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“It is the Lord”

“It is the Lord!” What a wonderful experience of easter joy! This story between the disciples and the Risen Christ presents a powerful and symbolic encounter at the sea of Tiberias. It does not only recount the miraculous catch of fish but also holds deeper meaning on the relationship of Christ and his followers.

That night, the disciples went out to fish but caught nothing. How frustrating! What could the disciples be doing or thinking at that moment? Did they talk about Jesus? Feeling alone and lost? Angry? Hungry? Hopeless? Or were they thinking how unworthy and unfaithful they were as followers? Is this the result of their futile efforts to fulfill their lives or find purpose in the absence of Christ?

When Jesus appeared to them on the shore, the disciples did not recognize him immediately. However, when Jesus instructed them to cast their nets again, they experienced an abundance of

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fish. Then, John recognized Jesus and told them: “It is the Lord!” Peter jumped into the waters! The rest of the disciples made it to the shore as quickly as possible. Imagine the contrast between their disappointment while they fished and caught nothing and their excitement upon recognizing Jesus. At last! He will be with their friend, teacher, and master once more.

The image of the Lord standing on the shore tells us many realities in life: one, Jesus’ faithfulness to us in our times of weakness and failure. Two, the Lord continues to stand on the shore of our lives even when we have not shown ourselves to be his faithful followers, even when we have failed to remain in his love. Three is when we realize: “When does God come to us?” Often, in moments of frustration and when we find ourselves empty-handed, the Lord manifests his presence

and fills the emptiness within us. Jesus provides us with the comforting assurance that He will always be with us. While we may feel frail and unable to sustain our commitments, Jesus ignites the passion within us and enables us to persevere in our faith journey.

After Jesus called out to his followers by the shore, he took a more personal step toward them. He invited them to join him for breakfast. This invitation brought them close to him, into a deeper connection, a communion. This same invitation is extended to each of us during every Holy Eucharist. This sacrament represents the Lord’s faithfulness to us, especially when we are frail and weak. It is also a moment when we are asked to renew our faithfulness to him and promise to live according to his teachings daily. Jesus comes to us every day. He communicates with and nourishes us through his words and body, which we receive during the Holy Eucharist and our interactions with others.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 78 (77):53)

(Recited when there is no opening song.)

The Lord led his people in hope, while the sea engulfed their foes, alleluia.

Greeting

(The sign of the cross is made here.)

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

Introduction

(These or similar words may be used to address the assembly.)

P—Today's Gospel presents the appearance of the risen Christ to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. The disciples worked all night to catch fish but had caught nothing. Only by following the command of Christ were they able to haul one hundred fifty-three large fish. The big catch symbolizes the missionary success in bringing people to the community of Christ, symbolized by Peter's boat. We are therefore invited to put our trust in the Lord Jesus who overcomes human frailty and failure by the power of his cross and resurrection. Let us be reminded of his living presence among us: "It is the Lord!"

Penitential Act

P—Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries. *(Pause)*

P—Have mercy on us, O Lord.

All—For we have sinned against you.

P—Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

All—And grant us your salvation.

P—May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All—Amen.

P—Lord, have mercy.

All—Lord, have mercy.

P—Christ, have mercy.

All—Christ, have mercy.

P—Lord, have mercy.

All—Lord, have mercy.

Collect

P—Let us pray. *(Pause)*

Almighty ever-living God, who gave us the Paschal Mystery in the covenant you established for reconciling the human race, so dispose our minds, we pray, that what we celebrate by professing the faith we may express in our deeds.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All—Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD



First Reading (Acts 4:1-12) *(Sit)*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter casts his net among the leaders of the people, who want to know in whose name he is acting. Peter tells them he acts in the only name "under heaven...by which we are to be saved."

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

AFTER THE CRIPPLED MAN had been cured, while Peter and John were still speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees confronted them, disturbed that they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. They laid hands on Peter and John and put them in custody until the next day, since it was already evening. But many of those who heard the word came to believe and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

On the next day, their leaders, elders, and scribes were assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly class. They brought them into their presence and questioned them, "By what power or by what name have you done this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit,

answered them, "Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

—The word of the Lord.

All—Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 118)

R—The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

1. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,/ for his mercy endures forever./ Let the house of Israel say,/ "His mercy endures forever."/ Let those who fear the LORD say,/ "His mercy endures forever." **(R)**

2. The stone which the builders rejected/ has become the cornerstone./ By the LORD has this been done;/ it is wonder ful in our eyes./ This is the day the LORD has made;/ let us be glad and rejoice in it. **(R)**

3. O LORD, grant salvation!/ O LORD, grant prosperity!/ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD;/ we bless you from the house of the LORD./ The LORD is God, and he has given us light. **(R)**

Verses before the Gospel

(Ps 118:24) *(Stand)*

All—Alleluia, alleluia. This is the day the LORD has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel (Jn 21:1-14)

P—A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All—Glory to you, O Lord.

JESUS REVEALED himself again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself in this way. Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We also will come with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish. So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord." When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad, and jumped into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, for they were not far from shore, only about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish. When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord. Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead.

—The Gospel of the Lord.

All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (*Sit*)

Prayer of the Faithful

P—The Risen Lord reveals himself to the disciples while they are fishing in the Sea of Galilee, Let us pray that we may recognize him by his gentle voice in the breaking of the bread, in the proclamation of the Word, and in our service to one another. We pray:

R—Lord, hear our prayer.

C—Risen Lord, you are the stone rejected by the builders, which has become the cornerstone. Give the leaders of the Church the courage to speak boldly like the Apostles, and never be ashamed to proclaim your Good News. We pray: (**R**)

C—You give the disciples the Easter gift of peace. Inspire the leaders of our nation to promote a culture of peace and justice and to put an end to conflicts in our communities. We pray: (**R**)

C—You enable the disciples to have a great catch after fishing for naught for the whole night. Renew in your Church the missionary impulse to go into the deep to catch men and women for God's Kingdom. We pray: (**R**)

C—The Beloved Disciple recognized you and said to Peter, "It is the Lord." May we recognize you in the daily events of our life, even if we do not see you with our physical sight.. We pray: (**R**)

C—You are the Resurrection and the Life. Open the door of Paradise to all who have departed from this life. We pray: (**R**)

C—Let us pray for the urgent concerns of our community and our personal intentions (*pause*). We pray: (**R**)

P—Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter, every day. Let us have hearts filled with gratitude for your sacrifice. Let us look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation.

All—Amen.

LITURGY OF
THE EUCHARIST



Presentation of the Gifts (*Stand*)

P—Pray, brethren...

All—May the Lord...

Prayer over the Offerings

P—Perfect within us, O Lord, we pray, the solemn exchange brought about by these paschal offerings, that we may be drawn from earthly desires to a longing for the things in heaven.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen.

Preface I of Easter

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

P—Lift up your hearts.

All—We lift them up to the Lord.

P—Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All—It is right and just.

P—It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, at all times to acclaim you, O Lord, but in this time above all to laud you yet more gloriously when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

For he is the true Lamb who has taken away the sins of the world; by dying, he has destroyed our death, and by rising restored our life.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in your praise and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts, sing together the unending hymn of your glory, as they acclaim:

All—Holy, Holy, Holy... (Kneel)

Acclamation (*Stand*)

All—We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

All—Our Father...

P—Deliver us, Lord...

All—For the kingdom...

Invitation to Peace

Invitation to Communion

(Kneel)

P—Behold the Lamb of God...

All—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

(Cf. Jn 21:12-13)

Jesus said to his disciples: Come and eat. And he took bread and gave it to them, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

(Stand)

P—Let us pray. *(Pause)*

Keep safe, O Lord, we pray, those whom you have saved by your kindness that, redeemed by the Passion of your Son, they may rejoice in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns forever and ever.

All—Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P—The Lord be with you.

All—And with your spirit.

Prayer over the People

P—Bow down for the blessing. *(Pause)*

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son was pleased to confer on you the gift of redemption and of adoption, give you gladness by his blessing.

All—Amen.

P—May he, by whose redeeming work you have received the gift of everlasting freedom, make you heirs to an eternal inheritance.

All—Amen.

P—And may you, who have already risen with Christ in Baptism through faith, by living in a right manner on

this earth, be united with him in the homeland of heaven.

All—Amen.

P—And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, (+) and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All—Amen.

Dismissal

P—The Mass has been offered. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All—Thanks be to God.

Prayer to the SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Divine Jesus, you have said, "Ask, and you shall receive; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you," behold me kneeling at your feet, filled with a lively faith and confidence in the promises dictated by your Sacred Heart and pronounced by your adorable lips. I come to ask this favor: *(Here, silently mention your petitions).*

To whom can I turn if not to you whose Heart is the source of all graces and merits? Where should I seek if not in the treasure which contains all the riches of your kindness and mercy? Where should I knock

if not at the door through which God gives himself to us and through which we go to God? I have recourse to you, Heart of Jesus. In you I find consolation when afflicted, protection when persecuted, strength when burdened with trials, and light in doubt and darkness.

Dear Jesus, I firmly believe that you can grant me the grace I implore, even though it should require a miracle. You have only to will it, and my prayer will be granted. I admit that I am most unworthy of your favors, but this is not a reason for me to be discouraged. You are the God of mercy and you will not refuse a contrite heart. Cast upon me a look of mercy, I beg of you, and your kind Heart will find in my miseries and weaknesses a reason for granting my prayers.

O Sacred Heart, whatever may be your decision with regard to my request, I will never stop adoring, loving, praising, and serving you. My Jesus, be pleased to accept this my act of perfect resignation to the decrees of your adorable Heart which I sincerely desire may be fulfilled by me and by all your creatures forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I know that there is but one thing impossible to you: to be without pity for those who are suffering or in distress. Look upon me, I beg of you, dear Jesus, and grant me the grace for which I humbly implore you through the Immaculate Heart of your most sorrowful Mother. You have entrusted me to her as her child, and her prayers are all-powerful with you. **Amen.**