

Through Silvanus, whom I consider a faithful brother, I have written this short letter to encourage you and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it. Your sister church in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings; and so does my son Mark. Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans.

I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

**Alleluia!**

### **Gospel**

**Jn. 17:1-11**

✠ **The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John**

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

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## **THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION**

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2023**



### **Sentence**

This is eternal life, that we may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. John 17.3

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God,  
whose Son, Jesus, prayed for his disciples,  
and sent them into the world  
to proclaim the coming of your kingdom:  
by your Holy Spirit,  
hold the Church in unity,  
and keep it faithful to your word,  
so that, breaking bread together,  
we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading****Acts 1:6-14****A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

When the disciples had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judaea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 — A.P.B.A. Page 288**

1 God shall arise and his enemies | shall be | scattered:  
those that hate him shall | flee be | fore his | face.  
2 As smoke is dispersed so shall | they . be dis | persed:  
as wax melts before a fire  
so shall the wicked | perish . at the | presence . of | God.  
3 But the righteous shall be glad and ex | ult be .fore | God:  
they | shall re | joice with | gladness.  
4 O sing to God sing praises | to his | name:  
glorify him that rode through the deserts  
him whose name is the Lord | and ex | ult be | fore him.  
5 He is the father of the fatherless  
he upholds the | cause . of the | widow:  
God | is in his | holy | dwelling place.  
6 He gives the desolate a home to dwell in  
and brings the prisoners out | into . pros | perity:  
but rebels must | dwell . in a | barren | land.

7 O God when you went out be | fore your | people:  
when you | marched | through the | wilderness  
8 The earth shook the heavens | poured down | water:  
before the God of Sinai before | God the | God of | Israel.  
9 You showered down a generous | rain O | God:  
you prepared the land of your pos | session .  
when | it was | weary.  
10 And there your | people | settled:  
in the place that your goodness O God  
had made | ready | for the | poor.  
32 Sing to God you | kingdoms . of the | earth:  
O sing | praises | to the | Lord  
33 To him that rides upon the highest heavens  
that were | from . the be | ginning:  
who utters his voice which | is a | mighty | voice.  
34 Ascribe power to God whose majesty | is over | Israel:  
and his | might is | in the | clouds.  
35 Terrible is God who comes from his | holy | place:  
the God of Israel who gives power  
and strength to his people | Blessed | be | God.

**Second Reading****1 Pet. 5****A reading from the First Letter of Peter**

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it — not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

*(Con’t . . .)*