

Christianity to Armenia and are therefore venerated in the Armenian Apostolic Church. There is a Saint Thaddaeus Monastery, now in northern Iran, which was built when it was part of Armenia. St Jude is also said to have preached in Judea, Samaria, Syria, Libya and Mesopotamia. There is a suggestion that St Jude was martyred with an axe and clubs in about 65 A.D. in Beirut, then part of Syria, though other sources suggest it was in Persia (Iran) where he met his martyrdom. As for St Jude's relics, though some are claimed to be in (ancient) Armenia, the main tradition holds that they were transferred to Rome and left in a crypt in St Peter's Basilica. On 27th December 1665, after St Peter's had been rebuilt, the remains were transferred there in a tomb he shares with the apostle, St Simon the Zealot (see next week). St Bernard of Clairvaux and St Brigid of Sweden had a particular devotion to St Jude. St Brigid had had a vision during which Jesus told her to turn to St Jude with faith and confidence. The Church celebrates the feast of St Jude and his fellow apostle, St Simon the Zealot, on 28th October. There is a national Carmelite shrine of St Jude in Faversham, Kent. **-Stephen S.**

Entrance antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37: 12-14

Psalms 129: Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

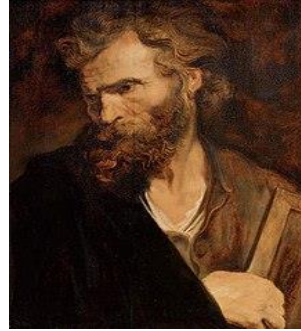
Second Reading: Romans 8: 8-11

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel: John 11: 1-45

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

Communion Antiphon: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.



Fifth Sunday of Lent

Cycle A, 2023 Weekly Reflection: The lesser-known apostles: (5) St Jude, also known as St Thaddeus:

St Jude is mentioned in St Luke's Gospel and in the Acts of the Apostles as the '*son of James*' this being traditionally interpreted as the brother of St James the lesser, the apostle of whom I wrote last week. In the Gospels of Matthew and Mark St

Jude is called 'Thaddaeus'. This is perhaps to distinguish him from Judas Iscariot since the names Jude and Judas are the same name in Hebrew and Greek. As brother of St. James he was a very close relative or cousin of Jesus. When Jesus began His ministry and local people were astonished at His wisdom and works, they asked "*Is this not the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon...?*". On this basis St Jude seems to have been well known in and around Nazareth as part of Jesus' family. Otherwise St Jude makes little specific appearance in the Gospels, except that St John refers to him at the Last Supper. In chapter 14, after Jesus has said that in a little while the world would see him no more but that his Apostles would see him, St Jude asks: "*.. Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?*" His question was naïve, not fully understanding how Jesus would appear after the resurrection. Perhaps St Jude also wished that all should partake of Jesus' grace and he wondered, in humility, why the apostles should be so privileged.

There is a short (one page) letter of St Jude in the New Testament in which the author describes himself as '*brother of James*'. The letter is the penultimate entry in the Bible, coming just before the Book of Revelation. There is some doubt as to its authorship. It seems that either it was written after Jude's death by a disciple who wished to record some of St Jude's teaching or it was written by a later Jude who also had a brother named James.

Apart from the above, there is little contemporary evidence about St Jude. Nevertheless, he is the subject of substantial tradition and legend. Saints Jude and Bartholomew are thought to have been the first to introduce