

FRIDAY MAY 22

EASTER WEEKDAY

[**St. Rita of Cascia**, *religious* (1381-1457)] Born in Italy, she wanted to be a nun but instead was forced to marry a cruel and ill-tempered man. After his death eighteen years later, she sought to enter a convent, but was refused because she had been married and was not a virgin. Finally, she was admitted to the Augustinian convent at Cascia and lived there for forty years. She was known as a mystic, for her counseling of lay visitors, and for care of the poor and sick. Like her, let us serve those who are in need. ●

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Revelation 5:9-10)

You have redeemed us, Lord,
by your Blood from every
tribe and tongue and people
and nation, and have made
us into a kingdom, priests for

our God, alleluia.

COLLECT

*In regions where the Ascension
was celebrated on Thursday:*

O God, who restore us to
eternal life
in the Resurrection of Christ,
raise us up, we pray, to the
author of our salvation,
who is seated at your right
hand,
so that, when our Savior
comes again in majesty,
those you have given new
birth in Baptism
may be clothed with blessed
immortality.
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.

OR

In regions where the Ascension will be celebrated on Sunday:

Hear our prayers, O Lord,
so that what was promised
by the sanctifying power of
your Word
may everywhere be
accomplished
through the working of the
Gospel
and that all your adopted
children may attain
what the testimony of truth
has foretold.
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 18:9-18*)

One night while Paul was in Corinth, the Lord said to him in a vision, “Do not be afraid.

Go on speaking, and do not be silent, for I am with you. No one will attack and harm you, for I have many people in this city.” He settled there for a year and a half and taught the word of God among them.

But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews rose up together against Paul and brought him to the tribunal, saying, “This man is inducing people to worship God contrary to the law.” When Paul was about to reply, Gallio spoke to the Jews, “If it were a matter of some crime or malicious fraud, I should with reason hear the complaint of you Jews; but since it is a question of arguments over doctrine and titles and your own law, see to it yourselves. I do not wish to be a judge of such matters.” And he drove them away from the tribunal. They all seized Sosthenes, the synagogue official, and beat him in

full view of the tribunal. But none of this was of concern to Gallio.

Paul remained for quite some time, and after saying farewell to the brothers he sailed for Syria, together with Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had shaved his head because he had taken a vow.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Psalm 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7)

R. God is king of all the earth.

OR Alleluia.

All you peoples,
 clap your hands,
 shout to God
 with cries of gladness,
 For the LORD, the Most High,
 the awesome,
 is the great king over all
 the earth. **R.**
 He brings people under us;
 nations under our feet.
 He chooses for us
 our inheritance,

the glory of Jacob,
 whom he loves. **R.**
 God mounts his throne
 amid shouts of joy;
 the LORD, amid
 trumpet blasts.
 Sing praise to God,
 sing praise;
 sing praise to our king,
 sing praise. **R.**

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 16:20-23)

Jesus said to his disciples: “Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy. When a woman is in labor, she is in anguish because her hour has arrived; but when she has given birth to a child, she no longer

remembers the pain because of her joy that a child has been born into the world. So you also are now in anguish. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. On that day you will not question me about anything. Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you.”

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept in compassion, Lord,
we pray,
the offerings of your family,
that under your protective
care
they may never lose what
they have received,
but attain the gifts that are
eternal.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Today's Good News

A psychiatrist friend, known for his compassion and common sense, told me that when his daughter was a teenager, she would sigh and wish for “someone just to talk to.” He also confessed that his son would often sneak down to the local convenience store to talk to the guy who worked the evening shift. Those we love the most are often beyond our reach. St. Paul grew up a good Jewish man, a recognized expert in the law and faithful to its practice. Yet when he speaks to the Jewish community about Jesus, the fulfillment of the law, and the prophets whom he has encountered in a most personal and convincing way, he is rejected, even threatened. Ultimately, Paul is led to share the gospel with the Gentile community. When we feel the pain of rejection by those we love, let’s remember Paul, and make of our lives a witness to the gospel for our loved ones and all on our path. **PAIGE BYRNE SHORTAL**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Romans 4:25)

Christ our Lord was handed over for our transgressions and was raised again for our justification, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Keep safe, O Lord, we pray,
those whom you have saved
by your kindness,
that, redeemed by
the Passion of your Son,
they may rejoice
in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns for ever
and ever. **Amen.**

. . .

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Paul had to overcome his fear to keep on speaking of God.

● **What fear keeps me from speaking about God?**

Jesus, help me to...

SATURDAY MAY 23

EASTER WEEKDAY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. 1 Peter 2:9)

O chosen people, proclaim the mighty works of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light, alleluia.

COLLECT

In regions where the Ascension was celebrated on Thursday:

O God, whose Son, at his Ascension to the heavens, was pleased to promise the Holy Spirit to the Apostles, grant, we pray, that, just as they received manifold gifts of heavenly teaching, so on us, too, you may bestow spiritual gifts.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,