

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

Sunday 16 May 2021

### Readings at Mass

#### Collect

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,  
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race  
is with you in your glory,  
may experience, as he promised,  
until the end of the world,  
his abiding presence among us.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

#### First reading

Acts 1:15-17,20-26

#### 'Let someone else take his office'

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: 'Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. Now in the Book of Psalms it says:

Let someone else take his office.

'We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.'

Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, 'Lord, you can read everyone's heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.' They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 102(103):1-2,11-12,19-20

*The Lord has set his sway in heaven.*

**or**

*Alleluia.*

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

*The Lord has set his sway in heaven.*

**or**

*Alleluia.*

For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.

*The Lord has set his sway in heaven.*

**or**

*Alleluia.*

The Lord has set his sway in heaven  
and his kingdom is ruling over all.  
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,  
mighty in power, fulfilling his word.

*The Lord has set his sway in heaven.*

**or**

*Alleluia.*

## **Second reading**

**1 John 4:11-16**

### **Anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him**

My dear people,  
since God has loved us so much,  
we too should love one another.  
No one has ever seen God;  
but as long as we love one another  
God will live in us  
and his love will be complete in us.  
We can know that we are living in him  
and he is living in us  
because he lets us share his Spirit.  
We ourselves saw and we testify  
that the Father sent his Son  
as saviour of the world.  
If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,  
God lives in him, and he in God.  
We ourselves have known and put our faith in  
God's love towards ourselves.

God is love  
and anyone who lives in love lives in God,  
and God lives in him.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**cf. Jn14:18**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;  
I will come back to you,  
and your hearts will be full of joy.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

**John 17:11-19**

#### **Father, keep those you have given me true to your name**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:  
‘Holy Father,  
keep those you have given me true to your name,  
so that they may be one like us.  
While I was with them,  
I kept those you had given me true to your name.  
I have watched over them  
and not one is lost  
except the one who chose to be lost,  
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.  
But now I am coming to you  
and while still in the world I say these things  
to share my joy with them to the full.  
I passed your word on to them,  
and the world hated them,  
because they belong to the world  
no more than I belong to the world.  
I am not asking you to remove them from the world,  
but to protect them from the evil one.  
They do not belong to the world  
any more than I belong to the world.  
Consecrate them in the truth;  
your word is truth.  
As you sent me into the world,  
I have sent them into the world,  
and for their sake I consecrate myself  
so that they too may be consecrated in truth.’

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful  
with the sacrificial offerings,  
that through these acts of devotedness  
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Prayer after Communion**

Hear us, O God our Saviour,  
and grant us confidence,  
that through these sacred mysteries  
there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church  
what has already come to pass in Christ her Head.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.