

Reflection

Share the Word Sunday Reflection

For May 22, 2022

6th Sunday of Easter



For Reading 1:

Q: What do we require of fellow Christians, principle or peace? Are we willing to accept the scandal that comes from principle?

For Responsorial Psalm:

Q: How do you see God blessing the world?

Take time this week to pray for God's blessing for the world. Praying a rosary for world peace is not a bad idea.

For Reading 2:

Q: How does the thought of the heavenly Jerusalem inspire you?

For the Gospel:

Q: How are love and peace connected?

Create a space and time for peace this week. Seek God's love and peace in prayer.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. ."

First Reading: Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29

The apostles and elders, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives...

Responsorial: Psalm 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8

R: O, God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: Revelation 21: 10-14, 22-23

"... its temple is the Lord God almighty and the Lamb."

Gospel: John 14: 23-29

"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him"

"Lord, in love you created me and you drew me to yourself. May I never lose sight of you nor forget your steadfast love and faithful- ness. And may I daily dwell upon your word and give you praise in the sanctuary of my heart, you who are my all."

Question of the Week: *How has the Holy Spirit acted as your teacher this week?*



Gospel Reading: John 14: 23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: “Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.

“I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, ‘I am going away and I will come back to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe.”

Gospel Meditation

Do you know the love that surpasses all, that is stronger than death itself (Song of Songs 8:6)? In Jesus' last supper discourse he speaks of the love he has for his disciples and of his Father's love. He prepares his disciples for his imminent departure to return to his Father by exhorting them to prove their love for him through their loyalty and obedience to his word. He promises them the abiding instruction and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Saint Augustine says the Lord loves each of us as if there were only one of us to love. God's love for each of us is as real and tangible as

the love of a mother for her child and the love of a lover who gives all for his beloved.

God made us for love — to know him personally and to grow in the knowledge of his great love for us. How can we know and be assured of the love of God? The Holy Spirit helps us to grow in the knowledge of God and his great love. The Spirit enables us to experience the love of God and to be assured of the Lord's abiding presence with us (see Romans 8:35-39). The Holy Spirit also opens our ears to hear and understand the word of God. Do you listen attentively to God's word and believe it? Ask the Holy Spirit to in- flame your heart with the love of God and his word.

Do you know the peace which passes all understanding (Phil.4:7)? Jesus grants peace as his gift to his disciples. What kind of peace does he offer? The peace of Christ is more than the absence of trouble. It includes everything which makes for our high- est good. The world's approach to peace is avoidance of trouble and a refusal to face unpleasant things. Jesus offers the peace which conquers our fears and anxieties.

Nothing can take us from the peace and joy of Jesus Christ. No sorrow or grief, no danger, no suffering can make it less. Jesus also speaks of his destination and ultimate triumph over the powers of evil in the world. In the eyes of the world the cross stood for shame, humiliation, and defeat. Jesus went to the cross knowing that it would lead to victory over the powers of sin and of Satan. Jesus also knew that he would return to his Father in glory. The cross brought glory to Jesus and to the Father and it is our way to glory as well. In the Cross of Christ we find true peace and reconciliation with God. Do you live in the peace of Jesus Christ?

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