

Prayer and Readings for the EASTER DAY 16 APRIL 2017

Prayer of the Day

Glorious Lord of life,
by the mighty resurrection of your Son
you overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we,
who celebrate with joy Christ's rising from the
dead
may be raised from the death of sin
to the life of righteousness;
through him who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Acts 10.34-43

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Psalm 118.1-2, 14-24

- ¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
his mercy endures for ever.
- ² Let Israel now proclaim:
that his mercy endures for ever.
- ¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ The sounds of joy and deliverance:
are in the tents of the righteous.
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the Lord does mighty things:
the right hand of the Lord raises up.
- ¹⁷ I shall not die but live:
and proclaim the works of the Lord.
- ¹⁸ The Lord has disciplined me hard:
but he has not given me over to death.
- ¹⁹ Open me the gates of righteousness:
and I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord:
the righteous shall enter it.
- ²¹ I will praise you, for you answered me:
and have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected:
has become the head of the corner.
- ²³ This is the Lord's doing:
and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made:
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Colossians 3.1-4

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Matthew 28.1-10

¹ After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of

him the guards shook and became like dead men.

⁵ But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

