



Talktime with Sr. J

***4th Sunday of Easter
John 10:1-10***

May 7, 2017

Dear Friend,

The message of today's Scripture tells us of the concern of Jesus for each one of us. He is warning us that there are dangers for those of us who choose to follow Him. It is Jesus' desire that we Christians be alert for signs of what takes our attention from God. In a sense He is challenging us to embrace His teachings as difficult as they may appear to be as we live counter-cultural to our society, to accept our daily cross and follow Him.

Gathering the sheep into an open pen and sleeping in the gateway as the door, enlightens us to the need of protection. This image calls to mind that Jesus is not a door, or gate, or wall that blocks our coming and going. He is the passageway, or walkway that gives us the freedom of coming and going as we choose. Entering through Jesus we find eternal life, heaven on earth.

Jesus is giving us the invitation to come close to Him and develop an intimate relationship. It is important that we develop a strong prayer life so that we may be able to listen and respond as His disciple in daily encounters and situations. It is not easy to remain a faithful follower unless we choose to be united with Him.

We are still in the Easter season, hopefully filled with renewed faith and joy. We have a choice to make. Will we embrace each day with hope and love in the power of Jesus and walk with the Good Shepherd? Let our answer be yes as we allow Him to lead us.

Peace,

Sr. J.



Talktime with Sr. J

***5th Sunday of Easter
John 14:1-12***

May 14, 2017

Dear Friend,

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.” The apostles are anxious, unsettled and fearful. They have been hearing things about Jesus that they cannot quite accept. They are confused. Rumors have been circulating. What are they to believe? In their fear of being taken by the Romans they have forgotten the promise of Jesus.

At times we experience life with the same troubled hearts and we may even add: “Who is this Jesus? What are we to do or say?” Perhaps we can paraphrase Scripture and say it clearly: “Stop being troubled.” None of us escape worry or anxiety and other emotions that lead to fear. In today’s reading Jesus is asking us to trust Him, to believe in Him.

We are called to walk with Him and do greater works than the ones He did; and it is going to be possible if we remain united to Him and because He will be united with His Father. This is enough to blow our minds especially when we are caught up in the trials of the day. We forget that God is in charge. We forget that however overwhelming and discouraging events can be in our world or personal lives; He knows how to turn it around or use it for a greater good. He is in control and we need to heed His words: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.”

Let us not fear what comes our way each day. Let us “take and eat” and embrace our cross focusing on our God who will not abandon us.

Peace,

Sr. J.



Talktime with Sr. J

6th Sunday of Easter
John 14:15-21

May 21, 2017

Dear Friend,

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” We need to realize that loving Jesus is not the same as keeping his commandments. I can love a person and still not truly know him or her. Loving Jesus is not a matter of doing exceptional things or just being good. When we come to know and understand the commands of God, when we read and meditate and try to deepen Scripture, we discover the source of life. Jesus promises us the help of the Holy Spirit. “The Consoler, the Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. (*John 14:26*)

We have the promise of the gift of the Spirit to help us understand the word of Jesus and how to love Him. We have the Spirit to give us the courage we need in all things, even in difficult relationships. We love Jesus when we discover how to love him in our brothers and sisters. We recall the Scripture phrase: “Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister, and mother.” When we choose to live our lives loving Christ in others we will begin to experience God’s love and grow in our knowledge of him.

Let us pray for one another and choose to live the commands of God and thus come to know Him better.

Peace,
Sr. J



Talktime with Sr. J

7th Sunday of Easter

John 17:1-11a

May 28, 2017

Dear Friend,

Jesus tells us that He prays; He prays for the ones given to Him by the Father. This prayer reveals His great love, His sacrificial love. He refers to his “hour,” the cross. His sacrificial death is necessary if his disciples, and all His followers yet to come, are to be truly sanctified. His cross is the final and supreme act of Jesus' humility, obedience and death to self that characterized his ministry and his relation with God. His embracing of the crucifixion was the act that granted us our salvation.

As Christians we are to live our lives in Christ. In the same way that Jesus was obedient to His Father we are to die to self and the world. When walking as Jesus walked, our deaths, like Jesus', will also bring glory to the Father.

Saints have told us that both sacrificial living and dying, are necessary for followers of Jesus. Love is life. Love gives meaning to suffering. Love fills the empty spaces in our lives. Love is an invitation to share with others in the love of the creator. Let us accept God's love no matter how it may be disguised and still reach out to others who are in need.

Peace,

Sr. J.