; and distribution was made to each as any had need. **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118: 2-4.15-18.22-24 (R.1)

R. Give praise to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

Let the house of Aaron say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

Let those who fear the Lord say,
“His mercy endures forever.” **R**

“The Lord’s right hand has done mighty deeds;
his right hand is exalted.

The Lord’s right hand has done mighty deeds.”

I shall not die; I shall live
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord punished me, punished me severely,
but did not hand me over to death. **R**

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

By the Lord has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice in it and be glad. **R**



SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-7

“Whatever is born of God overcomes the world.”

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the one begotten by him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the witness, because the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.



Alleluia, Alleluia

*You believe, Thomas, because you have seen me,
says the Lord; blessed are those
who have not seen and yet believe.*

Alleluia, Alleluia.



GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

“Eight days later Jesus came.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.” And 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; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, 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 in his hands the print of the nails, #and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe.” Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but 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; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “You have

believed because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe”. Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Reflection: The Day the Lord Made by Scott Hahn, Ph.D.



Three times in today’s Psalm we cry out a victory shout: “His mercy endures forever.” Truly we’ve known the everlasting love of God, who has come to us as our Savior. By the blood and water that flowed from Jesus’ pierced side, we’ve been made God’s children, as we hear in today’s Epistle. Yet we never met Jesus, never heard Him teach, never saw Him raised from the dead. His saving Word came to us in the Church—through the ministry of the Apostles, who in today’s Gospel are sent as He was sent. He was made a life-giving Spirit and He filled His Apostles with that Spirit. As we hear in today’s First Reading, they bore witness to His Resurrection with great power. And through their witness, handed down in the

Church through the centuries, their teaching and traditions have reached us. We encounter Him as the Apostles did—in the breaking of the bread on the Lord’s day signs of His real bodily presence. And on both nights the disciples respond by joyfully receiving Jesus as their “Lord.” Isn’t this what happens in the. There is something liturgical about the way today’s Gospel scenes unfold. It’s as if John is trying to show us how the risen Lord comes to us in the liturgy and sacraments. In both scenes it is Sunday night. The doors are bolted tight, yet Jesus mysteriously comes. He greets them with an expression, “Peace be with you,” used elsewhere by divine messengers. He shows them Mass—where our Lord speaks to us in His Word, and gives Himself to us in the sacrament of His Body and Blood? Let us approach the altar with joy, knowing that every Eucharist is the day the Lord has made—when the victory of Easter is again made wonderful in our eyes.

PRAYER FOR THE DIVINE MERCY

Eternal God, in whom Mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion – inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

1. Today, we are blessing our Tithe, our Families and our work. – **Choir lead us with a song.**
2. The Rosary will be prayed in front of the Blessed Sacrament after the 1 pm Mass today.
3. The Easter Envelopes are available at the entrances of the Church. Pick & return with your offering in the blue boxes.
4. Monday 8th is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. Candle lit Rosary will be animated by St Cecilia Choir at 5.30 pm Mass and St John Paul II Small Christian Community will animate the Rosary next Saturday 13th April, after 5 pm Mass.
5. Registration for children who are in boarding schools & have not yet received the Sacrament of Baptism, First Holy Communion & Confirmation is ongoing. Classes will be starting tomorrow 8th April 2024. Kindly register at the Catechist's Office.
6. All Secondary School Students (14-18 yrs.) are invited to the Missionary Youth Movement (MYM) formation debates program from Tuesday 16th – Friday 19th at Sunday school hall in Allamano Centre, which will be followed by commissioning during the annual Archdiocese MYM Mass on 20th April at St Mary's Msongari. For more information and registration please collect details at the tent outside the Church.
7. The CMA is recruiting new members and inviting all men to assist in the recarpeting of the Sanctuary. For more information and registration visit their desk at the tent.
8. There will be a spiritual pilgrimage to Italy from 23rd September to 4th October this year. The following places will be visited: Milan, Turin, Padova, Siena, Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo and Rome. The total cost will be 2,900 Dollars. For more information please visit the parish office during the week.

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