

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

With these readings from Acts and Letter of John, we continue to be informed about the development of the early Church in Palestine. We are introduced to Saul, who persecuted the first Christians. So, no wonder the early Christians were fearful when Barnabas brought Paul to then asking for inclusion into the new community. We begin to understand the growth and the challenge of Apostles to spread the Gospel to the new communities of converted Christians.

“The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.”

I also bring your attention to the letter from John, a letter of consolation that can bring a sense of Peace to us too.

Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth  
and reassure our hearts before him  
in whatever our hearts condemn,  
for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.

When we feel that God would never forgive us for some reason or other, we can take consolation in this passage:

God is greater than our hearts.