

Easter Friday

First Reading: Acts 4:1-12;

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 118: 1-2, 4, 22-24, 25-27a;

Gospel Reading: Jn 21:1-14.

Theme: A Parable of Our Encounters with Jesus Christ

This Gospel story is full of symbolism in the Risen Lord. We can unravel some of them as follows. It is a parable of our encounter with the Risen Lord.

-There were seven disciples (a symbolism of the seven Sacraments).

-The number of FISH caught is said to be the number of nations in the known world at the time of Jesus Christ.

-That number is also very symbolic: $153 = 144 + 9$, which can be broken down into:

(12×12) + (3×3): a symbolism of the perfection of the New Israel (12 Tribes/Apostles) in the Trinity.

-St. Peter, the leader, dragging the net alone is an image of the Kingdom of God.

-The Risen Lord celebrated Eucharist with them.

-Some central pillars of our faith are in this text:

_ recognizing Christ in the stranger: "Who are you?" and recognizing Christ in and as the stranger;

_ the celebration of the Eucharist and breaking bread together expresses love and solidarity;

_ we are called to become Christ to all whom we encounter;

_ we are invited to work with the power of Christ to fill the net, the Kingdom, becoming truly fishers of people.

May we pray for the grace to recognize Christ in our midst and continue to catch souls into his Net; for his Kingdom.

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