

SUNDAY, April 3, 2022
The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Readings: 1) Isaiah 43:16-21 2) Philippians 3:8-14 3) John 8:1-11

FOCUS: Jesus, who is love and mercy, heals and forgives.

Jesus reveals the heart of the Father, who is love. Although we turn away from him, God does not choose to condemn or turn away from us. Instead, he offers to pay our debt, to take our sins to the cross. He comes to cleanse and heal us and give us a share in his life.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading from Isaiah, the Lord says to remember not the things of old, for he is doing a new thing. In Paul's Letter to the Philippians, he proclaims that he does not have righteousness because of his own doing but rather only in Christ. In the Gospel, the scribes and Pharisees test Jesus by bringing a woman who had been caught in adultery. Jesus tells them that the one without sin can cast the first stone.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: We bring our intentions to the Lord, trusting in his love and mercy.

- 1) For the Church, may God grant her righteousness through faithfulness to Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government leaders, may God guide their hearts in honesty, integrity, and selflessness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick and suffering, may Jesus, the suffering servant, be their strength, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those gathered here and for those we love, may the Lord look graciously upon our every need, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they be welcomed into the everlasting banquet, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, thank you for loving us, your children. Hear and answer our prayers this day as we strive to be ever faithful to your ways. We ask this through your Son, Christ our Lord.