

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



The Glory of God

Compassionate God,
you shower us with an enduring love.
May we open our eyes and hearts to
your works.

In your goodness, you have promised
to wipe away every tear from our eyes
and bring us to a place free of pain.
May we open ourselves to embrace
your command to love one another.
Grant that we see you in our brother
and sister

and love them as you have loved us,
and in so doing, glorify you.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 15, 2022
God's Dwelling among Us



Today's readings: Acts 14:21–27; Psalm 145:8–9, 10–11, 11–13; Revelation 21:1–5a; John 13:31–33a, 34–35. Have you ever noticed something wondrous for the first time and then learned that it had been present for quite a while? That occurs in our relationship with God and his work in our lives. Often, people are so absorbed with the many events in their lives that they miss the goodness and love that God sends their way.

The reading from Revelation tells us that God has made his home among us: “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. . . . God himself will always be with them as their God.” In his place among us, God is present through

the most difficult times. “He will wipe every tear from their eyes,” we are told. But there is more. “There shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain.”

In the Gospel, Jesus tells us that it is by our love that we will be recognized as disciples. Through our love the presence of God becomes known to family, friends, and the community. Who in your life noticeably manifests the love of God? Make it a point this week to stop for a moment to appreciate God’s presence in your life. Pray for the grace of awareness to be God’s presence for those who most need to know they are loved today.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 16

A Healing Love

Jesus tells his followers that those who keep his commandments love him. The love that Jesus proclaims is rooted in the reality that all of us are created in the image of God. This love recognizes our frailty and failures and our need for healing. This love also recognizes the best of who we can be for one another. Such love forgives and provides for healing. How will you show the love of God today? *Today's readings: Acts 14:5-18; Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16; John 14:21-26.*

Tuesday, May 17

The Gift of Peace

What does it mean that Jesus offers the disciples peace? Peace doesn't mean the absence of challenges, conflicts, or worry; the power of peace is that it exists in the midst of all these things. The person who is at peace trusts that someone greater holds your life as precious in every moment. Peace can help you put matters in perspective so that, rather than worrying or being fearful, you remember, as Sr. Thea Bowman said, "who you are and whose you are." *Today's readings: Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21; John 14:27-31a.*

Wednesday, May 18

Remain in Jesus

Jesus tells us that he is the true vine and we are the branches. Jesus' entire life and ministry was rooted in his relationship with his Father and his desire is to share that relationship with us so that we can nourish others. The simplest way to maintain our viability as a life-giving branch on the vine is to remain rooted in our relationship with Christ. Prayer and the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, are ways we can remain in Jesus. *Today's readings: Acts 15:1-6; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; John 15:1-8.*

Thursday, May 19

Joy

"Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God," said Teilhard de Chardin, s.j. In today's Gospel, Jesus offers love as the simple ingredient for joy. This love is grounded in Christ. Consider how your life would be more joyful if you allowed yourself to rest in the love of God. Sometimes it is difficult to accept that God offers us his love unconditionally. When we accept that, it is easier to love ourselves and God. *Today's readings: Acts 15:7-21; Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10; John 15:9-11.*

Friday, May 20

Loved and Chosen

The Gospels this week have focused on being rooted in our relationship with God. Love, peace, and joy are only possible because of that relationship. Today Jesus adds another layer: he sends his followers out to continue his mission. Today it would be good to pray for the grace to be courageous to accept that we are chosen and loved, and to share the love we have known through him. *Today's readings: Acts 15:22-31; Psalm 57:8-9, 10 and 12; John 15:12-17.*

Saturday, May 21

Reality Check

Today's Gospel offers a reality check regarding discipleship. Not everyone will appreciate the Christian message that you share, and some may rebuke you for spreading the Gospel. Living as a Christian can mean facing persecution. Jesus tells us to remember that he experienced these challenges. When discipleship is the hardest, take comfort in knowing that your witness provides a source of life and hope. *Today's readings: Acts 16:1-10; Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 5; John 15:18-21.*

