

## **THURSDAY EASTER 6**

First Reading: Acts 18: 1-8;

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 98: 1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;

Gospel Reading: John 16: 16-20.

**THEME:** Your Grief will Turn into Joy

These readings recount a mixture of sorrow and joy. The coming of the Messiah was the dawn of a new age. Indeed, in the events of Christ Jesus, God writes straight on crooked lines. These assurances tell us that we should never to be discouraged.

The experiences of St. Paul during his apostolic travels demonstrate God writing straight on crooked lines. St. Paul failed in Athens which was a comparatively religious city. Corinth was by far a Sin City. However, God turned Corinth through the preaching of St. Paul into a fertile soil for evangelization: A community of solid faith; the Synagogue official by name Crispus became Catholic; St. Paul found two loyal assistants; and wrote four (4 not 2) great letters to the Christians at Corinth (1 Cor 5: 9; 2 Cor 2: 3-4).

Jesus contrasts present sorrows with future joy. Suffering turns into joy: The Passion turned into the Resurrection. Christ was with his Apostles for a while after his resurrection then he disappeared again in the event of the Ascension. Nevertheless, Christ's disappearance for good led to the coming of the Holy Spirit to inaugurate the era of the Holy Spirit in our hearts as our Consoler and source of our joy. May we always be consoled.

By Fr. Sev Kupo, Associate Pastor