

Daily Mass Homily  
24 April 2020  
Friday of the Second Week of Easter

**“You have redeemed us, Lord, by your Blood, from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us into a kingdom, priests for God, alleluia.”**

Reading 1: Acts 5:34-42

Psalm 27: **One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord.**

Gospel: John 6:1-15

### **Homily for Friday of the Second Week of Easter**

As I think that I have mentioned before, during the Season of Easter in Mass the first reading during weekdays as well as Sundays comes from the book of the Acts of the Apostles. This book is a sequel to the Gospel of the Luke. This text describes to us the first movements of the Apostles after the resurrection of Jesus and how the early church was formed and was starting to grow and flourish, as more and more people began to believe in the testimony given by the apostles.

This past week the some of the apostles have been out sharing about Jesus and telling others about His works and what he did and what Jesus taught. The religious leaders were still worried that if too many people would come to

believe in this man that they just put to death that there might be a revolt or riot. The religious leaders had told the apostles to stop teaching in that name. The apostles had been put into jail, but then rescued by an Angel of the Lord, and they preached again. Now again, they are told not to teach in that name anymore and they were flogged. The disciples rejoiced because they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.

In our lives, a question that we can reflect upon is how are we being called today to suffer for that name, the holy name of Jesus? Do we suffer because of our Christian beliefs? And are we glad because of that suffering?

I know that there are many suffering now. There are those that are suffering because they have lost their jobs, there are those suffering because they know someone that is very sick or we know someone that has died, maybe even from COVID-19. We know that there are people that are suffering as they try to help their children complete school assignments, there are people suffering because they cannot leave their homes and gather with family and friends. There are many that are suffering because they

cannot receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, the very nourishment and strength that we receive from the Lord.

During this suffering, I know that I personally find comfort in knowing that I am not in this alone. Others have suffered before me, often because of the name of Jesus, and they have been carried through by our Lord. They intercede for me and for you during these times. I also find comfort in knowing that this will only be for a short time. This too shall pass, and we will enter into greener pastures. Our Gospel acclamation today speaks that one does not live on bread alone, but on every word that come from the mouth of God. I would offer for those that cannot receive Eucharist at the moment to remember these words. Yes, we receive nourishment and grace in the Holy Bread of the Eucharist, but we also receive nourishment from the Word that comes from God's mouth. You have the scripture, prayer and conversation with God. Don't forget these other avenues that can help you be nourished during these times and be at peace. With our Lord, all shall be well.