

Saint Theresa of Lisieux Parish

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April 19, 2020 | SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (OR SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)



~ Masses are suspended temporarily.

All services will be STREAMED LIVE via our Facebook page. ~

<https://www.facebook.com/tahoecatholic/live>

or www.tahoecatholic.com

DAILY MASS IN ENGLISH

Monday-Friday 8am & Saturday at 10am

DAILY MASS IN SPANISH

Monday-Friday at 7pm

SUNDAY MASS

10am in English and 12noon in Spanish

VIRTUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday-Friday at 3pm

**STEWARDSHIP IN OUR
PARISH**

April 5, 2020
\$4,105.00

April 12, 2020
\$3,940.00

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR 2020

<https://www.popesprayer.va/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/THE-HOLY-FATHERS-PRAYER-INTENTIONS-2020-ENG2.pdf>

APRIL | Universal prayer intention - Freedom from Addiction

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

THE DIFFERENCE A WEEK MAKES?

"A week later, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came." —John 20:26

The octave of the first Easter was disappointing and uneventful for the apostles. On the evening of the day of Jesus' Resurrection, Jesus sent His apostles to proclaim His Gospel (Jn 20:21), but eight days later they were still paralyzed by fear and behind locked doors (see Jn 20:26). You can see why Thomas, not present a week earlier, did not believe that Jesus was risen from the dead. However, the Lord had mercy on the apostles after they were unfaithful to Him so many times. He came to them once again and was even willing to subject Himself to Thomas prodding His wounds (Jn 20:27).

Possibly the octave of Easter has been disappointing for you also. You may have even sinned against the risen Lord. You may be concealing Jesus' Resurrection more than revealing it. Nevertheless, Jesus comes to you once again with rays of mercy coming from His wounded heart.

Jesus gives us mercy primarily by commanding us to "receive the Holy Spirit" (Jn 20:22) and receive a new Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is "the Spirit of truth" (Jn 16:13). He will make us true to the Lord and not unfaithful. The Holy Spirit will produce the fruit of love in us (Gal 5:22), and we will stop our sinful rejection of the Lord and our disobedience to Him. By Jesus' mercy and the power of the Holy Spirit, we will be witnesses for the risen Christ and truly celebrate Easter. "Lord, have mercy. Come, Holy Spirit!"

Prayer: Father, make Divine Mercy Sunday one of the most important days of my life because of my love for You.

Promise: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' instruction and the communal life." —Acts 2:42

Praise: God "saved us; not because of any righteous deeds we had done, but because of His mercy" (see Ti 3:5)

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-4-19-en>

OUR ONLY NEED

"The place where they were gathered shook as they prayed. They were filled with the Holy Spirit."

—Acts 4:31

When Peter and John were released from jail, they did not ask for:

- future safety,
- protection from their enemies,
- justice after being wrongly arrested, or
- an easier mission.

Rather, they asked to be filled again with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4; 4:31) and thereby receive "complete assurance," that is, holy boldness in witnessing for the risen Christ (Acts 4:29).

Let's not focus on the immensity of our problems and the human impossibility of dealing with them. It doesn't make that much difference whether we have to move a mountain or a mountain range. It's irrelevant whether we face thousands of enemies or only a few. Even if Satan himself is pulling out his heavy artillery, it isn't important. We must turn to the Spirit dwelling within us (see 1 Cor 3:16), Who can handle any degree of difficulty. We need only stir into flame the gift of the Spirit in our lives, for "the Spirit God has given us is no cowardly spirit, but rather One That makes us strong, loving, and wise" (2 Tm 1:6, 7).

Come, Holy Spirit! Give us Easter.

Prayer: Father, may I be baptized in and preoccupied with the Holy Spirit.

Promise: "The wind blows where it will. You hear the sound it makes but you do not know where it comes from, or where it goes. So it is with everyone begotten of the Spirit." —Jn 3:8

Praise: Tom prays regularly for discernment to know what comes from the Holy Spirit and what comes from the evil one.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-4-20-en>

MAKE EASTER SPECIAL

"With power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus." —Acts 4:33

The Holy Spirit has told the Church to make the Easter season extra special by celebrating some of God's greatest works during Easter. For example, the first hours of Easter are glorified by the Baptisms, Confirmations, and First Communion of hundreds of thousands of catechumens throughout the world. We kick off the fifty-day Easter season with the Easter octave. We often have additional Confirmations and First Communion throughout Easter. We celebrate May as the month of Mary with rosaries and May crownings. We conclude the Easter season with the Pentecost novena and the earthshaking feast of Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit may also be telling you to join with the Church and make Easter extra special. Maybe you should be like Barnabas (Acts 4:36-37), sell your farm, give the proceeds to the Church, and be a missionary. Maybe you should get a new job or a new way of serving the Lord on the job. This may be the time the Lord is calling you and your spouse to conceive a child. Easter is prime time for deciding to be a priest, a religious, or a single person consecrated to the Lord. What better time to change your lifestyle or suffer persecution! Let's not be rash, but let's not be afraid to make big decisions which proclaim loud and clear that Jesus is risen from the dead.

Prayer: Father, teach me how to witness with power for the risen Jesus (see Acts 4:33).

Promise: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that all who believe may have eternal life in Him." —Jn 3:14-15

Praise: St. Anselm received the title "Father of Scholasticism" for his attempt to analyze and illuminate the truths of faith through the use of reason. He pleaded for mercy on the king who exiled him.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-4-21-en>

ONLY THE HUNGRY HAVE LIFE

"Look there! Those men you put in jail are standing over there in the temple, teaching the people." —Acts 5:25

An angel freed the apostles from jail and told them to teach about "this new life" (Acts 5:20). Christianity is new life, but Christians must be taught to live this life, thus, the great importance of teaching in the Christian life and regarding this life.

On the day Jesus rose from the dead, He spent hours in the afternoon and evening interpreting the Scriptures (Lk 24:27) and opening the apostles' minds to understand the Scriptures (Lk 24:45). At the first Christian Pentecost, Peter was preaching and teaching. Thereupon, the newborn Church "devoted themselves to the apostles' instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). After an angel freed the apostles from jail and told them to keep teaching, they devoted themselves to "prayer and the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4) by resisting temptations to lose their focus on teaching God's Word. They even filled Jerusalem with their teaching (Acts 5:28). Jesus was frequently called "Rabbi," meaning "Teacher" (see Jn 20:16), and the Church founded by Jesus is therefore a teaching Church.

In our spiritually anorexic culture of death, we must again desire to be taught and to teach God's Word. Otherwise, we will not know how to live the Christian life. Christianity not lived is an aberration. The Holy Spirit convicted the world of sin (Jn 16:8) and at Pentecost gave the early Church a hunger for God's Word. May He, this Easter season, also convict us of sin, crucify us to the world (see Gal 6:14), and give us a baptismal hunger for God's Word of life (see 1 Jn 1:1).

Prayer: Father, send the Holy Spirit to teach me everything (Jn 14:26) and guide me to all truth (Jn 16:13).

Promise: "God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him." —Jn 3:17

Praise: Every day, Brent reads a Bible verse, reflects on how this Word applies to his life, and then says "Lord, Your will be done."

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-4-22-en>

THE MEAL OF LOVE
"Taste and see how good the Lord is." —Psalm 34:9

At each Mass, Jesus offers us His Body and Blood in the Eucharistic feast. The Church, through the voice of the psalmist, invites us to taste and see how good the Eucharistic Lord is (Ps 34:9). At the first Eucharist, the Last Supper, Jesus told His apostles and each of us: "I have greatly desired to eat this Passover with you" (Lk 22:15). The Mass is a marriage between heaven and earth, and the Eucharist is our wedding banquet (see Rv 19:7).

We approach the altar of the Lord as His spouse. In a very real sense, the Eucharist is a kiss from the Lord's lips to ours. The opening verse of the biblical book of the Song of Songs reads: "Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth" (Sg 1:2). Have you ever approached the Eucharist with that verse on your lips? The Song of Songs is a book about the passionate love shared between the bride and groom. Jesus is the Groom, and we, the members of the Church, are His bride (see Mk 2:19; Eph 5:25; Rv 19:7). Too many times in my own life, my attention has been elsewhere as I receive the Body and Blood of my Spouse, the Lord Jesus, Who loves me with the deepest desire.

Jesus "greatly desires" to give each one of us a Eucharistic kiss. Let us receive Him with devotion and committed love, and return the kiss by our complete devotion, gratitude, trust, and obedience.

Prayer: Father, may my love for Your Son always exceed the love of any newlywed for their spouse on their wedding day.

Prayer: God "does not ration His gift of the Spirit." —Jn 3:34

Praise: As bishop of Prague, St. Adalbert instituted clerical reforms. Those who resisted his efforts were successful in exiling him — twice. After his second exile he won a martyr's crown.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-4-23-en>

THE CHURCH IS FROM GOD

"If their purpose or activity is human in its origins, it will destroy itself. If, on the other hand, it comes from God, you will not be able to destroy them." —Acts 5:38-39

The apostles had been arrested for teaching the people of Jerusalem about Jesus. They were brought to trial before the Sanhedrin, the Jewish "Supreme Court." The apostles stood their ground and declared they would continue teaching about Jesus, and would obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29). "When the Sanhedrin heard this, they were stung to fury and wanted to kill them. Then a member of the Sanhedrin stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law highly regarded by all the people. He had the accused ordered out of court for a few minutes, and then said to the assembly, '...Have nothing to do with these men. Let them alone. If their purpose or activity is human in its origins, it will destroy itself. If, on the other hand, it comes from God, you will not be able to destroy them without fighting God Himself' " (Acts 5:33-35, 38-39).

We who live in the twenty-first century should stop and think about the origins of Christianity. We are asked to give our lives to a Man condemned to death, the equivalent of being put to death today in the electric chair. His main followers were a group of uneducated fishermen. Yet we moderners still continue to follow this Man two thousand years later. This is a great testament to the truth that Jesus is God and His Church is led by the Holy Spirit.

Gamaliel's words echo strongly today, just as they did to the Sanhedrin. Gamaliel and St. Luke are telling us that the Church comes from God. Pour your heart and your life into God's Church.

Prayer: "Lord, remember Your church throughout the world; make us grow in love together with" our Pope, bishops, and clergy.

Promise: "I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living." —Ps 27:13

Praise: St. Fidelis, a priest and martyr, prayed that he be completely faithful to God and not give in to lukewarmness or apathy.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-4-24-en>

WHAT'S THE SMOKE FOR?

Dear Johan,

I just visited a city that has two main churches. Both are quite beautiful. One is known as the basilica while the other is referred to as the cathedral. Can you tell me what the difference is between a basilica and a cathedral?

Gentle reader,

Working in an area that has both a basilica and a cathedral and, more poignantly, working in a church that is both a basilica and a cathedral, I have answered this question numerous times.

Simply put, a cathedral is the bishop's church while a basilica is the pope's church.

When you visited the cathedral, you undoubtedly saw an oversized chair in a prominent place in the sanctuary. It may have been elevated and perhaps it was augmented with a canopy. This chair is sometimes referred to as the episcopal throne. Borrowed from Roman imperial custom, the chair is the ancient symbol of the teaching office and the authority of the bishop. No one but the bishop is to use this chair. The Latin word for this chair is cathedra. It is from this Latin word that the name cathedral is derived. A cathedral thus is a church with a cathedra and is the church of the bishop.

The word basilica is a Latin adaptation of the Greek, meaning "hall of the king." In origin this characteristic building was a large but simple rectangular structure with a half-circle apse on one end. The Romans readily adopted both the shape and the name from the Greeks because it worked well for their public and religious needs. When Christianity gained official status in the Roman Empire and the number of Christians quickly grew, larger buildings were needed. Bishops adopted the known and tried basilica style buildings as the architectural style for their churches. They even retained the name "basilica" because Christ is the King of all kings. A basilica thus became the hall of the King of kings.

The four major or papal basilicas in Rome (St. Peter's, St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major, St. Paul Outside-the-Walls) were constructed during Roman times. They rank among the most important churches in all of Christendom not only because of their venerable age but also because several of them house very important relics. Today's use of the title "basilica" or, more specifically, "minor basilica" is no longer connected to an architectural style but rather is used as an honorific designation bestowed by the pope. The reason for such designation may be the fact that a church was constructed in an exquisite architectural style, is a popular place of pilgrimage, is of historic importance, has liturgical excellence, or some other reason. By bestowing the title of minor basilica on a church, the Holy Father, in a certain sense, attaches this church to his own household. A basilica therefore is the pope's church in a given area.

In addition to a coat of arms, the insignia of a basilica are the tintinnabulum or silver bell and the ombrellino or half-opened pavilion. Both are said to have been used when the pope traveled through Rome to visit a church. The bell was carried at the beginning of the procession to announce to the people that a papal procession was about to pass by. At the receiving church the youngest cleric was charged with watching for the arriving procession. He is said to have held an umbrella in half-open position so he was at the ready. As soon as he saw the pope he was to run to him while completely opening the umbrella to protect the pope from sun or rain. The ombrellino is now half open as a sign that a basilica is waiting for the visit of the pope.

Today there are seventy-four minor basilicas in the United States. The Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis was the first church in the United States to be granted this title when on February 2, 1926, Pope Pius XI made it so.

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EVERYTHING GOOD COMES FROM GOD

Trusting in the unconditional love of God: that is the way to which Jesus calls us. The more firmly you grasp this, the more readily will you be able to perceive why there is so much suspicion, jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, hatred, violence, and discord in our world. Jesus himself interprets this by comparing God's love to the light. He says:

Though the light has come into the world people have preferred darkness to light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, to prevent his actions from being shown up; but whoever does the truth comes out into the light, so that what he is doing may plainly appear as done in God.

Jesus sees the evil in this world as a lack of trust in God's love. He makes us see that we persistently fall back on ourselves, rely more on ourselves than on God, and are inclined more to love of self than love of God. So we remain in darkness. If we walk in the light, then we are enabled to acknowledge that everything good, beautiful, and true comes from God and is offered to us in love.

<https://henrinouwen.org/meditation/everything-good-comes-from-god/>

GOD'S LOVE CASTS OUT ALL FEARS

Our inclination is to show our Lord only what we feel comfortable with. But the more we dare to reveal our whole trembling self to him, the more we will be able to sense that his love, which is perfect love, casts out all our fears.

Therefore, Lord, I promise I will not run away, not give up, not stop praying, even when it all seems useless, pointless, and a waste of time and effort. I want to let you know that I love you even though I do not feel loved by you, and that I hope in you even though I often experience despair. Let this be a little dying I can do with you and for you as a way of experiencing some solidarity with the millions in this world who suffer far more than I do.

<https://henrinouwen.org/meditation/gods-love-casts-out-all-fears/>

JESUS HEALS OUR PAINS

How are we healed of our wounding memories? We are healed first of all by letting them be available, by leading them out of the corner of forgetfulness, and by remembering them as part of our life stories. What is forgotten is unavailable and what is unavailable cannot be healed...

By lifting our painful forgotten memories out of the egocentric, individualistic, private sphere, Jesus Christ heals our pains. He connects them with the pain of all humanity, a pain he took upon himself and transformed. To heal, then, does not primarily mean to take pains away but to reveal that our pains are part of a great pain, that our sorrows are part of a great sorrow, that our experience is part of the great experience of him who said, "But was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into the Glory of God?" (Luke 24:26).

<https://henrinouwen.org/meditation/jesus-heals-our-pains/>

Parroquia Santa Teresita del Niño Jesús

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19 DE ABRIL DE 2020 | SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE PASCUA (O DE LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA)



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MISA DIARIA EN INGLÉS:

Lunes a viernes de 8 a.m. y sábado a las 10 a.m.

MISA DIARIA EN ESPAÑOL:

De lunes a viernes a las 7 p.m.

MISAS DOMINICALES:

10am en inglés y 12 mediodía en español

ADORACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA VIRTUAL:

De lunes a viernes a las 3 p.m.

¡GRACIAS POR
SU GENEROSIDAD!

5 de abril
\$4,105.00

12 de abril
\$3,940.00

CONFESIÓN

**"Reciban al Espíritu Santo. Los pecados serán perdonados a los que ustedes se los perdonen"
(Juan 20:22-23).**

Al atardecer del día en que Jesús resucitó de entre los muertos, Jesús vino a Sus discípulos, les mostró las manos cicatrizadas por los clavos y el costado herido, sopló sobre ellos, les dio el Espíritu Santo, y los envió a hacer lo mismo que Él (Jn 20:19-22). Jesús envió a Sus discípulos no para hacer un anuncio general de Su Resurrección, sino para invitarnos específicamente a confesar nuestros pecados y ser perdonados (ver Jn 20:23; Lc 24:47; Hch 2:38; 3:19; 5:31; 10:43; 13:38).

Uno de los primeros hechos de Cristo resucitado fue el de empezar a desarrollar el Sacramento de la Reconciliación para el perdón de los pecados. Una de las primeras cosas que tenemos que hacer esta temporada de Pascua es arrepentirnos y confesarnos. Cuando hemos removido los tabloncillos del pecado de nuestros propios ojos, entonces podremos quitar las manchas de los ojos de los demás; llamándolos al arrepentimiento, a perdonar, a ir a confesión, ser perdonados (Mt 7:5), y sumergirnos en la misericordia ilimitada de Dios.

Sin confesión, nuestra celebración del tiempo de Pascua se cancelará y no llegará a término. Con confesión, nos encontraremos con Cristo resucitado, somos enviados a proclamar el perdón de los pecados, y a celebrar al Cristo resucitado para la temporada completa de Pascua y para la eternidad.

Oración: Padre, que mi primera confesión en este tiempo pascual pueda cambiar mi vida. Que en este día de la Misericordia pueda experimentar la profundidad de Tú océano de misericordia, como Tú me reconcilias contigo.

Promesa: La hermandad escucha "la enseñanza de los Apóstoles y participar en la vida común, en la fracción del pan y en las oraciones" (Hch 2:42)

Alabanza: Alabado seas Jesús, "la Resurrección y la Vida" (Jn 11:25), "el Camino, la Verdad y la Vida" (Jn 14:6).

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-4-23-es>

¿IGLESIA MILITANTE O IGLESIA DERROTADA?

"Todos quedaron llenos del Espíritu Santo y anunciaban decididamente la Palabra de Dios" (Hechos 4:31).

Los líderes judíos encarcelaron a los apóstoles por haber curado a un hombre paralítico y "predicaron y anunciaron al pueblo la resurrección de los muertos cumplida en la persona de Jesús" (Hch 4:2). Posteriormente, fueron amenazados por los líderes de nunca mencionar el nombre de Jesús de nuevo (Hch 4:17) y fueron puestos en libertad. Los apóstoles se reunieron con los otros discípulos y oraron por la completa seguridad al proclamar la Palabra de Dios (Hch 4:29-30). Después de esta oración, ellos fueron llenos por el Espíritu Santo. Ellos continuaron hablando la palabra de Dios con confianza (Hch 4:31).

Al igual que los primeros creyentes en la resurrección de Jesús, no debemos de alarmarnos que los poderes de este mundo conspiran con furor contra nosotros (ver Hch 4:25). La Iglesia y sus miembros han sido atacados por siglos. Dios en el cielo simplemente se ríe (Sal 2:4). Él es eterno, todopoderoso. El poderoso de este mundo ejerce su poder solo por un tiempo.

Por lo tanto, debemos orar por esa confianza, seguridad y la fuerza que los apóstoles poseían. Dios quiere que sepamos con seguridad que si Él está para nosotros, nadie puede estar en contra de nosotros (Rom 8:31). "Aquel que está en ustedes es más grande que el que está en el mundo" (1 Jn 4:4). Somos más que vencedores en Jesús (Rom 8:37). Mantengámonos firmes en extender la palabra de Dios. Somos invencibles cuando estamos arraigados en Jesús y de pie con seguridad en el centro de su voluntad.

Oración: Que podamos derramar el Espíritu Santo en este mundo Señor Jesús. Motiva a muchos adolescentes y adultos a aceptar vocaciones religiosas santas, llenos de fe y entusiasmados para hablar la Palabra de Dios con confianza.

Promesa: "El que no nace del agua y del Espíritu no puede entrar en el Reino de Dios" (Jn 3:5).

Alabanza: San Fidel se dedicó a la oración frecuente después de que el Señor le reveló que iba a ser martirizado.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-4-24-es>

EN SUS MARCAS, LISTOS, FUERA

"La iglesia de Babilonia, que ha sido elegida como ustedes, los saluda, lo mismo que mi hijo Marcos" (1 Pedro 5:13).

Durante el tiempo de la Pascua, la Iglesia nos presenta una galería de testigos de la resurrección. Miramos a María Magdalena, Tomás, Esteban, Felipe, Pedro y ahora Marcos. Cada una de estas personas estaba en la tumba del pecado pero milagrosamente resucitaron de la muerte a la luz.

Sabemos que (Juan) Marcos era un desertor, alguien a quien el miedo lo manipulaba en vez de caminar por fe. Abandonó a Pablo en el primer viaje misionero (Hch 13:13). Aunque Pablo no le permitió acompañarlos en el segundo viaje misionero, Bernabé y finalmente Pedro, tomó a Marcos bajo sus alas (Hch 15:39). Marcos fue transformado. Él se convirtió en el evangelista que escribió el evangelio más antiguo. El que se retiró de la primera jornada misionera, proporciona un recurso importante para los viajes misioneros de todos los tiempos.

Marcos fue escogido por el Señor para escribir el evangelio, la misma Palabra de Dios, no porque él era excelente, talentoso, o santo, fue escogido por la misma razón que María Magdalena fue escogida para ser la primera testigo de la resurrección, Esteban el primer mártir, Pablo el primer misionero y Pedro el primer Papa. Todos los escogidos para ser los primeros, tienen algo en común. Todos ellos estaban enamorados de Jesús y se habían transformado dramáticamente.

Oración: Padre, permíteme profesar mi fe en Jesús resucitado y ver los signos prometidos que me acompañan (Mc 16:17).

Promesa: "Entonces les dijo: Vayan por todo el mundo, anuncien la Buena Noticia a toda la creación. El que crea y se bautice, se salvará. El que no crea, se condenará" (Mc 16:15-16).

Alabanza: San Marcos desertó de la primera misión cristiana. Creció en el Espíritu y más tarde escribió un Evangelio para anunciar a Jesús por todos los siglos

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-4-25-es>

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Hch 4:23-31; Sal 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

Martes: Hch 4:32-37; Sal 93 (92):1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Miércoles: Hch 5:17-26; Sal 34 (33):2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Jueves: Hch 5:27-33; Sal 34 (33):2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Viernes: Hch 5:34-42; Sal 27 (26):1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Sábado: 1 Pe 5:5b-14; Sal 89 (88):2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mc 16:15-20

Domingo: Hch 2:14, 22-33; Sal 16 (15):1-2, 5, 7-11; 1 Pe 1:17-21; Lc 24:13-35

¡BÁJENSE DE LAS NUBES!

Los que nos felicitamos por ser "realistas" en este mundo podemos escuchar la primera lectura de hoy y decir, "¡bájense de las nubes!" cuando oímos el relato de Lucas sobre los primeros días ideales del movimiento cristiano. Todo parece color de rosa, se obran muchos prodigios, todos comparten sin egoísmo, comen juntos "con alegría" y el Señor aumentaba el número de creyentes. ¿Cómo no sentirse atraído a un grupo semejante? Desde el viento que llenó el cuarto en la planta alta durante Pentecostés así como el Espíritu de Dios sobre las aguas en Génesis, y el fuego que apareció sobre cada discípulo, como la luz que apareció en el albor de la Creación, la intensión de Lucas en Hechos es mostrar una nueva creación, una restauración de la bondad original de la Creación por la obra del Espíritu Santo. Es el Espíritu quien continúa formándonos en el Cuerpo de Cristo. En ciertas ocasiones, así como Tomás en el Evangelio, decimos ¡bájense de las nubes!" pero la última realidad es que el Espíritu obra continuamente para hacer que nuestras comunidad cristiana sea una nueva creación, una en que los demás encontrarán el gozo y la belleza de Dios.

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