

## Our Lady of Perpetual Help

# Reflecting On Sunday's Readings

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—JUNE 2, 2019

### **First Reading — Acts 7:55-60 55**

But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; 56 and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." 57 But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. 58 Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

### **Responsorial Psalm PS 97:1-2, 6-7, 9**

R. (1a and 9a) **The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;

let the many islands be glad.

Justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.

R. **The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

The heavens proclaim his justice,

and all peoples see his glory.

All gods are prostrate before him.

R. **The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

You, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth,

exalted far above all gods.

R. **The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

### **Second Reading — Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20 12**

"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense, to repay every one for what he has done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." 14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. ... 16 "I Jesus have sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright morning star." 17 The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let him who hears say, "Come." And let him who is thirsty come, let him who desires take the water of life without price. ...

### **Gospel Reading — John 17:20-26 20**

"I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 The glory which thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me. 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom thou hast given me, may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which thou hast given me in thy love for me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, the world has not known thee, but I have known thee; and these know that thou hast sent me. 26 I made known to them thy

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name, and I will make it known, that the love with which thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

Gospel Reading — Luke 23:1-49

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### INVITATION TO PRAY

Pause for a few moments of silence and enter more deeply into the presence of God...

### Proclaim the Scriptures out loud

As you listen to the scriptures be attentive to a word, a phrase, a question, an image, or a feeling that emerges. Reflect on this quietly or share it aloud.

### INVITATION TO REFLECT

### INVITATION TO GROUP SHARING

#### First Reading

1. In what ways do you see Christ in Stephen's life?
2. How would you describe the effects of a life full of the Holy Spirit?

#### Second Reading

3. What does this passage say about both the motivation and the message of evangelization?

#### Gospel Reading

4. Describe the "The glory which ... I have given to them".
5. How would you explain to another the importance of Jesus' being sent from the Father?
6. If you were to embrace verses 25 and 26 as your "life verses" what effect would it have on how you live?

### INVITATION TO ACT

*Determine a specific action (individual or group) that flows from your sharing. When choosing an individual action, determine what you will do and share it with the group. When choosing a group action, determine who will take responsibility for different aspects of the action. These should be your primary considerations.*

### CLOSING INVITATION TO PRAY

*Give thanks to God (aloud or silently) for new insights, for desires awakened, for directions clarified, for the gift of one another's openness and sensitivity. Conclude with a final prayer.*