

MAY 8, 2020  
Friday of the 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter  
John 14: 1-6

“I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS.”

As a priest for 25 years, I always chose our today’s gospel for those who are in trouble, depressed and lonely and a favourite reading for funerals chosen by relatives of deceased persons. For those who believe, it is easy to see why. “Jesus tells His disciples that though He is leaving them by death, He is really going back to the God from whom He came. He promises that we too will make the journey after Him. He will return to take us with Him into the Father’s house for which we are destined. Jesus came among us to show the way to the Father. His whole purpose was to bring God to us and us to God.”<sup>1</sup> It assures us that He will never leave us because He promised “I am with you always, to the end of the age.”<sup>2</sup> He also said that there are many dwelling places in the Father’s house which means God is so generous to welcome us in His place, a place of love, warm and universal hospitality. God’s Kingdom and what we called heaven is for everybody, not a place for an exclusive few, an open space for the many, just as Jesus “did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”<sup>3</sup>

Jesus also proclaims that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. What He meant by that? What’s His purpose in telling His disciples and us? He knows that He will be gone here on earth and He needed to give the disciples hope to persevere in following Him despite hardships and difficulties.

“I am the Way. He alone knows the way to the Father because He has been with the Father from the beginning - before time and creation ever existed. The Lord Jesus gives us more than a road map and guidebook. He personally is the way to the Father’s

---

<sup>1</sup> [associationofcatholicpriests.ie](http://associationofcatholicpriests.ie)

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 28: 20 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA

<sup>3</sup> Mark 2: 17 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA

kingdom, and we cannot miss it if we follow Him. He accompanies us on our daily journey and watches over us as the Good Shepherd who leads and sustains us each and every step of the way. Jesus proclaims that he is the Truth. Only Jesus can say, I am the Truth. He possesses in Himself the fulness of truth. The truth which Jesus proclaims has power to set us free from ignorance, deception, and sin. The words which Jesus speaks are true because there is no lie or falsehood in Him. Moral truth requires more than mere words or ideas because the person who speaks them must be true - true in thought, speech, deed, example, and action. Jesus embodies the truth in His person. Jesus proclaims that He is the Life. He not only shows us the path of life (Psalm 16:11); He gives the kind of life which only God can give - abundant life that lasts forever.”<sup>4</sup>

So, my sisters and brothers, like the disciples, we too are being assured by Him. He will be our Way, our Truth, and our Life. Let us not be troubled. Let us give to the Lord our fears, worries, what we are experiencing now, He will completely help us. There is only one thing that the Lord is asking us: Do you believe me? Do you trust me? Jesus Christ never promised an easy path, but He promised that He will never forsake us. If we believe and trust Him, He will ease our hearts, our minds, our souls, and everything. We are never abandoned and alone like what the poem Footprints in the Sand is telling us: how our Lord carries us when we are in trouble, when we are in difficult situations. God loves us too much to ever leave our side. He is with us today and always. Amen.

---

<sup>4</sup> [servantsoftheword.org](http://servantsoftheword.org)