

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

6th Sunday of Easter

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION

SCRIPTURE QUOTE TO MEMORISE:

...but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

(John 14 :26)

The Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life is spoken about in all the readings today as we celebrate the 6th Sunday of Easter. Jesus is going to depart from his followers but He gives the assurance that He will not leave them orphans for the Father has promised His Advocate. John's narration of today's gospel reading is part of the farewell discourse of Jesus after his Last Supper with the apostles. Jesus has given them signs that He is going away and the disciples are anxious, not knowing what the future holds. Jesus imparts his blessings of peace, *'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid'*.

As we see in the first reading from Acts, the early Church faces challenges when some people without mandate from the apostles upset some believers with their teachings. However the Church, in a spirit of fraternal love, guided by the Holy Spirit is able to impart her magisterial teaching and bring peace to the community. With the Holy Spirit, comes peace.

Jesus tells us that His peace be given to those who love Him and keep His words. When we face the storms of life, we tend to go one circle trying to find the peace the world gives through material comfort only to find it elusive. Whatever is troubling us today, be it health, finances, marriage, employment or lack of it, **let us turn to Jesus and allow His Spirit to be the source of our comfort.**

The peace of Christ is what we long and pray for today. It is by welcoming the Holy Spirit, the Promise of the Father, into our hearts and allowing Him to dwell in us, that we will find the ultimate peace. We start by conforming more to the Word of God through our thoughts and deeds, and asking Our Blessed Mother to intercede for us. She will bring us closer to Jesus, until the day we will be where John envisions: In the New Jerusalem where the Father, Son and Holy Spirit dwell. ✚

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29;

Psalms 66: 2-3, 5-6, 8;

Revelation 21: 10-14,
22-23;

John 14: 23-29.

MONTHLY FOCUS:

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES
(15th May)**

The Holy Spirit Brings Peace

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has said that the two-year process leading to the 2023 synod on Synodality is not about 'gathering opinions' but about 'listening to the Holy Spirit'.