

## **GLAD, COURAGEOUS AND WILLING TO TELL...!**

The words of the apostle Peter were directed to the Rulers of the people, and elders, the powers that be, the authorities of the time. However, he needed the courage that comes from the Holy Spirit for such 'bold and fearless' answer. 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy...for of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved' (Cf. Acts 4:8-12)

Beloved People of God, no one advocates rudeness and disrespectfulness to the rulers or elders. Insensitivity to others is not a gift of the Holy Spirit. However, love for the Lord, knowledge of Truth, and being filled with the Holy Spirit, would surely make anyone happy, courageous, ready, eager and willing to speak like St. Peter, telling anyone who cares to know, anyone who questions, who our Blessed Lord, Jesus Christ is and about all that he has done and does. Just as our Blessed Lord speaks of the knowledge of the Father. He proclaims the Father's love with relish.

We pray that we too be filled with the Holy Spirit, so as to be able to answer gladly and respectfully, anyone who questions us about the faith that we have. The Holy Spirit, among other gifts, gives courage, wisdom and knowledge. Joy is also among the fruits of the Holy Spirit. We need courage to speak gladly and courageously, gratefully telling of the love that the Father has lavished on us...'

**Fr. Ted**

**All to Jesus – Through Mary our Mother**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)**

**21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**