

“Family is the first and fundamental school of social living.”

St. John Paul II



**SCRIPTURE
of the DAY**

Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26

Psalms 102: 1-2, 11-12, 19-20

1 John 4: 11-16

John 17: 11-19

In the first reading, Peter told the congregation that they needed a replacement to fill the vacuum left by Judas. He said they needed someone who had been with them throughout the ministry of Jesus, one who can defend the faith and be a part of the ‘team’. And they prayed trusting the Lord to choose between two candidates whose names came up. Mathias won the lot.

John continued to speak of God’s love *agape* for us and our fellowship with Him in the second reading. Since God loves us so much, we cannot but respond by loving one another. God demonstrated this love for us by sending His only Son as the Saviour of the world. He reiterated that God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God in him.

There was so much that Jesus wanted to say to His disciples before He left them. He knew what they were going through. In the Gospel reading, we hear Jesus’ prayer to the Father for the disciples. His supplication was also to dispel their fears. He reaffirmed His union with the Father. **Jesus prayed that they will be united like He and the Father.** He asked the Father to watch over them and protect them from the evil one. He wanted them to know that they will be watched over by God, at the same time to be prepared as they will be despised for their faith just as He himself was despised during His ministry. But they will not be alone in the world as Jesus had consecrated Himself for their sake and they in turn consecrated in truth.

Jesus’ prayer is so relevant to us today. As we follow Jesus and bear witness to our faith in Him, there will be those who will feel animosity towards us. We pray that we will stay united and be protected in our love for God and for each other. ✦

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

newbee

12 May 2024
7th Sunday of Easter
(World Social Communications Sunday)

**SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF COMMUNION
PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).**

**MONTHLY FOCUS
EMPOWERING FAMILY LIFE**

He Lets Us Share His Spirit

Jesus was with His disciples at the Last Supper on the night before He was crucified. He imparted His last discourse to them, yet in the somberness of His impending death, His thoughts were not about Himself but for the disciples He was going to leave behind.

