

# Fifth Sunday of Easter

## First Reading

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right

and fills the earth with his love. (R.)

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

## Second Reading

1 Pt 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

## Gospel Acclamation

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!