

FIRST READING

It was impossible for Jesus to be held by the power of Hades.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:14, 22-24

On the day of Pentecost,
Peter stood with the eleven apostles
and spoke in a loud and clear voice to the crowd:

“Friends and everyone else living in Jerusalem,
listen carefully to what I have to say!”

“Now, listen to what I have to say about Jesus from Nazareth.
God proved that he sent Jesus to you
by having him work miracles, wonders, and signs.
All of you know this.”

“God had already planned and decided
that Jesus would be handed over to you.
So you took him and had evil men put him to death on a cross.”

“But God set him free from death and raised him to life.
Death could not hold him in its power.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

18:1-2, 46 and 50ab

R. (2) I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord God,
and you make me strong.
You are my mighty rock,
my fortress, my protector,
the rock where I am safe,
my shield, my powerful weapon,
and my place of shelter.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

You are the living Lord!
I will praise you.
You are a mighty rock.
I will honor you
for keeping me safe.
You give me glorious victories to your chosen king.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

ALLELUIA

See Luke 24:32

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us;
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

They recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke 24:13-35

Two of Jesus' disciples were going to the village of Emmaus,
which was about seven miles from Jerusalem.
As they were talking and thinking about what had happened,
Jesus came near and started walking along beside them.
But they did not know who he was.

Jesus asked them, "What were you talking about as you walked along?"

The two of them stood there looking sad and gloomy.
Then the one named Cleopas asked Jesus,
"Are you the only person from Jerusalem
who didn't know what was happening there these last few days?"

"What do you mean?" Jesus asked.

They answered:
"Those things that happened to Jesus from Nazareth.

By what he did and said
 he showed that he was a powerful prophet,
 who pleased God and all the people.
Then the chief priests and our leaders
 had him arrested and sentenced to die on a cross.
We had hoped that he would be the one to set Israel free!

“But it has already been three days since all this happened.
Some women in our group surprised us.
They had gone to the tomb early in the morning,
 but did not find the body of Jesus.
They came back,
 saying that they had seen a vision of angels
 who told them that he is alive.
Some men from our group went to the tomb
 and found it just as the women had said.
But they didn’t see Jesus either.”

Then Jesus asked the two disciples,
“Why can’t you understand?
How can you be so slow to believe all that the prophets said?
Didn’t you know that the Messiah would have to suffer
 before he was given his glory?”

Jesus then explained everything written about himself
 in the Scriptures,
 beginning with the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets.

When the tow of them came near the village where they were going,
 Jesus seemed to be going farther.
They begged him, “Stay with us!
It’s already late, and the sun is going down.”
So Jesus went into the house to stay with them.

After Jesus sat down to eat,
 he took some bread.
He blessed it and broke it.
Then he gave it to them.
At once they knew who he was,
 but he disappeared.

They said to each other,
“When he talked with us along the road
 and explained the Scriptures to us,
 didn’t it warm our hearts?”
So they got right up and returned to Jerusalem.

The two disciples
found the eleven apostles and the others gathered together.
And they learned from the group
that the Lord was really alive and had appeared to Peter.

Then the disciples from Emmaus told what happened on the road
and how they knew he was the Lord
when he broke the bread.

The gospel of the Lord.

Discussion Questions:

Why don't you think the disciples recognized Jesus?

What happened to make them realize that it was Him?

How do you think they felt when they realized it was Jesus?

What can you do to help yourself pay attention during Mass so you don't miss Jesus?

How do you recognize Jesus in your life?

Activity:

Supplies – Blank Name Tags, Markers – other optional decorating supplies such as glue, glitter, etc.

Give every child a name tag. Ask them to write "Jesus" on it, decorate it and then wear it back to church and throughout the rest of the day to remind themselves that Jesus is with them and in them as well as everyone else.