

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

Thursday – 2 April 2020

Entrance Antiphon

Christ is mediator of a New Covenant, so that by means of his death, those who are called may receive the promise of an eternal inheritance.

First Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis

He will be the father of a multitude of nations.

Abram bowed to the ground and God said this to him, 'Here now is my covenant with you: you shall become the father of a multitude of nations. You shall no longer be called Abram; your name shall be Abraham, for I will make you father of a multitude of nations. I will make you most fruitful. I will make you into nations, and your issue shall be kings. I will establish my Covenant between myself and you, and your descendants after you, generation after generation, a Covenant in perpetuity, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. I will give to you and to your descendants after you the land you are living in, the whole land of Canaan, to owe in perpetuity, and I will be your God.' God said to Abraham, 'You on your part shall maintain my Covenant, yourself and your descendants after you, generation after generation.'

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke. **(R.)**

2. O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose. He, the Lord, is our God: his judgements prevail in all the earth. **(R.)**

3. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. **(R.)**

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Your father Abraham rejoiced because he saw my day.

Jesus said to the Jews:

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever keeps my word will never see death.'

The Jews said, 'Now we know for certain that you are possessed. Abraham is dead, and the prophets are dead, and yet you say, "Whoever keeps my word will never know the taste of death." Are you greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? The prophets are dead too. Who are you claiming to be?' Jesus answered:

'If I were to seek my own glory that would be no glory at all; my glory is conferred by the Father, by the one of whom you say, "He is our God" although you do not know him. But I know him, and if I were to say: I do not know him, I should be a liar, as you are liars yourselves. But I do know him, and I faithfully keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to think that he would see my Day; he saw it and was glad.'

The Jews then said, 'You are not fifty yet, and you have seen Abraham?' Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, before Abraham ever was, I Am.'

At this they picked up stones to throw at him; but Jesus hid himself and left the Temple.

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

Communion Antiphon

God did not spare his own Son, but handed him over for us all; with him, he has given us all things.