

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

5th July, 2009

First Reading

Ezek. 2:2-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel

The people are rebellious; they shall know there will be a prophet in their midst.

The Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord God." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 122 (123)

Response: *Our eyes are fixed on the Lord,
pleading for his mercy.*

To you have I lifted up my eyes,
you who dwell in the heavens:
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves
on the hand of their lords.

R.

Like the eyes of a servant
on the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes are on the Lord our God
till he show us his mercy.

R.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
We are filled with contempt.
Indeed all too full is our soul
with the scorn of the rich,
the disdain of the proud.

R.

Second Reading

2 Cor. 12:2-10

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

I will glory in my infirmities so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—was caught up into Paradise and heard

things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk. 6:1-6

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

R: Glory to you Lord Christ.

A prophet is despised only in his own country.

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ.

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