

Second Sunday of Easter or Solemnity of the Sunday of Divine Mercy

Sunday, April 27, 2014

Readings: 1) 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a2) Ephesians 5:8-143) John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today's Mass is that being together in community can strengthen our relationship with God.

In today's Scriptures, we find the believing community is gathered together. After Jesus' death, the disciples encountered the Risen Lord while they were together, and a sense of unity is seen as a strength of the early Church. So, while coming together for worship is not the only way, it is a *major way* in which we encounter God.

In today's first reading, we hear how the early Christians in Jerusalem lived and worshiped in common.

The reading from Peter affirms: *God gave us new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

Today's Gospel tells how the Apostles received the power of the Holy Spirit to forgive sins, and how Thomas' doubt was erased.

INTERCESSIONS

Priest:

As we join together in prayer, let us approach the Father with humility, bringing to him our needs and the needs of others.

For all Christians, as the new life of Easter asks for peace among rival nations, restored harmony within divided families, and renewed covenants for married couples, let us pray.

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

For leaders of governments as they strive to rule with compassion and mercy, let us pray.

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

For the suffering and for the sick,
As they pray for relief, let us pray.

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

For the faithful departed,
As we hope they share in the eternal banquet with all the angels and saints, let us pray.

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

For those in our parish who were baptized this Easter season,, let us pray.

For all who struggle to believe,
may the example of this parish community
lead them to experience renewed faith in the Risen Lord, let us pray.

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

For our own personal intention.....(long pause)

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

Priest:

Merciful Father, we ask your blessing on these petitions. Through Christ our Lord.

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