



St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), (1887-1968) the Italian Franciscan priest is better known as "Padre Pio" and known for his suffering, humility and miracles. Shortly after his priestly ordination in 1910, he received the Stigmata.

First Reading: (Hag 1:1-8) In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, "Thus says the Lord of hosts: This people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord." Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, "Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your panelled houses, while this house lies in ruins? Now therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider how you have fared. You have sown much, and harvested little; you eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and he who earns wages earns wages

to put them into a bag with holes. "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider how you have fared. Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may appear in my glory, says the Lord.

Ps 149:1-6, 9

R./ The Lord takes delight in his people.

Gospel: (Lk 9:7-9) Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead, by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the old prophets had risen. Herod said, "John I beheaded; but who is this about whom I hear such things?" And he sought to see him.

REFLECTION

Herod the tetrarch is affected by two thoughts: he was perplexed, and he sought to see Jesus. Encounter with Jesus did not affect his life and he proved himself to be a failure. Do we desire to see Jesus? How do we experience Jesus in our lives? **Today being marvelled at the works of the Lord we come to seek him in the form of the Word and the Eucharist.** Let our encounter with the Lord bring us closer to the people and to the Lord.