

THURSDAY

MAY 28

EASTER WEEKDAY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Hebrews 4:16)

With boldness let us approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace as a timely help, alleluia.

COLLECT

May your Spirit, O Lord,
we pray,
imbue us powerfully with
spiritual gifts,
that he may give us a mind
pleasing to you
and graciously conform us to
your will.

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 22:30; 23:6-11)*

Wishing to determine the truth about why Paul was being accused by the Jews, the commander freed him and ordered the chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin to convene. Then he brought Paul down and made him stand before them.

Paul was aware that some were Sadducees and some Pharisees, so he called out before the Sanhedrin, “My brothers, I am a Pharisee, the son of Pharisees; I am on trial for hope in the resurrection of the dead.” When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the group became divided. For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection or angels or spirits, while the Pharisees acknowledge all three. A great uproar occurred, and some scribes belonging to the Pharisee party stood up

and sharply argued, “We find nothing wrong with this man. Suppose a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?” The dispute was so serious that the commander, afraid that Paul would be torn to pieces by them, ordered his troops to go down and rescue Paul from their midst and take him into the compound. The following night the Lord stood by him and said, “Take courage. For just as you have borne witness to my cause in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness in Rome.”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Psalm 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11)

R: Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope. OR Alleluia.

Keep me, O God, for in you
I take refuge;
I say to the LORD,
“My Lord are you.”
O LORD, my allotted portion
and my cup,

you it is who hold fast
my lot. **R**

I bless the LORD who
counsels me;
even in the night my heart
exhorts me.

I set the LORD ever
before me;
with him at my right hand
I shall not be disturbed.

R
Therefore my heart is glad
and my soul rejoices,
my body, too, abides
in confidence;
Because you will not abandon
my soul to the
nether world,
nor will you suffer your
faithful one to undergo
corruption. **R**
You will show me the path
to life,
fullness of joys in your
presence,
the delights at your right
hand forever. **R**

ALLELUIA (*John 17:21*)

Alleluia, alleluia. May they all be one as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that the world may believe that you sent me, says the Lord. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL (*John 17:20-26*)

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying: “I pray not only for these, but also for those who

will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the

Today's Good News

We're the ones Jesus was praying for in this long soliloquy after the Last Supper. He prayed for us to be in him and God so that “the world may believe that you sent me...and that you loved them even as you loved me” (John 17:21, 24). Of all the things he could have prayed for on our behalf (charity, forgiveness, peace, generosity), he prayed that the peoples of the world would believe that God loves them. Maybe I should adopt this as my only prayer. For one who deeply believes God loves him or her, all other suffering is eased. Knowing we're loved by God releases us from the deep anxiety I believe we all carry that we're not truly loved, that we don't truly matter. That anxiety, I believe, drives people to do all sorts of destructive and hurtful things to others in our world. So let us pray, fervently, with Jesus that all will come to know they are loved by God. **AILEEN O'DONOGHUE**

world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me. Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.”

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 *(John 16:7)*

I tell you the truth, it is for your good that I go; for if I do not go away, the Paraclete will not come to you, says the Lord, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the mysteries we have received, O Lord, we pray, enlighten us by the instruction they bring and restore us through our participation in them, that we may merit the gifts of the Spirit.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Jesus' love transforms us and unites us to God.

- **How has Jesus' love most changed me during this Easter season?**

Jesus, be with me so that...