

May 01, 2016

6th Sunday of Easter



## Do not let your hearts be troubled!

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

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

Revelation 21:10-14,22-23

John 14:23-29

Paul, Barnabas and others went to Jerusalem where representatives were added by the Apostles and elders to deal with the problem of circumcision. "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and us", they concluded, "not to place any extra burdens on the Gentiles." The Gentiles must abstain from meat offered to idols and from unlawful marriage in order to remain in good faith.

The psalmist seeks God's blessing and prays that God's ways be known upon the earth. Let the people praise God who rules with equity and who guides the nations on earth. Three times he repeats, "Let all the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."

John was taken, in his vision, to a high mountain where he saw the holy city Jerusalem coming down from heaven. It shone brightly with the radiance of precious stones. There were twelve gates, each guarded by an angel, for the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve names of the apostles were inscribed upon them. Its light came from the glory of God, and the Lamb was its lamp while its temple is the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb.

Jesus speaks of love noting that those who live in it will keep his word and in return be loved by the Father. The Holy Spirit is sent by the Father in Jesus' name and will teach us everything and remind us of what Jesus told us. Jesus tells the disciples he is going to the Father and will be away for a while but will return.

**The Father sends  
In the name of his Son  
The Holy Spirit to remind us of Jesus' ways.**

When Jesus says, "Whoever loves me will keep my word," he means that actions speak louder than words. Our faith in the Lord's words must be strengthened by what we do. In the coming days be open to the needs of your neighbors and of our parish and do something positive that either helps your neighbors or our parish community. In your own distinct way let your faith shine in a practical and concrete way.

If a person truly loves he knows what this word really means.

It is passionate affection of the spirit  
and a welcome word to the ears of the Father.

It cries out:

My God and my Love!

You are all mine and I am all yours!

Lord, increase my love  
that I may experience its beauty in my heart.

Let me be encompassed by love  
and rise above myself from its very bliss.  
Grant that I may love You more than myself

And myself only for You.

(Adapted, Imitations, Book 3, Chapt.5)

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