

Homily 2022.04.24 2nd Sunday of Easter (Year C)

Five Wounds of Christ:

Symbolised in the five engraved crosses on the altar stone, where the altar was anointed with the oil of Chrism when it was consecrated.

And symbolised by the five incense grains in the Easter Candle. The candle is wounded in five places as a reminder that the risen Christ still bears the marks of the passion on his risen body. These are the things that Thomas wanted to see – and saw. ‘Through his wounds we are healed’ – and these wounds are now risen, transfigured, glorified.

Our wounds, too, will be raised up and glorified.

Encouraging words in the vision of John in the second reading: Do not be afraid, I who was dead am alive.

Homily for an upcoming Eastertide Mass in St Philip’s primary school:

Q: What is the most important thing you will ever learn?

A: That Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Do our lives proclaim that we really think this is the most important truth in the entire universe?

This year as we continue our prayer for peace, especially in Ukraine, we need the Lord to step into the upper room of our lives, to show us the glorified wounds through which we are healed, and to tell us, not once, not twice, but three times: ‘Peace be with you.’