

2nd Sunday of Easter

(Acts 2.42-47, 1 Peter 1.3-9, John 20.19-31)

THEME: The Effects Of New Life In Christ

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ: The readings of this second Sunday of Easter presents to us some of the blessings that comes with our acceptance of the message of the gospel of the Risen Lord. The Acts of the Apostles tells us the story of how all those who accepted the message of the Risen Christ are drawn close to one another, in love, helping and sharing things together in a mutual communion as brothers and sisters. "They devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers...All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need." (Acts 2.42-47)

The message of the Risen Christ is the message of love; love for God who had loved us and set us free from sin and its effects. It is the message of love that moves us to love one another, see Christ in others and identify with each other in moments of joy and sorrow. This was the way of life of the Apostles which they have passed on to us to follow.

One who is baptized in Christ has this new life of joy, happiness, communion and reconciliation. It is a new life that the world and its things cannot give to you, but only through our communion with each other as brothers and sisters and our intimate union and relationship with Christ, the Risen Lord. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead: a birth into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading..." (1 Peter 1.3-9)

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Risen Lord, as we celebrate today, the Divine Mercy Sunday, let us remember that the Risen Lord has given us peace and breathed on us the Holy Spirit. He is sending us out again today to bear Him witness with our new life of grace through our words and deeds.