

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We praise you, God, we acknowledge you as Lord;
the radiant army of martyrs acclaims you.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn. 12:20-32

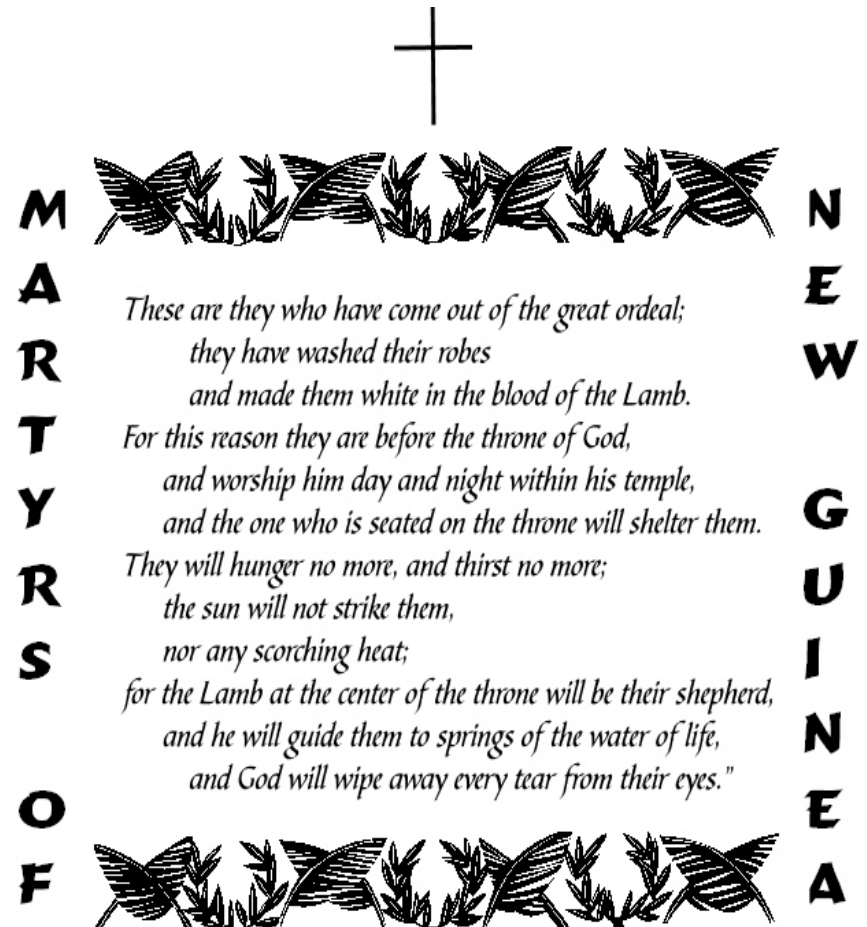
✠ **A reading from the holy gospel according to John**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

THE MARTYRS OF NEW GUINEA



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Sentence

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who saved us.

Romans 8.35,37

Prayer of the Day

All powerful and everliving God,
turn our weakness into strength:
as you gave the martyrs of Papua New Guinea
the courage to suffer death for Christ,
give us the courage to live in faithful witness to you.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

Living God,
you made your Church to grow
through the zeal, courage, and unflinching witness
of your servants martyred in New Guinea:
give to us and all your people
such steadfast faith in your good purposes
that we may serve faithfully
wherever you have stationed us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Zeph. 3:14-20

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126 — A.P.B.A. page 362

- 1 When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion:
then were we like those restored to life.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter:
and our tongue with singing.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen:
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
- 4 Truly the Lord has done great things for us:
and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Turn again our fortunes O Lord:
as the streams return to the dry south.
- 6 Those who sow in tears:
shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 They that go out weeping bearing the seed:
shall come again in gladness
bringing their sheaves with them.

Second Reading

Rom. 8:33-39

A reading from the letter to the Romans

Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.