

## 4th Sunday of Easter

25<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**First reading:** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 4: 8-12)

*This is the only name by which we can be saved.*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: ‘Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.’

The word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm 117: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29**

*The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men:

it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

*The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*

I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

*The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

*The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*

**Second reading:** A reading from the first letter of St John. (1 Jn 3:1-2)

*We shall see God as he really is.*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. (Jn 10:11-18)

*The Good Shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.*

Jesus said: I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.