

## From Father David:

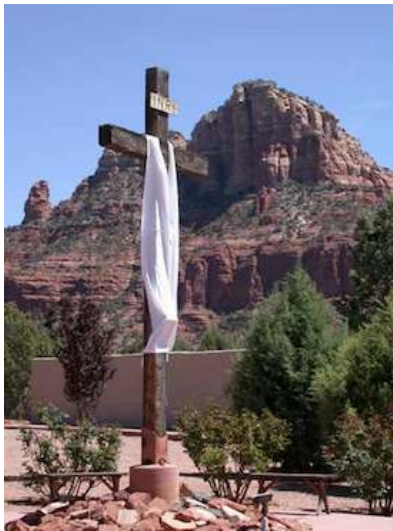
### ***Special days of remembrance during this third week of Easter***

#### **Monday, May 1- Feasts of Apostles Philip and James the Less**

The two apostles commemorated on this day (May 1) are among those about whom little is known, except for their mention in the Gospels. James the Less is so called to distinguish him from James the son of Zebedee and from James “the brother of the Lord,” or perhaps to indicate youth or lack of stature. He is known to us from the list of the Twelve, where he is called James the son of Alphaeus. He may also be the person referred to in Mark’s Gospel as James the younger, who, with his mother Mary and the other women, watched the crucifixion from a distance.

Philip figures in several important incidents in Jesus’ ministry as reported in John’s Gospel. There we read that Jesus called Philip soon after calling Andrew and Peter. Philip, in turn, found his friend Nathanael, and convinced him to come and see Jesus, the Messiah. Later, when Jesus saw the hungry crowd, he asked Philip, “How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” (John 6:5). Philip’s practical response, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little” (John 6:7), was the prelude to the feeding of the multitude with the loaves and fishes. In a later incident in John’s Gospel, some Greeks came to Philip asking to see Jesus. At the Last Supper, Philip’s request, “Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied,” evokes the response, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:8, 9)

*Almighty God, who gave to your apostles Philip and James  
grace and strength to bear witness to the truth: Grant that  
we, being mindful of their victory of faith, may glorify in  
life and death the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ; who  
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever.  
Amen*



On Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> was recognized and celebrated “The finding of the Cross of Christ”.

According to legend, Constantine's mother, Saint Helena, traveled to Jerusalem to find the true cross. Nails and three crosses were subsequently discovered. Pious tradition has it that one of these was the true cross, being authenticated by the miraculous healing of a woman.

Whatever the case may be, today we do well to remember the gift given through the Holy Cross - "*... by the Tree of the Cross thou hast wrought the salvation of the race of man; that whence death arose, thence also Life might rise again; and that he who by a tree was once the vanquisher, might also by a Tree be vanquished; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

The cross in the picture is the Easter Cross in the courtyard of Saint Luke's Church, Sedona, AZ.

Just food for thought..... Blessings, *Father David*