

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 15, 2022

“Almighty and living God,
constantly accomplish the Pascal Mystery within us...” (opening prayer)

Moving through the Sundays of Easter, our opening prayer encourages us to discover and participate in the eternal revelation of the Resurrection in our lives and in the world. Surrounded by the signs of spring that speak of new beginnings and renewed life, this same energy surges through our actions and words.

The first reading today from Acts recite the birth pangs of the early Church, faithful to the proclamation of Jesus as Messiah through the missionary journeys of Paul and Barnabas. After sharing their faith with their Jewish sisters and brothers, they expand the Gospel to the Gentiles, revealing the universality of the Gospel, to love their neighbour as Jesus loves us. Indeed the sign of the Christian is love for each other. Just as the Church expanded to include all peoples, the Pascal Mystery is accomplished always in every generation.

Jesus in the Gospel passage links the work of evangelisation to the call of love of neighbour, of our sisters and brothers. The excerpt from John’s Gospel is in the context of Jesus’ last instructions to the disciples. Modeling our lives on Jesus, we participate in evangelising the world. This is the major theme of Pope Francis’ exhortation during his pontificate; to move into the world with courage and humility.

John’s words in the book of Revelation speak of the reality of God with God’s people.

“See the home of God is among humans.”

This simple but profound statement reveals the truth of our faith; the Kingdom of God is in our midst and we share in the building of that Kingdom with our lives, our gifts and our talents. Continuing to proclaim the astonishing newness of the Resurrection, we move forward with hope and confidence, proclaiming that Christ is risen! Christ is truly Risen! Alleluia!

Blessings of peace to the world.

Fr. Don