



**St. David's Parish
Monastery Road, Pantasaph,
Holywell. CH8 8PE**



May 7, 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“The way of Jesus cannot be imposed or mapped — it requires an active participation in following Jesus as He leads us through sometimes strange and unfamiliar territory, in circumstances that become clear only in the hesitations and questionings, in the pauses and reflections where we engage in prayerful conversation with one another and with Him.”

READINGS

1st Reading **Acts 6:1-7**

2nd Reading **1 Pt 2:4-9**

Gospel **Jn 14:1-12**

Introduction: Today's readings tell us how the early Church accepted the challenge of keeping Jesus' memory alive by remaining a dynamic Christian community, bearing witness to Christ by their unity, fidelity in worship and spirit of loving, humble service. Today's Gospel introduces Jesus as the Way to God, the Truth to be accepted, and the Life to be shared and lived.

Scripture lessons: The first reading, taken from Acts, shows us the early Church as a loving, serving, and worshipping community (Acts 6:1-7). Hence, it easily solved a problem of perceived discrimination

by instituting the diaconate for the service of the community. In the second reading, St. Peter advises the early Christians to renew the memory of Jesus by allowing God to make of them "living stones" and build them into a spiritual edifice, a community of believers, with Christ for its "*Living Cornerstone*" (I Pt 2:4-5). Peter praises Christians, both Gentile and Jewish, as "*a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and God's own people.*"

In today's Gospel, Jesus consoles his apostles (who are sad and disheartened at His announcement that He will be leaving them soon), by assuring them that he is going to prepare an everlasting accommodation for them in his Father's House in Heaven. He gives them the assurance that he will come back to take them to their Heavenly abodes. It is then that Thomas says, "*Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?*" Jesus answers Thomas' question with, "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.*" The basic doctrine of Judaism is that Yahweh is the Way the Truth and the Life.

Hence, Jesus is making a revolutionary claim that he is equivalent to Yahweh. Jesus also declares that he, himself, is the safest and surest way to God, discrediting the notions that all religions are equally sure ways to reach God, and that no organized religion but only living a good life of sharing love is necessary to reach God. But Jesus **is** the Way which he calls narrow because it is the way of focused, loving, humble, sacrificial service. Jesus **is** the Truth who teaches revealed truths about God and God's relation to man. Jesus also teaches moral truths and demonstrates them in his life.

Jesus **is** the Life because, as God, he possesses the eternal life of God and shares his Divine life with his disciples through the Word of God and the Sacraments. In short, Jesus reveals the Father in the **Way** he lives, in the **Truth** of his word and in the new **Life** that he brings.

ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION AND PADRE PIO'S DAY

In connection with the First Anniversary of the Inauguration of Vincentian Mission at Pantasaph a One-Day Bible Convention and a special Padre Pio's Day is scheduled for **27th May 2023**. The programme starts at **9.30 am** with Praise and Worship and Rosary, followed by preaching, Healing Mass, Healing Adoration, Novena to Padre Pio, and Veneration of the Relic. A complimentary Lunch will be provided to all participants. We welcome you to join us to thank God for the manifold blessings the Good Lord has dispensed through Pantasaph Retreat Centre, and be blessed by His healing touch.

APRIL 29/30 COLLECTIONS

Loose cash	113.75
Gift Aid	130
TEA/Coffee	36.81
<u>Total</u>	<u>280.56</u>

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Offered by	Intentions
07/05/23		For the Parishioners
08/05/23	By Tony Parry	For healing
09/05/23		For Fr. Shaji Thomas Punnattu RIP
10/05/23	Sr. Libereta	For prisoners, drug addicts and gangsters

Please Pray for our Sick

Ann Parry, Mary Toumaine, Patrick Nagle,
Phillip Mc Greavy, Anthony Parry

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

**Sacrament of Confession at 11.30 am on Saturday
ON EMERGENCY ANY TIME 0741-749-4277**

ANNIVERSARIES (May-6-May-14)

Fr. Vincent Giblin '73:, Rose Marie McGrath '91: Wendy Leeming, '05., Anastasia Jones '91: Fr. Callistus McDonald '91, Amy Ford, Ethel Toomey:, Sr. Patrick Moore, Dennis Patrick Cummins, 2022

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