

May 5-6, 2007

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27

Revelation 21:1-5

John 13:31-35

Nothing validates an idea or approach as much as having people try to suppress or stop it from occurring. If an idea is worthy of persecution, it must have some degree of power of which someone is afraid. Things that are meaningless are ignored and overlooked...things that frighten are attacked...and oddly enough, the persecution helps to spread the very idea that someone wants to suppress. Consider, anytime some fringe group wants to boycott a movie or book and says that we shouldn't see or read it...the movie or book excels and gains more attention than if it were simply ignored. In our selection from The Acts of the Apostles we hear of the early disciples encountering many hardships and persecutions, but the disciples accepted these hardships as the cost of discipleship. The Book of Revelation speaks in a visionary sort of way of the old being made new, of the old being swept away/destroyed and replaced with something fresh and hopeful. In the Gospel of John, we hear Jesus speaking to his disciples prior to his crucifixion, cautioning them that he would soon be leaving their presence (as in being crucified) but to draw strength from each other. Finally, he advises his disciples that the manner in which they will attract attention to themselves and to God is not by force of word, doctrine or sword but by the manner in which they love each other. With this in mind...would anyone be attracted to find out more about Jesus Christ from encountering any of us? Would an outside observer be compelled to ask us about our faith from how we treat/love each other? What are your qualities (yes, YOU) that would make someone want to be a Roman Catholic disciple of Jesus Christ?

Perhaps at last, the April showers are giving way to the SPRING sunshine of May flowers. In any case, thank you for sharing this weekend with our Corpus Christi Community. Please take a Bulletin on your way home. A reminder that next weekend will be our celebration of Mother's Day and the special Mother's Day Mass cards are available on the Concierge Shelves so that you may enroll your moms, living or deceased in this special series of Masses. Our Fashion Show is fast filling, please visit the reservation table outside after Mass. This weekend we have the opportunity to help one of our future Eagle Scouts, Mr. Bryan Ploof (son of Ron and Tara) as he generates monies for his Eagle Scout project. He is constructing four, craftsman-style seating benches for placement near the exterior walls. To pay for this effort, Bryan has organized a breakfast Burrito sale...so, in the spirit of Cinco de Mayo...enjoy a burrito, help a scout become an eagle...and in the process, remember, you are loved.