

ST. DOMINIC CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Rev. David J. Farrell, Pastor



FIFTH SUNDAY OF
Easter

MAY 10, 2020

A SPIRITUAL LIFE IN A CONCRETE WORLD

Today's readings describe the complexities of trying to live a spiritual life while still living in a world that demands concrete action. Acts tell us about disagreements beginning to emerge in the early Christian communities over divisions of labor. Some people are praying and preaching while others are feeding the hungry. In First Peter we are reminded that Jesus is the cornerstone. Jesus was rejected yet is the very foundation for building the community, and yet he is also a stumbling block for those who do not follow the path laid out by his life and works. In John we hear again the contrast of the spiritual and the concrete, of houses with many rooms, of truth and life. Is it surprising that the apostles and we are sometimes confused about how to live the life Jesus intended for us?

FINDING REALITY IN FAITH

The readings today describe a faith community struggling with the realities of preaching, teaching, praying, and spreading the word of God while others are concerned about putting food on the table and a roof over their heads. In Acts decisions are made about a division of labor. Some will preach and others will ensure that the community is fed. In First Peter there is talk of spiritual houses, builders, and cornerstones, of faith and stumbling blocks. In John, Jesus begins to prepare the apostles for his departure. Jesus talks about his Father's house but the apostles want concrete answers to their questions. They want to see the Father. They don't know the way. Jesus' response is both spiritual and concrete. His answer is both faith and works.

FINDING FAITH IN THE REAL WORLD

The tensions within the readings are tensions we feel every day between our faith and the world in which we live. We stumble over stones that litter the way, over lies that hide the truth, even over the reality of death. We want our faith to be solid, so we can test its permanence and reality. But faith is not concrete. Faith is a living thing, a leap into the unknown. Works are concrete. The works of the apostles are what sustained them even as they struggled with their own faith. We must feed the hungry and shelter the homeless even as we speak to ourselves and others of faith beyond brick and mortar. While we live in a world of harsh realities, we must remember there are realities beyond those we see but not beyond our belief. We know that the faith born of love for others and lived out in caring for the sick and sorrowful, the hungry and homeless, the poor and imprisoned is real.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 6:1-7
Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

Jesus said,
"I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6

TODAY'S READINGS:

First Reading Acts 6:1-7

As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them. The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Exult, you just, in the LORD; praise from the upright is fitting.

Give thanks to the LORD on the harp; with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy.

He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness,

To deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading 1 Pt 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it says in Scripture: *Behold, I am laying a stone in Zion, a cornerstone, chosen and precious, and whoever believes in it shall not be put to shame.* Therefore, its value is for you who have faith, but for those without faith: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, and A stone that will make people stumble, and a rock that will make them fall.* They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny. You are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises" of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel Jn 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father."

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VOCATION: Roman Catholics in the United States spend a good deal of time speaking of "vocation" and the manner in which each of us discerns our vocation for life. In today's apostolic letter, however, Peter gives us the "cornerstone" of our vocation, the description of what each of us is called to first and foremost by our baptism. He describes our vocation as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of [God's] own, so that you may announce the praises" of Christ, who called us out of darkness into light (1 Peter 2:9). All of us, no matter what path our life's vocation may take us down, have been chosen by God, made holy, and anointed as priests in the high priesthood of Christ through baptism. All of this, so that we may announce the praises of Christ. Vocation is given for proclamation at home, in the workplace—wherever life takes us—in service, in word, and in sacrament. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Tithing Contributions for the week (includes contributions during the week &/or ACH contributions, etc.): \$26,818.84

MASS INTENTIONS for May 11-17, 2020 are as follows:

Monday: Flo Cambron

Tuesday: Bob Goodlett

Wednesday: NO MASS

Thursday: Dot Smith

Friday: Freddie White

Saturday: Kenny & Barbara Corbett, Maurice Begley

Sunday: Woody & Sharon Dean, Marsha Daugherty, For the Parish, Presider's Intention

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

St. D Prayer List: Coronavirus Pandemic, Healthcare Workers, Victims of Abuse, U.S. Military, Unborn & Elderly, Addictions, Joseph E. Kurtz, Jane Rudd Volz, Mary Devine, Madeline Borders, Brenda Mackin, Roberta Williams, Jared Mudd, Jerry Craig, Larry Smith, Tom Miller, Margaret Faye Martin, Charlotte Disponett, Carolyn Greene, Marian & Wade Elliott, Sue Carter, Michael & Jennifer Jarboe, Debbie Hamilton, Buddy & Charlotte Smith, Wheatley Hamilton, Frank Peters, Lisa Hill (of Loretto), John Arnold, Corbin Noel, Geraldine Spalding, Dorothy Mattingly, Colin Walker, Cassie Robinson, Olivia Montgomery, Audrey Edelen, Marilyn Watkins, Sueanna Graves, Helen Parrot, Christy Caldwell & Nancy Hardin. Our church always prays for and cares for our sick sisters and brothers at home, in hospitals, and in nursing homes. If any who are sick want to ask in faith for the church's prayers, please do not hesitate to contact our parish office at 336-3569. You are always in our hearts, minds and prayers as we celebrate the Eucharist at St. Dominic.

MENTIONS, MEETINGS, EVENTS & REMINDERS

Live-Streaming/Recording of Masses: Mass will be live streamed on Saturday evenings at 5:00 p.m. on our St. Dominic Church Facebook page. This will continue each Saturday until we are able to gather again in person. It will then be uploaded to our parish app (myParish App) and YouTube channel and can be viewed any time after 8:00 a.m. Sunday. On the parish app click on the "video mass" button. On YouTube.com search for St. Dominic Springfield, KY.

Rescheduled Dates: First Communion, Sun., June 14, 2020, 10:30 a.m. & Confirmation, Sat., August 8, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

Business Ads: St. Dominic Church is looking at the possibility of publishing a bulletin through Diocesan, which would be free to the parish if we can secure enough sponsorship ads from businesses. So, our local business community would play an important role in the bulletin process. Sponsorship (ads, cost, etc.) would be handled by Diocesan, not by the parish office. Should we look further into the process & you find yourself possibly interested in running a BUSINESS ad on the backside of the bulletin, please email me the name of your business, contact person & phone number. Should you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Sonya at the Parish Office at stdom@bellsouth.net / 859-336-3569.

Wanting the church bulletin always at your fingertips? St. Dominic Church has gone mobile for iPhone & Android users with myParish App! Get the parish bulletin, latest messages, prayers, daily readings, etc., all by just uploading a simple app. Go to the app store in your phone & search for myParish (it's a blue app with a cross) or you can text App to 88202 to download the app. Once the app has been downloaded search for St. Dominic Catholic Church by zip code (40069). Make sure you "favorite" us & "allow" notifications.

Mass Intentions: Have you been planning on scheduling a 2020 Mass Intention(s) in memory of a loved-one? If so, St. Dominic Church still has some availability for 2020. A mass stipend is \$10. Please contact Sonya at the Parish Office (859-336-3569 from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mon.-Thurs.) to see what dates are available.

Special Thanks: Just a note of thanks to the people of St. Dominic Church for the recent outpouring of thoughtfulness at the passing of my sister, Helen Brady. Your prayers and cards have been greatly appreciated. ~Sincerely, David Hudson

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17

Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Pt 3:15-18 or 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 14:15-21 or Jn 17:1-11a

As we celebrate Mother's Day, let us remember our mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and all those who have mothered us, those who are living and those who have passed on to eternal life.