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Our Lady of The Way

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&

St. Francis Xavier

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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

17th May 2020

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Although this week's gospel passage comes from the Last Supper discourse, it is the perfect reading for this time in the liturgical cycle. In next week's liturgy we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord and the following week we celebrate Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. This week's reading is the perfect precursor to these coming weeks. Prior to this section of the Last Supper discourse, Jesus has told the disciples that he will be leaving them. He alludes to that fact again in this section but also spells out that he will ask the Father to send to the disciples another advocate (sometimes translated as paraclete or counsellor). By referring to the Spirit as 'another' advocate or paraclete, Jesus names himself as having been an advocate. The Spirit is to continue the work that Jesus has begun in and with the disciples, standing as witness and strength for them to help them when the world turns against them.



From the perspective of ... The disciples

The words of Jesus in this gospel passage were addressed to the disciples at the Last Supper. They had almost no inclination of what was about to befall them, nor the heart-wrenching loss that they would feel. Yet Jesus tried to prepare them and reassure them that they would not be abandoned by him. In the days after his death, the disciples struggled to remember these words and they were caught up by despair. Even once they had witnessed the Risen Lord, he told them that he would again be leaving them. They must have been so confused and afraid.

Living the Gospel – Live in love

Throughout the gospel of John, we are reminded of the enduring relationship between Jesus and the Father. A number of times, Jesus announces that he and the Father are one. In today's passage, Jesus also says to the disciples that they can share in this relationship of love. When Jesus speaks about anyone who 'loves' him, he speaks about anyone who lives by his message and seeks to be like him. Anyone who does that will share in the love that exists between the Father and the Son. That invitation is open for each of us today as well.

Gospel Focus – Paraclete

The Greek word, *parakletos*, is translated into a number of different terms in English translations of the gospel. Its technical use was for a lawyer or attorney. However, its use in scripture is like the broader meaning of advocate that we use today: someone who stands up for another; someone who speaks up for another; someone who intercedes on behalf of another. An advocate is one who lends strength and support to someone who is disempowered. That is exactly what Jesus did for many people during his ministry and it is also what the Holy Spirit is sent to do.

By Greg Sunter—Liturgy Help

NATIONAL 18-24 MAY 2020 VOLUNTEER WEEK

CHANGING COMMUNITIES.
CHANGING LIVES.



It's hard to know what the church and society are going to look like when we emerge from the COVID-19 restrictions.

The one constant throughout our pre and post-pandemic worlds, however, will be the volunteers who remain at the heart and soul of what we do.

As we prepare to celebrate a National Week in your honour, my thanks goes out to all the volunteers, wherever you may be offering witness – in parishes or prisons, hospitals, courts or respite and drop-in centres.

In spite of the many challenges posed by this medical crisis, you still stood ready, in ways both creative and courageous, to continue outreach on our behalf and for that the Archdiocese is indebted to you.

Without you we couldn't do or be what Jesus Christ calls us to do and be.

Most Rev Mark Coleridge
ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE



Knights Silver Circle: The winner of the 7th Draw held on 9th May was Judith English of Strathpine with Ticket No. 82. **Congratulations!!**

NOTICE FROM PARISH OFFICE

Just a reminder that Planned Giving Envelopes can be dropped into the Parish Office and leave them in the box provided. Alternatively EFTPOS facility is available or for direct deposit you can contact the office of our bank account details.

Many thanks

Offering
Envelopes



Something to smile about.....

'I'm in a terrible fix,' moaned Raymond. 'I'm in love with two girls and I don't know whether to propose to Wendy or Mary.'

'No problem,' said Sean to the Englishman. 'I know you're not a Catholic but I think the church could help you. Call in tomorrow morning, kneel down and try a sincere prayer to God - that should do the trick.'

Next morning Sean arrived to find Raymond with a beaming smile. 'It worked. It's a miracle,' Raymond enthused. 'I walked in, knelt down and there it was written in red across the altar cloth: AVE MARIA!'

Enjoy your day

Scripture Readings

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
- YR A

A reading from the Acts of the
Apostles 1:1-11.

A reading from the letter of
St Paul to the Ephesians 1:17-23

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew 28:16-20.

Please remember in your prayers the following people:

Brian Carmichael, Scott Hines, Barry Guest, Rolf Germain, Pita Nepata, Norma Quinn, Marcus Neudecker, Neola Corby, Anne Feeney, Christina Peters, Samantha Pride, Terry Segrave, Rita Miles, Steven Williams, Rohan Somasekaran, Thomas Bird, Bradley Wright, Greg Olsson-Lalor, Nina & Raymond Dove, Tia Huff, Helen Chicken, Dorothy Davidson, John Engwicht, Vera Versace, Michelle Woodworth, Abbie Wellspring, Lloyd Mason, Sharon McCourt, Gina Morieni, Paige Hoffman, Nicole Blackburn, Amanda Moyle, Tim McNickle, Kyle Huff, Nathalie Bernon, Ghishiane Smidt, Patrick Bosworth & Kathy Bosua.

These names will be removed after 2 months. If you wish for them to remain on longer please ring the Parish Office.



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