



May 25, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 | Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 | Jn 14:23-29

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

A quip on a church marquee has stuck with me for years: *If you feel distant from God, guess who moved?* In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus told his disciples that he would be with them "only a little while longer." Of course, we know the full story: Jesus did not abandon his followers. Today we hear of his parting gift to them and to us. Although Jesus would soon return to the Father, he was sending someone to minister to the disciples and to encourage them in their mission: "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." Often in our lives, when we feel distant from God, we may wonder if the Lord has departed from us. In these seasons, remember that Jesus – who has *never* broken a promise – did, indeed, send the Holy Spirit to be with us. Take heart in moments of trial and call upon the Spirit, the Advocate, whose name in Latin means "he who is called to one's side." He will come close, reminding you of the goodness of God and encouraging you on the path to heaven.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's second reading narrates St. John the Apostle's vision of the heavenly Jerusalem. John describes the radiant splendor of this place "like that of a precious stone." Though the vision is resplendent, John observes: "The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light, and its lamp was the Lamb." God himself is the source of light which illumines heaven. But he is likewise present among us and his reign is meant to extend on earth as well. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can, therefore, prepare for heaven while also striving to bring God's glory to earth by living for him each day. So many times we have prayed the words of the Lord's Prayer: "thy kingdom come, thy will be done, *on earth as it is in heaven.*" Allow the glory of God to illumine your everyday life. Call upon God's grace and the Holy Spirit to witness to his truth, beauty, and goodness.

REFLECT

Inviting the Holy Spirit to act as our Advocate, how do we reveal the glory of God in our daily activities? As you begin your work, study, or household tasks, offer him your undertakings (and your heart) and ask him to transform the mundane into the sacred.