

SUNDAY *Plus*

7th Sunday of Easter **Divine Office Week III** Year A

World Communications Day

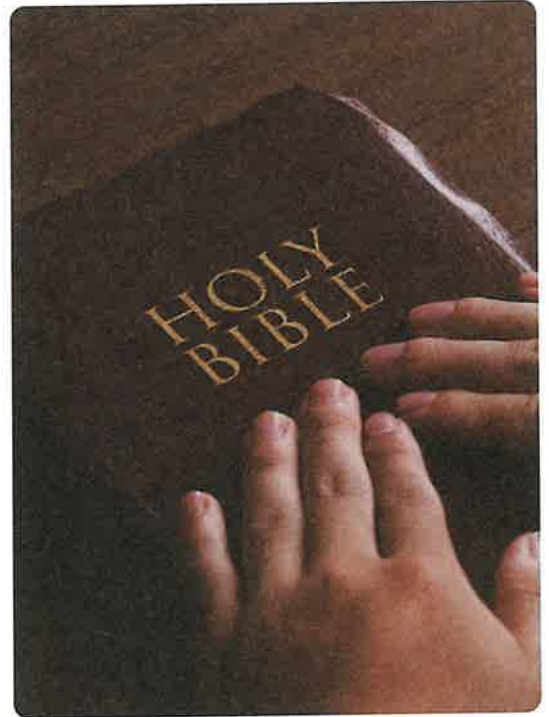
Tell the Good News

If a chance occurs [to] explain our faith; at all events we shall be able to. We shall have to know it so well that it is in our blood, and to adhere to it so well that we can, in a certain way, give it, just by being what we are. Thus, we must be the book of the Gospels ourselves, with the words and teachings of Christ in our minds, but also in our hearts, and whenever the occasion demands, upon our lips...

Thus, we return to the primitive Christianity of the apostles, and having, as Christ had, only ourselves, we require no more. All that was false or doubtful will drop off like a dead branch, the wheat will be made white in the

fire. It is Christ's passion, and his resurrection is just as certain as it was when he went up to the cross. But his resurrection, like his passion, will not vary from what it was like in his own life. He will not rise in us through force... He will not rise through legislation, or powerful movements, or brilliant organisation, and his rising will not be delayed until there is peace in Europe. He will rise in the humility, the courage and love of those few Christians who will keep his kingdom in their individual souls.

Caryll Houselander, *This War is the Passion*



Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever open to welcoming.

Pope Leo XIV


The voice of an angel

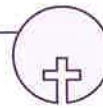
A mother found a note written by her child, who was deaf. It went something like this: "Dear God: I don't want to hurt your feelings but I wish you hadn't made me deaf. Could you change me back? [signed] Sue. PS Say hello to my guardian angel!"

The next day, Sue found a note. It was written in gold ink and went something like this: "Dear Sue: I am your guardian angel, and I asked God if I could

answer your note. You see, God made me deaf, too. But God did give me two fast legs, so I can run like the wind; two lovely arms, so I can hug everybody; and an imagination, so I can fly anywhere. What I really like most, however, is being able to turn off my hearing aid when the other angels are yelling. It makes things quiet so I can better hear God singing love songs to me in my heart. [signed] Your guardian angel. PS We love more and more every day!"

Mark Link SJ, *Jesus 2000: a contemporary walk with Jesus*

Lord, when I was a child, I took risks that, years later, I would never dare consider. Yet it's good to sometimes step out into the unknown without fearing the consequences. Lord, take my hand and let me walk with you.  Amen.



Feast of the week
Sunday 17 May

Monks of Tibhirine

"I should like, when the time comes, to have a clear space which would allow me to beg forgiveness of God and of all my fellow human beings, and at the same time to forgive with all my heart the one who would strike me down"...

"For this life given up, totally mine and totally theirs, I thank God who seems to have wished it entirely for the sake of that joy in everything and in spite of everything. In this 'thank you,' which is said for everything in my life from now on, I certainly include you, friends of yesterday and today, and you my friends of this place, along with my mother and father, my brothers and sisters and their families – the hundredfold granted as was promised!"

"And you also, the friend of my final moment, who would not be aware of what you were doing. Yes, for you also I wish this 'thank you' – and this adieu – to commend you to the God whose face I see in yours."

"And may we find each other, happy 'good thieves,' in Paradise, if it pleases God, the Father of us both. Amen."

From the Last Testament of Fr Christian de Chergé

READINGS

Today:
Acts 1:12-14
1 Peter 4:13-16
John 17:1-11

Monday:
Acts 19:1-8
John 16:29-33

Tuesday:
Acts 20:17-27
John 17:1-11

Wednesday:
Acts 19:1-8
John 16:29-33

Thursday:
Acts 20:17-27
John 17:1-11

Friday:
Acts 20:28-38
John 17:11-19

Saturday:
Acts 22:30;
23:6-11
John 17:20-26

Next Sunday:
Acts 2:1-11
1 Corinthians
12:3-7, 12-13
John 20:19-23