

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.

COLLECT

O God, restorer and lover of innocence,
 direct the hearts of your servants towards yourself,
 that those you have set free from the darkness of unbelief may never stray from the light of your truth.
 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.

READING (*Acts 15:1-6*)

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved.” Because there arose no little dissension and debate by Paul and Barnabas with them, it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some

of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles and presbyters about this question. They were sent on their journey by the Church, and passed through Phoenicia and Samaria telling of the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brethren. When they arrived in Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the Church, as well as by the Apostles and the presbyters, and they reported what God had done with them. But some from the party of the Pharisees who had become believers stood up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them and direct them to observe the Mosaic law.”

The Apostles and the presbyters met together to see about this matter.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(*Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5*)

R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. OR Alleluia.

I rejoiced because they said
to me,

“We will go up to the
house of the LORD.”

And now we have set foot
within your gates,

O Jerusalem.

R *Let us go rejoicing to the house
of the Lord. OR Alleluia.*

Jerusalem, built as a city
with compact unity.

To it the tribes go up,

the tribes of the LORD, **R**

According to the decree
for Israel,

to give thanks to the name
of the LORD.

In it are set up judgment
seats,

seats for the house
of David. **R**

ALLELUIA (*John 15:4a, 5b*)

Alleluia, alleluia. Remain in me,
as I remain in you, says the
Lord; whoever remains in me
will bear much fruit. **Alleluia,
alleluia.**

GOSPEL (*John 15:1-8*)

Jesus said to his disciples:
“I am the true vine, and
my Father is the vine
grower. He takes away every
branch in me that does not
bear fruit, and everyone that
does he prunes so that it bears
more fruit. You are already
pruned because of the word
that I spoke to you. Remain in
me, as I remain in you. Just as
a branch cannot bear fruit on
its own unless it remains on
the vine, so neither can you
unless you remain in me. I am
the vine, you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me and I
in him will bear much fruit,
because without me you can
do nothing. Anyone who
does not remain in me will
be thrown out like a branch
and wither; people will gather
them and throw them into a
fire and they will be burned.
If you remain in me and my
words remain in you, ask for

whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries, so that the renewal constantly at work within us

may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord has risen and shone his light upon us, whom he has redeemed by his Blood, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Hear, O Lord, our prayers,

Today's Good News

In the 1980s there was a lively song that said, “I’m so excited, and I just can’t hide it!” Those sentiments are similar to Psalm 122, which the pilgrims sang and danced to when they finally reached Jerusalem. Gazing at the city’s massive gates and thick walls, they were filled with overwhelming delight. Why such excitement? Because Jerusalem was the site of the magnificent temple where God dwelt in a special way. In the temple, the pilgrims put aside their petty disagreements and joined one another in praising God in song and dance. Most of our entrance songs and processions in church today are pretty subdued compared to the exuberance of this ancient entrance psalm. But the underlying cause for excitement and enthusiasm remains the same: God is here, working wonders for all of us. **SR. MELANNIE SVOBODA, SND**

that this most holy exchange,
by which you have
redeemed us,
may bring your help in this
present life
and ensure for us eternal
gladness.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Jesus promises he will grant our requests.

● **What do I most want to ask Jesus?**

Jesus, today please give me...

« If people knew the meaning of eternity, **they would do anything to mend their lives.** »

ST. JACINTA OF FATIMA

THURSDAY MAY 14

ST. MATTHIAS

St. Matthias, *apostle (first century)*

The Acts of the Apostles tells us that Matthias was chosen after the resurrection to replace Judas.



Peter, quoting a psalm, told the people gathered that they must choose a new apostle: someone who had been with them from the time of “the baptism of John” until the resurrection, someone who could join them in bearing witness to these events. Two names were put forward and the assembly cast lots, the lot falling to Matthias. Nothing more is known of his life or apostolic work. Like him, may we be ready when God calls us to witness to the resurrection. ●