

Daily Mass Homily

25 April 2020

Friday of the Second Week of Easter – **FEAST of St. Mark**

“Go into all the, and proclaim the Gospel to every creature, alleluia.”

Reading 1: I Peter 5:5b-14

Psalm 89: **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20

Homily for Feast of St. Mark, evangelist.

This Saturday of the second week of Easter we celebrate the evangelist, St. Mark. Mark is one of the four men that is attributed to be an author of one of the four gospels, the other three are Matthew, Luke and John.

St. Mark's gospel is known to have a very fast pace. We hear in this gospel, a lot of the things that Jesus did as being presented in a very rapid list of successive events. Jesus did this, and then he did that, and then he went to the village, and then he cured a sick person, and then he fed the five thousand. It is like one event right after the other. The gospel of Mark is the shortest of the four gospels.

There are two points that we can think about today. The first comes from the gospel. Jesus is speaking to the eleven as he is getting ready to ascend into heaven. We will come across these readings again in a few weeks as we get closer to the celebration of the Ascension of the Lord. As Jesus is getting ready to return to our Father in heaven, he is giving the disciples a job. He is telling them that they are to go out into the world and to proclaim the Gospel to EVERY creature. This is not something that is new to us, this is something that we hear all the time. We are to proclaim the gospel to other people. This message is not just for us to receive and hold in our hearts, but it is given to us to share. We have challenging times today in that many of us are being asked to stay at home, so we may think that this must not apply to me right now. Well, the first place where we share the gospel is with the people in our homes. That is the domestic church. We may very well have people in our homes that we can preach the Gospel too, maybe not always using words, but by the way that we live our lives we can share that good news to those around us. The question that we can ask ourselves again, is how are we doing at this command that Jesus gives to us. Who are you sharing the Gospel with today? May St. Mark give you the courage and strength to help

carry out that task that have been given to each one of us of proclaiming the good news to every creature each day of our lives.

The second point to think about for a moment today comes from the first reading from First Peter. He is encouraging us to humble ourselves and cast all our sufferings and worries upon the Lord God because he cares for us. He does not want us to carry all of these things on our own. We can't do it on our own, we are never enough by ourselves, but with Christ, we can indeed face everything that is placed in our lives. Sometimes when we are suffering, we do so thinking that we are alone in this suffering, that no one else knows what I am going through and how I feel. Peter goes on to remind us there are brothers and sisters around the whole world that are undergoing the same sufferings. Our hope is that the God of all grace is going to lift us up and Jesus himself will restore, confirm and strengthen us after we have suffered a little. Let us be open to remembering these promises, especially on the days in which our hope is less than maybe it should be, or we need it to be.