

Wednesday, May 6, 2020; Fourth Week of Easter

Acts 12:24–13:5; Psalm 66(67):2-3, 5-6, 8; John 12:44-50

“I want Barnabas and Saul set apart for the work to which I have called them.”

Understanding that their lives were ordered by a power other and greater than them was primarily responsible for the successful mission of Jesus' first disciples. God was in charge and the Holy Spirit was God's agent for directing their lives. They always affirmed the fact that the Spirit's bidding was their motif for every action. What the Spirit said and where the Spirit lead determined their daily preoccupations. Jesus himself, while on earth, remained under and in communion with his Father in the same manner. The Father's command was his preoccupation. He reaffirmed that he did nothing of his own, and that all that he did had God's stamp on it. Jesus worked in union with his Father. “As the Father sent me, so I send you” were part of Jesus' last words to his disciples in John's gospel. So, there should also be a union of life and action between Jesus and us. The challenge here is clear: whose bidding are you doing in your life? Are your life and its preoccupations in union with Christ? Do you see yourself doing the work for which the Spirit set you apart?

Lord, may our lives give you glory. Amen.

-- Fr. Maurice