

## Sunday 12 April – 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 2:14a, 22-32

On the day of Pentecost, <sup>14</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: <sup>22</sup>‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know – <sup>23</sup>this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.  
<sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

<sup>29</sup>‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Foreseeing this, David

spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,  
“He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.”

<sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.’

## **Psalm 16**

Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge; ♦  
I have said to the Lord, ‘You are my lord,  
all my good depends on you.’

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, ♦  
upon those who are noble in heart.

Though the idols are legion that many run after, ♦  
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,  
neither make mention of their names upon my lips.

The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; ♦  
in your hands alone is my fortune.

My share has fallen in a fair land; ♦  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage. **R**

I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, ♦  
and in the night watches he instructs my heart.

I have set the Lord always before me; ♦  
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; ♦  
my flesh also shall rest secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Death, ♦  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence is the fullness of joy ♦  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

## **Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the genuineness of your faith – being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.

<sup>8</sup>Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## **Gospel: John 20:19-end**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors 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 side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.”

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.