

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*(Romans 4:25)*

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

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## 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.**

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## 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.

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## 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,

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:*

Constantly shape our minds,  
we pray, O Lord,  
by the practice of good  
works,  
that, trying always for what is  
better,  
we may strive to hold ever  
fast to the Paschal Mystery.  
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 18:23-28*)

After staying in Antioch some

time, Paul left and traveled in  
orderly sequence through the  
Galatian country and Phrygia,  
bringing strength to all the  
disciples.

A Jew named Apollos, a  
native of Alexandria, an elo-  
quent speaker, arrived in  
Ephesus. He was an author-  
ity on the Scriptures. He had  
been instructed in the Way  
of the Lord and, with ardent  
spirit, spoke and taught accu-  
rately about Jesus, although  
he knew only the baptism  
of John. He began to speak  
boldly in the synagogue; but  
when Priscilla and Aquila  
heard him, they took him  
aside and explained to him  
the Way of God more accu-  
rately. And when he wanted to  
cross to Achaia, the brothers  
encouraged him and wrote to  
the disciples there to welcome  
him. After his arrival he gave  
great assistance to those who  
had come to believe through

grace. He vigorously refuted the Jews in public, establishing from the Scriptures that the Christ is Jesus.

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### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Psalm 47:2-3, 8-9, 10)

**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.**  
For king of all  
the earth is God;  
sing hymns of praise.  
God reigns over the nations,  
God sits upon  
his holy throne. **R.**  
The princes of the peoples  
are gathered together  
with the people of the God  
of Abraham.  
For God's are the guardians

of the earth;  
he is supreme. **R.**

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**ALLELUIA** (John 16:28)

**Alleluia, alleluia.** I came from the Father and have come into the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

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**GOSPEL** (John 16:23b-28)

**J**esus said to his disciples: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you. Until now you have not asked anything in my name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

"I have told you this in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures but I will tell you clearly about the Father. On that day you will ask in my name, and I do not tell you that I will ask the Father

for you. For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have come to believe that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.”

**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

**Today's Good News**

**“Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete” (John**

**16:24).** » The resolution of the problem of desire in Christianity is ultimately achieved by making our greatest desire the love of God. The first great commandment is to love the Lord our God with every fiber of our being. If we cultivate this desire above all others, then we will come to know union with God, and we will come to know serenity. We will still experience other desires. When we are hungry, we will desire food; when we are working, we will desire just pay. In fact, loving God above all else allows us to desire more things than ever before. But what usually happens is that when we love God above all else, our desires for people and things change in many ways. We begin to want whatever will help us live in union, and we begin to reject whatever takes us away from God. We might still experience temptation, but it doesn't have the power that it once held over us. We might still desire worldly things like wealth, but we hold this desire more loosely. If it comes to pass, fine. If not, then we already possess the pearl of great price, which is the love of God. **PHILIP ST. ROMAIN** (*Reflecting on the Serenity Prayer*)

our Lord. **Amen.**

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**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*(John 17:24)*

Father, I wish that, where I am, those you gave me may also be with me, that they may see the glory that you gave me, 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 asks us to have confidence when he returns to God.

- **What makes it hard for me to have confidence in Jesus' promises?**

*Jesus, help me to trust you...*

« **The ascension of Christ is our elevation.** Hope for the body is also invited where the glory of the Head preceded us. Let us rejoice. »

**POPE ST. LEO THE GREAT**