

May 14th 2023 6th Sunday of Easter Year A – John 14:15 – 21

^{14:15} If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ 'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance –
Petition
Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act
/to do).

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In this week's gospel we see Jesus preparing for his imminent departure and for a future in which he would be with his disciples in a different way. He would not 'leave them orphans' but send an 'Advocate' to 'be with them forever'. When we read the story of Jesus in the gospels it is not a story of someone outside ourselves but our own story and therefore our stories are sacred.

Do we spend a lot of time and energy projecting notions of God all over the place, away from ourselves? This gospel tells us that God lives in us and loves us. As Christ lives in the Father from whom he is inseparable, so His presence in us unites Father, Son and those who believe in Him. This belief summarises our whole Christian life from our baptism into Christ to our death in Christ. God lives in us, loves in us.

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for the wonderful moments of grace when we realised that our lives were sacred. We experienced that we are living Jesus lives and we are your presence in the world.

Forgive us Lord for the times when we surround ourselves with external stimuli. We do not take enough time to listen to our inner rhythms and discover the truth of ourselves made known to us through your presence."

Lord help us to be people of Hope and follow the example of Pope Francis in reaching out to all in love and compassion. Jesus has asked us to make His presence known to all.