

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023

- **From the Archives of Msgr. John J. Gilchrist May 5, 2002**

This Sunday continues last week's gospel. However, it speaks of The Paraclete. Here are the sections in St. John that speak of the Holy Spirit and how the Spirit Guides the Church.

Jn 14:16 "I will ask the Father and He will give you another Advocate to be with you always."

1. "The Spirit of truth whom the world can not accept because it neither sees or knows Him. But you know Him because He remains with you." The world is incapable of receiving the Spirit. It has no way to grasp or understand Him. But the disciples "know" Him because they possess Him inwardly. They possess Him in the community and experience His presence by a spiritual experience
2. Jn. 14:26 "The Counsellor, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." The Holy Spirit, the Advocate continues the revelation of Jesus not by teaching "new" things, but taking the teachings of Jesus to a deeper level of meaning. Thus for over 2000 years the Church has

continued to learn more and more about the faith that Jesus left to us.

3. Jn. 15:26 "But when the Counsellor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness to me, and you also are witnesses because you have been with me from the beginning. The Paraclete cannot, like Jesus, speak to the world directly. Therefore, he uses the disciples as His spokesmen. Thus the Church for more than 2000 years has born witness to Christ because of the eye witness value of the Apostles and Disciples. The Holy Spirit acts and speaks through the Church.
4. Jn. 16:7-11 "If I do not go away the Counsellor will not come to you, but if I go, I will send Him to you. And when He comes He will prove the world guilty (and expose) what sin, righteousness, and judgement are; sin, that they do not believe in Me, righteousness, that I go the Father and you will see me no more, and judgement, that the ruler of this world is judged." Jesus here explains the necessity for His departure. Jesus must go so that the Spirit may come. The Spirit preserves the "presence" of Jesus in the community. The Holy Spirit acts here as a lawyer – an Advocate. He prepares a case in which He convicts the world of sin – they do not believe in Jesus, of righteousness, because Jesus will ascend to the Father proving His righteousness against the world's accusations, and judgement because the

devil was expelled. The community has overcome the vile one.

5. Jn. 16: 13-15 “When the Spirit comes He will guide you to all truth, for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears He will speak, and will declare to you all the things that are to come. He will glorify me and take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore, I said that He will take what is mine and declare it to you.” This passage reinforces the first one. The Holy Spirit will continue the work of Jesus. It does not mean new revelations. It means the church will understand new situations in the light of the teaching of Jesus. The Holy Spirit will always guide the Church.

复活期第六主日 (5/14/2023)

今天是复活期第六主日，主耶稣在升天前，向门徒们许诺一位护慰者，将和他们永远在一起，护慰者圣神会来到我们教会，寄居在我们心里，教导我们明辨善恶，带领我们走真理的道路，引导我们遵从父的诫命，并以爱去生活。在这新冠病毒流行期间，我们把那些与病毒作战，奋战在一线的医护人员，消防人员，警察，所有服务人员祈祷，求主保守他们平安，为那些科研工作者祈祷，求他们早日找到战胜病毒的方法。特别为总统和政府祈祷，在圣神护慰者的感召下，带领这个国家早日走出病毒影响的阴影。

今日主日福音 (宗 8: 5-8, 14-17; 伯前 3: 15-18; 若 14: 15-21) 的反省 摘自【我灵赞颂主 iBreviarium】

當一個人真心愛另一個人時，便常會想起對方說過的話，且為了對方，願意付出一切。今日福音中耶穌對門徒們所表達的，正是這一事實。對於主的命令，我們不該出於懼怕受罰而硬著頭皮去遵從，否則會將其變成艱難和無奈的事。相反，當我們真正地愛上耶穌，並和祂建立了深厚的友誼時，祂所有的命令就不再是痛苦的鎖鏈和束縛，而會轉化為甘飴的生命之糧。印度德蘭修女曾這樣說：「許多人認為我們的聖召就是工作。不對，我們的聖召是愛耶穌！」今天，讓我們在做使徒工作時不要機械化地盡義務，而要通過此工作愛耶穌，從而活出聖召的真諦！