

# REFLECTION

**Third Sunday of Easter, Year A, April 19, 2026**

*Acts 2: 14, 22-28*

After the resurrection, Peter boldly addresses the crowd with unwavering clarity and authority. No longer gripped by fear, his words now reflect a deep conviction, empowered by the Holy Spirit working within him.

Peter's speech to the crowd highlights that the unfolding events are not merely random or chaotic, but instead reveal the fulfilment of God's purpose. He invites everyone to see that Jesus lived an open, accessible life, displaying unmistakable divine power—a life witnessed by many. Despite this, Jesus was crucified. Peter boldly proclaims, "But God raised him, freeing him from the agony of death, because he couldn't be held by it." This powerful statement reveals a profound truth: when one's life is united with God, death itself loses its grip and is ultimately defeated. Thus, the resurrection serves as a lasting testament to the unwavering strength of faith, demonstrating the ultimate triumph of divine life over death. This passage prompts us to consider a few key points: First, faith turns fear into courage. We, like Peter, may step back, doubt, or even fail—but the Spirit has the power to transform us as witnesses. Second, God works through brokenness. The cross demonstrates that human sin is real and awful, yet it is not the ultimate word. God's plan is greater than our failings. Third, we are urged to live in hope, even in the midst of sorrow and uncertainty.

Ultimately, it is essential to recognize that the resurrection of Jesus transforms everything, and life cannot remain unchanged in its wake. We are called to trust, to turn our hearts towards repentance, and to embrace a way of living that reflects the conviction that death and despair do not have the final word.