

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9th, 2021

With the Reading from Acts of the Apostles, we trace the development of the Early Church.

It is the power of the Holy Spirit that brings courage and strength to new members. With today's reading we see the importance of Baptism as the Door to this community and the Eucharistic nourishment through the Breaking of the Bread.

In both the following readings we hear how essential and yet simple the gift of love. It is complicated to speak of love, for it is so overused and weakened in our culture. Just notice how often the word love is used in our advertisements, ads, and in our greetings. We are so quick to throw that word around to describe a variety of associations and affiliations. Yet the concept is as old as our human history. The author of John's letter begins to define it: "this is love: not that we have loved God, but that God has first loved us". Love comes TO us FROM God. God loved us first. And the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus, is to give us an example of the depths of the Father's love. There must be a thousand books written by theologians trying to explain the Mystery of the Trinity. Many wrote that the love of the Father/Creator for his "Son" explodes into the Breath of Spirit which we are invited to receive also. Notice in John's letter today "Love is OF God". In our Creed we use the word begotten i.e., created, caused to be. Try to image the depth of that love, that feeling. You who are parents, Mothers on this Mother's Day, couldn't we say the same of you? Your son or daughter is "OF" you? My uncle would say of me that I was the "spitten" image of my Dad." Well, hardly, but I was still proud of that idea.

I think that Jesus was attempting to teach us the depth of Love, by calling us God's children. So, this weekend, let us imagine what it must be like to be Loved that deeply by God.