

May 18-19, 2019

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27

Revelation 21:1-5

John 13:31-35

*Dry your eyes and take your song out, it's a newborn afternoon.
And if you can't recall the singer you can still recall the tune.
Dry your eyes and play it slowly like you're marching off to war;
Sing it like you know he'd want it, like we sang it once before.
And from the center of the circle to the midst of the waiting crowd,
If it ever be forgotten sing it long and sing it loud and come dry your eyes.*

*And he taught us more about giving than we ever cared to know,
But we came to find the secret and we never let it go.
And it was more than being holy and it was less than being free,
And if you can't recall the reason can you hear the people sing.
Right through the lightning and the thunder to the dark side of the moon,
To that distant falling angel that descended much too soon
And come dry your eyes.
Neil Diamond, 1976*

Like watching the odometer spinning off the passing miles toward a destination, so this weekend's Gospel hints at the NEARNESS of the Ascension (June 1-2), to be followed by the gifting of the Holy Spirit to the Church on Pentecost (June 8-9). While spoken prior to his crucifixion, nonetheless, Jesus' words in today's Gospel: 'My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another...' still ring with power and lament as the disciples had to anticipate Jesus' SECOND departure. The roller-coaster of crucifixion, resurrection...and now another departure...the emotional toll and confusion within the disciples had to be intense. From their initial relief at having the Resurrected Jesus BACK in their midst they NOW must prepare to share the story of JESUS...without his physical presence. In our own day and age, the authenticity of our faith is demonstrated NOT by a rigorous adherence to doctrine or rituals but rather by the DEPTH OF OUR LOVE for OTHERS...especially those we do not want to love. While Jesus promised to never abandon us, he never promised that AUTHENTIC discipleship would be easy. As graduations engulf us, as Summer excursions beckon and barbecues fill the air with luscious smells...do a little internet research and gift yourself with an old/new-again tune: 'Dry your eyes and take your song out....' Ascensions happen all the time and Pentecosts are too numerous to count...as a Disciple of Jesus, what makes you sing and what helps you love?

Thanks for sharing these fleeting days of the Easter Season with our Santa Clara community. This weekend at the 12Noon Mass we joyfully celebrate the Sacrament of First Eucharist for the second group of our sons and daughters. Congratulations to each of these First Eucharist families...well done!!! With the approach of the Annual DIOCESE OF ORANGE PRIEST RETREAT, June 3-7, you are reminded that there are NO DAILY 8:30am MASSES celebrated here at Santa Clara for those five days, M-F...give yourselves a break, sleep in, go out to breakfast at Mimi's...just don't get forgetfully surprised by your personal routines. Our Knights of Columbus are offering their famous 1-lb Burritos for sale after all our

Masses this weekend, as supplies last. The proceeds enable our Knights to support our Seminarian Interns, present and past, on their journeys to Priesthood as well as other charitable outreaches. The Burritos are available at the Kitchen roll-up window. As you relish and savor this Spring weekend, please remember, you are loved! FKB