

Reading for the Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

May 10th 2026

First reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

‘They laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.’

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66(65):1-3a. 4-5. 6-7a. 16, 20. R1

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

or: Alleluia.

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;

O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God, ‘How wondrous your deeds!’

‘Before you all the earth shall bow down, shall sing to you, sing to your name!’

Come and see the works of God: his wondrous deeds among the children of Adam.

He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.

Let our joy, then, be in him; he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God; I will tell what he did for my soul.

Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer, nor withhold from me his merciful love.

Second reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

‘Being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.’

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia.

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

Alleluia.

Gospel

John 14:15-21

‘I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper.’

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

‘I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.’

Short reflection on the reading for today

Jesus says, “You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.” If He says “you know Him”, you really know Him.

Then why do we keep asking, “How do we know the Holy Spirit?” Or many times we think, the Holy Spirit is for a few only. Not for everyone who knows and loves Jesus. But Jesus does not say so. He affectionately pours out His Spirit to everyone, whoever loves Him. You may not do all things perfectly. But Jesus does not mind. Do you think that all the Apostles were completely perfect when our Lord Jesus was pouring out His Spirit on them? No. And our Lord Jesus was very well aware of their mistakes when He poured out His Holy Spirit on them.

But Jesus saw their love for Him. Even when He interviewed His Apostle Peter before appointing Him as the Head of the Church, He asked only one question, “Peter, do you love me?”

Our loving Lord is also longing for love. He created us, because He wants to love and He is also longing for love. So nothing impresses Him, but love.

Saint Little Thérèse of the Child Jesus wrote in her Autobiography, “I was wanting to know what I am in the Body of Christ? Am I the hands or legs or mouth or ears.. ?” And finally she found that she was LOVE. She was the love that Jesus admired. She wanted to give all her love for Jesus... Just be loving Him with all her heart!!

So even though we may have done a lot of wrong sinful things, do not think that they will stop us from coming closer to Jesus and receiving His Holy Spirit.

If not to Jesus, where else can we go?

So go to Him repent for your sins, receive His forgiveness and receive His Holy Spirit too!!

We can feel the presence of the Holy Spirit by a gentle nudge, an inner peace amidst trials and a quiet assurance inside our hearts.

Come on, He is eagerly waiting for us!! Do not hesitate!!