



## FRIDAY MAY 15

EASTER WEEKDAY

[ **St. Isidore** (1070-1130) ]

Born in Spain to poor farm laborers, Isidore and his wife, St. Maria (Torribia) de la Cabeza, spent their lives working on an estate and were renowned for their piety and generosity. After Isidore's death, his remains were transferred to a beautiful shrine and his fame spread. Many miracles were attributed to him, including the cure of King Philip III, who saw to it that Isidore was formally canonized in 1622. He is a patron of farmers and of the city of Madrid. ●

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*(Revelation 5:12)*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honor, alleluia.

### COLLECT

Grant us, Lord, we pray,  
that, being rightly conformed  
to the paschal mysteries,  
what we celebrate in joy  
may protect and save us  
with perpetual power.  
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 15:22-31)*

The Apostles and presbyters, in agreement with the whole Church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers. This is the letter delivered by them: "The Apostles and the presbyters, your brothers, to the brothers

in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings. Since we have heard that some of our number who went out without any mandate from us have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are sending Judas and Silas who will also convey this same message by word of mouth: ‘It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. Farewell.’”

And so they were sent on their journey. Upon their arrival in Antioch they called the assembly together and delivered the letter. When the people read it, they were delighted with the exhortation.

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### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*(Psalm 57:8-9, 10, 12)*

**R** *I will give you thanks among the peoples, O Lord.*

**OR** *Alleluia.*

My heart is steadfast, O God;  
my heart is steadfast;

I will sing and  
chant praise.

Awake, O my soul; awake,  
lyre and harp!

I will wake the dawn. **R**

I will give thanks to you  
among the peoples,  
O LORD,

I will chant your praise  
among the nations.

For your mercy towers  
to the heavens,  
and your faithfulness

to the skies.  
Be exalted above the  
heavens, O God;  
above all the earth  
be your glory! R

**ALLELUIA** (*John 15:15b*)

**Alleluia, alleluia.** I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all

that the Father has told me.  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL** (*John 15:12-17*)

**J**esus said to his disciples: “This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You

### Today’s Good News

**“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you” (John 15:12).** » Jesus’ standard of love is really high: his own example of loving. And what did that entail? First of all, Jesus’ love was inclusive. He welcomed the poor and rich, Jew and Gentile, women and men, healthy and sick, young and old, timid and bold, charming and annoying. No one was outside his circle of loving—not even those who put him to death. And it was Jesus’ love that enabled him to lay down his life for us. The laying down of our life for others can take many forms: a single sweeping gesture—like a firefighter entering a burning building—or the countless small acts of self-denial involved in sustaining a marriage, raising a child, living a religious commitment, serving in a particular ministry, or enduring pain. “Love one another as I love you.” What a challenge that is! But the good news is this: Jesus, our friend, strengthens us in all our attempts to be inclusive and selfless in our loving. **SR. MELANNIE SVOBODA, SND**

are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another.”

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#### **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray, and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice, make of us an eternal offering to you. Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

The Crucified is risen from the dead and has redeemed us, alleluia.

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#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

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#### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

Jesus has chosen us to bring his message to others.

● **To whom is Jesus sending me today?**

*Jesus, today I will...*