

Daily Mass Homily
22 April 2020
Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter

“I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will tell of your name to my kin, alleluia.”

Reading 1: Acts 5:17-26

Psalm 34: **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

Gospel: John 3: 16-21

Homily for Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter

Each year the Easter Vigil begins with a Service of Light, the Solemn Beginning of the Vigil or Lucernarium. It is during this first part of the Easter Vigil when the Easter Fire is prepared and lit and then blessed. From this holy new fire we light the Easter Candle, that pillar of fire that brings Christ's light into the world. This Christ light guides us through these Easter days. This light is a light that guides all that are baptized into the Church. This same candle is lit and used to lead our beloved dead from life to death and the mourners through their time of loss. This light is what God wants us to live in. God does not want us to live in darkness. We are a people of light and during these Easter days the Easter candle burns brightly, bringing this divine Christ into our dark world.

The light came into the world with Jesus. At Jesus' birth a light in the sky, a star, leads the Magi to Jesus. This light illuminates that darkness. God sent this light, his Son, into the world because he loves us. In today's gospel from John we hear that God so love the world that he gave his only-begotten son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish. Light came into the world so that those that believe and follow that light, which is Christ, might have eternal life.

The reality is, though, that there are still those that prefer to live in the darkness. They prefer to continue with their sinful lives. Those that sin, are in the dark. If they were in the light, then they would not sin. When we are in the light, then everyone can see what we do. We don't want other people to know our sins and to know that we have failed. Many people would be horrified to know that other people knew what their sins are. Hence the darkness. But we as disciples of Jesus are a people of light, but sometimes we slip back into the darkness of sin. As we continue to celebrate the Easter season, let us continue to remember that we are a people of the light and let us bask in the light radiating from that Paschal Candle, the Christ

Light, and may this light burn aware every desire of sin that we have in our lives and the darkness that still resides in our souls through original sin.