



**May 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A – John 14:1 – 12**

<sup>14:1</sup> ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ <sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”?’ <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Read and re-read</b> – out loud and slowly the Gospel.</li> <li>➤ <b>Meditate</b> - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Pray</b> - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition</li> <li>➤ <b>Action</b> – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).</li> </ul>
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In this week's gospel we read of the very deep teaching of Jesus to his apostles at the Last Supper. He tells them "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me." We see Thomas struggling with the desire, which is in all of us to know exactly our destination before we set out. Jesus invites him and all of us to make an act of faith and take one step at a time. Philip wants to experience God directly and Jesus shows him that he is experiencing God all the time when he involves himself in His works.

Just as Jesus was facing a great crisis in His life and community we are now facing a crisis which is very difficult at times. What words of Jesus bring us consolation and hope at this time? "Do not let your hearts be troubled." "Trust in God still and trust in me".

**Prayer:**

**Thank you Lord** for those you sent to us who invited us to become involved in your works and to our surprise we found that you were working with us and we felt your presence among us.

**Forgive us Lord** for the times we let our hearts be filled with fears and anxieties instead of hearing your words "Trust in God still and trust in me."

**Lord help us** not to worry but to give ourselves to the present moment trusting in the Holy Spirit to help us on our journey through this life to you, especially in these difficult times.