

## TUESDAY MAY 12

EASTER WEEKDAY

[ **St. Nereus and St. Achilleus**,  
*martyrs (early second century)* ]

Nereus and Achilleus were soldiers in the imperial (Roman) army. All that is known of them originates from a fourth-century inscription by Pope Damasus. He writes that these soldiers had converted to Christianity, then left the army, and were martyred when they refused to sacrifice to idols sometime during the reign of Emperor Trajan (98-117). May we also be steadfast in our devotion to the Lord. ●

[ **St. Pancras**, *martyr (d.c. 304)* ]  
Little is known about Pancras, but he was thought to be a Syrian orphan brought to Rome by his uncle, where both became Christians. At the age of fourteen, Pancras was beheaded during the Diocletian persecution of Christians and

buried on the Via Aurelia in a cemetery later renamed for him. His remains were sent to the king of Northumbria in England in 664. May we imitate his courage in the face of hardship. ●

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*(Revelation 19:5; 12:10)*

Sing praise to our God, all you who fear God, both small and great, for now salvation and strength have come, and the power of his Christ, alleluia.

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### COLLECT

O God, who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, grant your people constancy in faith and hope, that we may never doubt the promises of which we have learned from you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with

you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

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**READING** (*Acts 14:19-28*)

In those days, some Jews from Antioch and Iconium arrived and won over the crowds. They stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. But when the disciples gathered around him, he got up and entered the city. On the following day he left with Barnabas for Derbe.

After they had proclaimed the good news to that city and made a considerable number of disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch. They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying, “It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God.” They appointed presby-

ters for them in each Church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith. Then they traveled through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. After proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia. From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now accomplished. And when they arrived, they called the Church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. Then they spent no little time with the disciples.

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

(*Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21*)

**R: Your friends make known,  
O Lord, the glorious splendor  
of your kingdom. OR Alleluia.**

Let all your works give you  
thanks, O LORD,

and let your faithful  
ones bless you.  
Let them discourse of the  
glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your might.  
**R** *Your friends make known,  
O Lord, the glorious splendor  
of your kingdom.* **OR** *Alleluia.*  
Making known to men  
your might  
and the glorious splendor  
of your kingdom.  
Your kingdom is a kingdom  
for all ages,  
and your dominion  
endures through  
all generations. **R**  
May my mouth speak  
the praise of the LORD,  
and may all flesh bless  
his holy name forever  
and ever. **R**

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**ALLELUIA** (See Luke 24:46, 26)

**Alleluia, alleluia.** Christ had to suffer and to rise from the dead, and so enter into his glory. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL** (John 14:27-31a)

**J**esus said to his disciples: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, ‘I am going away and I will come back to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe. I will no longer speak much with you, for the ruler of the world is coming. He has no power over me, but the world must know that I love the Father and that I do just as the Father has commanded me.”

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**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Receive, O Lord, we pray,  
these offerings of your  
exultant Church,

and, as you have given  
 her cause for such great  
 gladness,  
 grant also that the gifts we  
 bring  
 may bear fruit in perpetual  
 happiness.  
 Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

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**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** (*Romans 6:8*)  
 If we have died with Christ,

we believe that we shall also  
 live with Christ, alleluia.

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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Look with kindness upon  
 your people, O Lord,  
 and grant, we pray,  
 that those you were pleased to  
 renew by eternal mysteries  
 may attain in their flesh  
 the incorruptible glory of the  
 resurrection.

**Today's Good News**

**“My peace I give to you” (John 14:27).** » The establishment of global and lasting peace is impossible through human efforts alone. Our hopes for peace cannot rely solely on our treaties, our disarmaments, our defensive weaponry. These only delay the inevitable crisis that will nullify what was once ratified. Peace cannot exist as a deterrent to violence or as a temporary calm in the midst of a hurricane. True peace is God's gift to us, an openness to that which we cannot manufacture by our own efforts. It is given as a gift. The living and true gift of peace lives in the hearts of those who work for its realization here on earth while knowing that its full and lasting presence is yet to come. It is hidden in the creative wisdom and generosity of God. We have in our hearts the very life of God, which is the true source of all human efforts toward seeking and finding peace. **FR. JAMES STEPHEN BEHRENS, OCSO**

Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



#### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Paul experiences hardships, but Jesus offers peace.

● **When has Jesus brought peace in my hard times?**

*Jesus, give me your peace so that...*

« How many people are hidden martyrs for Christ each day, **confessing the Lord Jesus with their deeds!** »

**ST. AMBROSE**

## WEDNESDAY MAY 13

LENTEN WEEKDAY

### [ **Our Lady of Fatima** ]

This title was given to the Blessed Virgin Mary after she appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, between May 13 and October 13, 1917. Identifying herself as Our Lady of the Rosary, Mary stressed the importance of repentance, conversion of heart, and dedication to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, especially through daily recitation of the Rosary. May we heed Mary's call to conversion of heart so that the world might be a better place for all. ●

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*(Cf. Psalm 71 [70]:8, 23)*

Let my mouth be filled with your praise, that I may sing aloud; my lips shall shout for joy, when I sing to you, alleluia.