

## **HIS WITNESSES – A CHALLENGING PRIVILEGE**

When the Lord joined the disciples as they told their story of what had happened, on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread, among other things, he said explained to them, ‘this is what I meant when I said...that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the prophets and the Psalms, has to be fulfilled...so you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and in the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this’ (Lk 24:35-48)

Beloved People of God, it is a great privilege to be witnesses to Christ, witnesses to his suffering and death, witnesses to his resurrection from the dead – witnesses to the truth that He lives and that in his name repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached. St. John reminds us, ‘I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away...’ (1 Jn 2:1-5).

The words of the Apostle Peter remind of great heritage, accuse of grave error, convict of horrible sin, manifest that the apostles have known and accepted the challenging privilege of being witnesses to this fact and finally exhort to repentance. ‘You are Israelites...It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses...Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out’ (cf. Act 3:13-15, 17-19). May the Lord lift up the light of his face on us.

**Fr. Ted**

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

**Third Sunday of Easter (B)**

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**