

Sunday, May 14, 2023
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 1) Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
- 2) 1 Peter 3:15-18
- 3) John 14:15-21

FOCUS: Living as a disciple of Jesus requires that we be ever-ready and willing to share our faith with others.

The first reading reminds that as disciples of Jesus, we must be willing to share with others the reason for our hope. Meeting this challenge requires first and foremost that Jesus, in whom we are saved and redeemed, is the source of our hope. We also need to pray each day so that we have the grace and strength we need to share our faith when the opportunity presents itself.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Acts, we hear of the many people in Samaria who were accepting the word of God, and how Peter and John were sent to confirm them in the Holy Spirit. In the first Letter of Peter, we are encouraged to be ready to give an explanation for our hope. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that whoever has his commandments and observes them is the one who loves him.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Striving to lead lives which give a faithful witness to the Gospel, let us join in offering our prayers for our needs and those of the world to the Father.

- 1) That all members of the Church may open themselves more fully to the Holy Spirit and be responsive to the Spirit's promptings, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That policymakers may have the courage to make wise choices for the benefit of all people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those who do not experience God's peace in their lives may seek true healing and renewal through the sacrament of reconciliation, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That each of us may turn to God for healing and strength so we may get past hurts and foster reconciliation among families and friends, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died in the peace of Christ may enjoy eternal rest, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we place all our hope in you and ask that you hear and answer our prayers according to your will. For we offer them to you through Christ our Lord.