

Lectionary

You are invited to follow the first two readings while seated, and as is the custom, to just listen, standing if possible, as the Holy Gospel is proclaimed.

Midweek 15th April 2026 Easter 2

The Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and
wickedness that we may always serve you in pure-
ness of living and truth; through the merits of your
Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns
with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First reading: Acts 5:17-26

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, 'Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life.' When they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and went on with their teaching.

When the high priest and those with him arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the temple police went there, they did not find them in the prison; so they returned and reported, 'We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside.' Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them, wondering what might be going on. Then someone arrived and announced, 'Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!' Then the captain went with the temple police and brought them, but without violence, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

This is the word of the Lord,

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Psalm 34:1-8

1. I will bless the Lord at all times; • his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
2. My soul shall glory in the Lord; • let the humble hear and be glad.

3. O magnify the Lord with me; • let us exalt his name together.
4. I sought the Lord and he answered me • and delivered me from all my fears.
5. Look upon him and be radiant • and your faces shall not be ashamed.
6. This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me • and saved me from all my troubles.
7. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him • and delivers them.
8. O taste and see that the Lord is gracious; • blessed is the one who trusts in him.

This is the word of the Lord,

All: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: John 3:16-21

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured
your children of eternal life and in baptism have made
us one with him:
deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life
in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

