Sunday, May 7, 2023: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Theme: “Cultivating a Knowledge of the Way”

Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, Whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know Your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ***Amen.***

Old Testament Proclamation: Acts 7: 55-60

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 31: 1-5; 15-16

New Testament Proclamation: 1 Peter 2: 4-10

Gospel Proclamation: John 14: 1-14

Gradual Verse:

For the Gospel did not come to you in Word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit.

Prayers of the People Option I:

You may use the following:

Deacon: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church, and for the world.

Minister: Almighty Father, we lift before You Your holy catholic Church:

*People: That You would lead us in truth, baptize us in love, and unite us in spirit.*

Minister: We pray for her leaders, especially Bishop Craig and Bishop Ariel:

*People: That they may with one voice minister Your life to Your people and the world.*

Minister: We lift before You the people of this community, this nation, and the world:

*People: That we may honor one another and serve the common good.*

Minister: We pray for our governmental leaders, especially President Marcos:

*People: That You would lead them in the ways of justice and peace.*

Minister: We lift before You all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit:

*People: That You would send Your comfort and grace upon them.*

Minister: Give to the departed eternal rest:

*People: Grant that we may share with them in Your everlasting Kingdom.*

Deacon: And we lift before You this parish, in the manner in which You have given unto us:

*People: As we pray our Corporate Petition.*

*or the following alternative:*

Prayers of the People Option II:

Deacon: Dearly beloved brethren, as we continue our Paschal celebration, let us bring our prayers and thanksgivings to Him Who created us to show forth His excellencies.

Minister: O God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, we thank You that You have caused us who have been born again to become a new people, a new race;

People: Make us that chosen race marked by love.

Minister: We thank You that You have redeemed us as a people for Your own possession;

*People: Make us that people marked by mercy and grace*.

Minister: We thank You that You have given us a new calling, as a Kingdom of priests;

*People: Make us that royal priesthood marked by sonship unto You*.

Minister: We thank You that You have made us a part of the nation known as the Kingdom of God;

*People: Make us that nation marked by holiness and righteousness.*

Minister: We thank You that You have transformed us into a people who believe in your Son;

*People: Make us that Church which performs His works, and even greater, especially the healing of the sick.*

Minister: We thank You that You have given us the Name of Your Son;

*People:* As we pray in that Name, complete our Project of Love and answer our Corporate Petition*.*

# The Concluding Collect:

Presider: We pray, O Father, that in these days of shaking, Your Son Jesus Christ be exalted as Head over all; for we pray in the Name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

# Proper Preface:

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

He never ceases to offer himself for us but defends us and ever pleads our cause before You: He is the sacrificial Victim who dies no more, the Lamb, once slain, who lives forever.

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

Benediction:

May the God of peace, Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the Blood of the everlasting Covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight; and the blessing of God Almighty: ✠ the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. ***Amen.***