



THE SAVING WORD

EASTER SUNDAY / B

31 MARCH 2024

had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(see opposite page)

SECOND READING Col 3: 1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died,

and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

■ The word of the Lord.

SEQUENCE

The sequence may be said or sung.

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. / The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; / and Christ, the undefiled, / hath sinners to his Father reconciled. / Death with life contended; combat strangely ended! / Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. / Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. / The tomb the Living did enclose; / I saw Christ's glory as he rose! / The angels there attesting, / shroud with grave-clothes resting. / Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. / That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. / Victorious king, thy mercy show!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Cor 5: 7-8

Alleluia, alleluia! / Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; / let us feast with joy in the Lord. / Alleluia!

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GOSPEL

Jn 20: 1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

MASS OF EASTER NIGHT

EPISTLE

Rom 6: 3-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

■ The word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 117: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23

R. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

1. 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.**

2. 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.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

GOSPEL

Mk 16: 1-7

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has risen.

When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to

go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising.

They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right-hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you."'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

MASS DURING THE DAY

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34, 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea: about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John