FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Year A

ENTRANCE HYMN

- Father, I place into your hands the things that I can't do Father, I place into your hands the things that I've been through
 - Father, I place into your hands the way that I should go For I know, I always can trust you
- Father, I place into your hands my friends and family Father, I place into your hands the things that trouble me Father, I place into your hands the person I would be For I know, I always can trust you

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 129 R) v. 7

37:12-14

- R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
- Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!
 O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
- If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
 But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. (R.)
- My soul is waiting for the Lord,
 I count on his word.
 My soul is longing for the Lord
 more than watchman for daybreak.
 (Let the watchman count on daybreak
 and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
- Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (R.)



SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:8-11 *The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.*

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who

raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 11:25, 26

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. — It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. * The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' * The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?
A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

* On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. * Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. * When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.'

Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live

and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' * When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and

wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, * Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept: and the Jews said. 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked. 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I knew indeed that you always hear me,
but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me,
so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.*

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, (All bow) who was conceived by the Holy Spirit born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead,

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN

- Take these gifts we offer, Lord, take these gifts we offer you.
 Take these gifts and help us, Lord, to see you more clearly.
- Take this bread we offer, Lord, take this bread we offer you.
 Take this bread and help us, Lord,

to love you more dearly.

 Take this wine we offer, Lord, take this wine we offer you.
 Take this wine and help us, Lord, to follow you more nearly.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Make me a servant, humble and meek Lord, let me lift up those who are weak, And may the prayer of my heart always be: Make me a servant (x3) today.

- Even though you were in the form of God you took the form of a slave.
 You accepted death even on a cross, So God exalted your name.
- Ere you formed me in my mother's womb, you called me by my name.
 And you touched my mouth and appointed me a prophet to the world.
- May I heal the sick and the crippled bind, Bring back the sheep that stray.
 May I seek the lost and the weak make strong With justice feed the poor.

~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Jesus meek and humble of heart, Make my heart like yours.

- Come to me you who are heavily broken And I will give you rest.
 Take my yoke and learn from me I am meek and humble of heart.
- Come to me you who are thirsting for water And I will give you drink Come and stay beneath my cross.
 From my heart flows living streams
- Follow me why do you walk in the darkness?
 When I'm the light of life?
 Come to where my Father dwells
 I am the way the truth and the life.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

 O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds thy hand has made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee How great thou art, how great thou art.

And when I think
 that God, his Son not sparing,
 sent him to die,
 I scarce can take it in
 that on the cross,
 my burden gladly bearing,
 he bled and died
 to take away my sin.