



ST PAULS MEDIA **pastoral ministry**
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MISSALETTE

FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION
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Year 27 No. 10

Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles (B) — Red

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Witnesses

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Today, Holy Mother Church celebrates the feast of the apostles St. Philip and St. James, son of Alphaeus (a.k.a. “the Less”). They are remembered together because their relics were brought together and stored in a single basilica in Rome. These two great saints had the blessed experience of being with Jesus throughout his ministry. Philip was more prominent: he gave an honest assessment of the cost of feeding a crowd; he reported to his fellow apostle Andrew the desire of Greek visitors to meet Jesus; and he asked Jesus to show “the Father,” who is no less than YHWH. All these interactions show that Philip was a guy whose perspective in life depended on facing facts, and not just on wishful thinking. James, on the other hand, although virtually hidden among the apostles, stepped up after Jesus’ departure to become the one contemporary relative of the Lord to serve his Church in a position of power. He shepherded the Christians in Jerusalem not because he was Jesus’ kinsman, but because

he was Jesus’ faithful disciple, charged with proclaiming the Good News which he and Philip were witnesses.

Philip’s request in today’s Gospel, “Show us the Father,” is an elaboration of Jesus’ earlier reply to Thomas: The Way, Truth, and Life identities of Jesus cannot be fully understood without realizing that Jesus is in the Father, and the Father is in him. Jesus is the Way because through him we can now go to the Father, confident that the steps we take are ultimately not in vain; Jesus is the Truth because everything that God truly is (and not just what we attribute to him) becomes mirrored in Jesus’ words and works; and Jesus is the Life because he is the perfect version of God’s gift of life. Accepting Jesus and doing his works is not just following a great prophet who was favored by God; it is in fact letting the very God who created us into the life he has given—and continue to sustain with—us. Living this way, we become witnesses who can testify that God abides with his people

in this world, that he is not some distant supreme being, but has sacrificed everything for us. Philip and James readily understood this after their Master resurrected; what they witnessed, they proclaimed; what they witnessed, they lived until their dying breaths. We remember them not only as apostles but as martyrs (which essentially means witnesses, not just some sacrificial deaths) because they saw the one true God in Jesus.

The Eucharist that nourishes our spiritual life should remind us that Jesus wants God to be in us, not just hovering above us in the heavens or just some invisible guide that watches us from the sidelines. We cannot be witnesses to the Truth, Way, and Life that is Jesus if he is only some external companion. May we always allow Jesus—and through him our heavenly Father—to be one with us in body and spirit through the Eucharist as our internal companion in life, our fellow witness to God’s unending goodness.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

(Recited when there is no opening song.)

These are the holy men whom the Lord chose in his own perfect love; to them he gave eternal glory, 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—In honoring the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we also celebrate today the feast of Sts. Philip and James, apostles of the Lord Jesus. In the Gospel, Philip makes a request to Jesus to show the Father to him and to the apostles. Jesus replies that whoever has seen him has seen the Father. In the First Reading, St. Paul mentions St. James as belonging to the apostles who have seen the Risen Christ. Both Philip and James saw God with the eyes of faith, enabling them to offer their lives as martyrs for the Church.

Do we always have the desire to see the risen Christ in every day of our lives?

Penitential Act

All—I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, *(strike your breast)* through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

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)*

O God, who gladden us each year with the feast day of the Apostles Philip and James, grant us, through their prayers, a share in the Passion and Resurrection of your Only Begotten Son, so that we may merit to behold you for eternity.

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

All—Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD



First Reading (1 Cor 15:1-8) *(Sit)*

St. Paul summarizes the Apostles' faith-experience with Jesus Christ. The story of their common journey will form part of the "kerygma" or proclamation of the early Church.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

I AM reminding you, brothers and sisters, of the Gospel I preached to you, which you indeed received and in which you also stand. Through it you are also being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that he appeared to James, then to all the Apostles. Last of all, as to one born abnormally, he

appeared to me.

—The word of the Lord.

All—Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 19)

R—Their message goes out through all the earth.

1. The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day pours out the word to day; and night to night imparts knowledge. **(R)**

2. Not a word nor a discourse whose voice is not heard; through all the earth their voice resounds, and to the ends of the world, their message. **(R)**

Verse before the Gospel

(Jn 14:6b, 9c) *(Stand)*

All—Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; Philip, whoever has seen me has seen the Father. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel (Jn 14:6-14)

P—A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
All—Glory to you, O Lord.

JESUS SAID to Thomas, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes

in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father. And whatever you ask in my name, I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it."

—The Gospel of the Lord.
All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (*Sit*)

Prayer of the Faithful

P—To see Christ Jesus is to see the Father. On feast day of the Apostles Philip and James, let us pray that we may be a reflection of the love of the Father and the Son to the people we encounter. For every petition, we say:

R—Lord, make us channels of your love.

C—May we show our love and commitment to our holy Mother, Church, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. We pray. (**R**)

C—May the ordained ministers who succeed the Apostles in leading the Lord's flock rekindle the gift of God through the laying on of hands and exercise their ministry with a spirit of power and of love. We pray: (**R**)

C—May we, after our encounter with Christ, invite others to have a personal experience with the Lord, just as the Apostle Philip did with Nathanael. We pray: (**R**)

C—May we be living witnesses to the power of Christ's death and resurrection like the Apostle James and other chosen witnesses. We pray: (**R**)

C—May the departed ones now sit at table in Christ's Kingdom with the Apostles and all the holy ones. We pray: (**R**)

P—Lord God, we thank you

for the glorious company of the Apostles, especially on this feast of Philip and James. As they were faithful and zealous in their mission, so may we, with dedication, make known the salvation Jesus won for us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All—Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts (*Stand*)

P—Pray, brethren...

All—May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

P—Receive, O Lord, the offerings we bring for the feast day of the Apostles Philip and James and bestow on us religion pure and undefiled.

Through Christ our Lord.
All—Amen.

Preface I (*Apostles*)

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, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you, eternal Shepherd, do not desert your flock, but through the blessed Apostles watch over it and protect it always, so that it may be governed by those you have appointed shepherds to lead it in the name of your Son.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

All—Holy, Holy, Holy... (*Kneel*)

Acclamation (*Stand*)

All—Save us Savior of the world, for by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.

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...

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Jn 14:8-9)

Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us. Whoever has seen me, Philip, has seen the Father also, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion (*Stand*)

P—Let us pray. (*Pause*)
Purify our minds, we pray, O Lord, by these holy gifts we have received, so that, contemplating you in your Son together with the Apostles Philip and James, we may be worthy to possess eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord.
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*)

Be gracious to your people, O Lord, and do not withhold consolation on earth from those you call to strive for heaven.

Through Christ our Lord.
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—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 petition/s).*

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 in and by me and 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.**

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