

Our Faith on Sunday

LITURGY

Easter Sunday

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Cf. Ps 138: 18, 5-6

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

FIRST READING:

Acts 10:34. 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection.

PSALM:

Ps 117:1-2.16-17.22-23. Rv.24

R) This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

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

Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' (R)

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R)

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R)

SECOND READING:

Colossians 3:1-4

You must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

SEQUENCE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! I Cor 5:7-8
Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

John 20:1-9

He must rise from the dead.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

I Cor 5:7-8

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

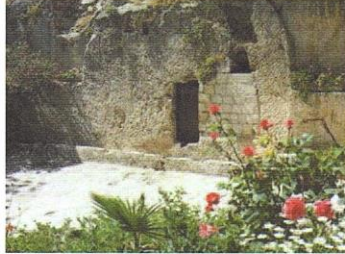
VOCATION

PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE:

Lord God you call many of us to be husbands and wives, parents, and children, in youth and old age, in sickness and in health.

You call us to love and holiness. Help us be a living image of you, and bring life to the world.
Amen.

GOSPEL REFLECTION



It is no coincidence that Mary of Magdala was first to the tomb. After all, she had been there at the foot of the cross, and she had had a deep personal relationship with Jesus, despite the fact that she had been a great sinner. She tells Peter and the other disciple (John) that "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb," but none of them thinks about the resurrection after three days in the tomb, that Jesus had told them about. Eventually the penny drops and they remember what Jesus had said to them. It is quite consoling that so often the disciples fail to understand what Jesus says to them. They don't hear with the "ears of the spirit", and they try to interpret it from a human perspective. If those who were closest to Jesus when he was on this earth had difficulty, then small wonder that we too either don't hear or don't understand what he is saying to us today. What we need to pray for is the capacity to listen to that "inner voice", the voice of the Holy Spirit and then for a further grace to be able put into

practice what that voice seems to be telling us. The more we are able to do this, the closer we will become to Jesus, so that we can live our lives "in tandem" with him.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (JOY OF THE GOSPEL)



III. THE COMMON GOOD AND PEACE IN SOCIETY

REALITIES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN IDEAS

232. Ideas – conceptual elaborations – are at the service of communication, understanding, and praxis. Ideas disconnected from realities give rise to ineffectual forms of idealism and nominalism, capable at most of classifying and defining, but certainly not calling to action. What calls us to action are realities illuminated by reason. Formal nominalism has to give way to harmonious objectivity. Otherwise, the truth is manipulated, cosmetics take the place of real care for our bodies.¹⁸⁵ We have politicians – and even religious leaders – who wonder why people do not understand and follow them, since their proposals are so clear and logical. Perhaps it is because they are stuck in the realm of pure ideas and end up reducing politics or faith to rhetoric. Others have left simplicity behind and have imported a rationality foreign to most people.

¹⁸⁵ Cf. Plato, Gorgias, 465.

The Sacrament of the Present Moment*

THE WAYS IN WHICH GOD USES US

God uses us in two ways:

- 1) When we act on our own initiative.
- 2) When we let God act through us.

To act on our own initiative is to seek to do what God wants. To act on God's initiative means being open to God's inspirations. Surrender makes both forms of action possible. It entails a complete commitment to doing God's will in the present moment.
God wants us NOW.

God will show us the Divine Will NOW.

Our part is to live in life's NOW so that God can take complete possession of our hearts, not at some time in the distant future but right NOW in the present moment.

The present is a present from God where God is found.

Open that present and find God in the simplicity of a pure heart that wants only what God wants.

*Jean Pierre de Caussade's Self-Abandonment to Divine Providence for everyone by Elizabeth Ruth Obbard and published by New City ISBN: 978-1-905039-11-1

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