

Here's a text if you've only a minute

I shall put my spirit in you and you shall live.
(First Reading)

The Spirit of God has made his home in you.
(Second Reading)

The love of your Son led him to accept the suffering
of the cross. (Opening Prayer)

Change our selfishness into self-giving. (Opening Prayer)

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
(Resp. Psalm)

I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes
in me will never die. Do you believe this? (Gospel)

Looking towards next week

What does next week hold for me, and how do I feel God
may be calling me?

And so, what do I want to ask of God for myself or others?

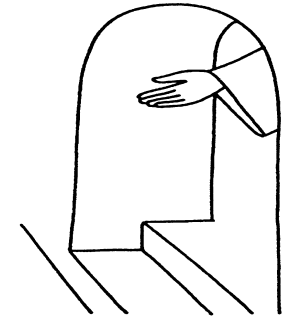


ST. BEUNO'S OUTREACH IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM



5th Sunday of Lent
Year A
10th April 2011

**The Spirit of him
who raised Jesus
from the dead is
living in you.**



Opening Prayer (2nd Version)

Let us pray for the courage to embrace the world
in the name of Christ:

Father in heaven, the love of your Son led him to accept
The suffering of the Cross that we might glory in new life.
Change our selfishness into self-giving. Help us to embrace
the world that you have given us, that we may transform
the darkness of its pain into the life and joy of Easter.

I try to focus my thoughts and desires on God, present
with me now, and continuing to call me to live the values
Christ teaches through his Holy Spirit who dwells in me.

I read the prayer once or twice, pondering its meaning
and speaking to the Lord about the desires it inspires in
me. I notice any selfishness or 'darkness' of sin in my
own life to which God draws my attention, and I humbly
ask for his merciful forgiveness and healing.

I reflect on this world of ours with all its pain, needs,
and brokenness and hold it before the Cross of Christ
who died to bring new life and hope to all peoples.

I ask for the grace to bear any personal suffering with
patience and love in union with Jesus, my Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 129

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/.

As we try, during Lent, to recognise the ways in which we fail to respond to God's love and mercy, this psalm expresses our need for God's saving love, our trust that he will never fail us, and our longing for his saving presence.

I pray the Psalm, deeply aware that despite my sinfulness and lack of love, God always awaits me with forgiveness and loving mercy. I tell him of my sorrow and ask to learn to love as Christ loves.

I stay some time in the loving presence of God, with confidence and trust that he will never abandon me, and I give him thanks.

Part of the Gospel - John 11: 1-45

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.' On arriving Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days.... When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him (and) said '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, '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 said this she went and called her sister Mary. Jesus said... 'Where have you put him'? They said 'Lord, come and see'. Jesus wept; 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?' 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, come out!'

The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound
with bands of stuff, and a cloth round his face.

Jesus said 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

To absorb the powerful messages of this Gospel, it might be good to pray it as an Ignatian contemplation, entering imaginatively into the scene, affirming my own faith in who Jesus is and recognising that his gift of unbinding and freeing is the gift of his redeeming love through his death and resurrection, and is a gift he offers - to ME !