

DAY 21: THURSDAY OF EASTER WEEK – LOW WEEK

Opening Prayer

Visit, Lord, our homes
and drive from them all the snares of the evil one:
let your holy angels dwell in them
to preserve us in peace
and may your blessing rest upon us evermore;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Scripture Readings: Acts 3:11-26; Psalm 8; Luke 24:35-48

Reflection:

In the Acts of the Apostles we see Peter continued proclaiming the message of Christ and his resurrection. Peter also insisted that it was trust in the name of Jesus that cured the crippled man – it was nothing that they did! He then opened their minds to the Scriptures that God raised his servant Jesus, whom they killed, from the dead and that they are witnesses to this. This opening of their minds corresponds with the Gospel of today where Jesus appeared to them and also opened their minds to Scriptures. On the day of his resurrection, Christ appeared five times to different people: to Mary Magdalene alone in the garden (John 20:14), to the women as they were going to tell the disciples (Matt. 28:9), to Peter alone, to the two disciples going to Emmaus, and now at night to the eleven. He came to visit them and they were afraid but, having showed them his hands and feet, they believe. He also asked them from something to eat and ate the fish they gave in front of them. He did all this to proof to them that he was not a ghost, but alive. He then opened their minds so that they understand clearly that his life is a fulfilment of all that sacred scripture had said about the Messiah. It was important for him to open their minds to Scripture, because throughout the gospels where read over and over, they did not understand. Now he used the same scripture with which they were brought up, to explain his resurrection and his place in the salvation history. This opening of minds through the scriptures paved the way for Peter to explain boldly to his fellow Jews in Acts the Good News of the Risen Lord who was raised by God to bless us all.

Concluding Prayer

“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
From the lips of children and infants, you have ordained praise
because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” Amen (Ps 8:1-2,9)

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all for ever. Amen**