

## ***Sacred Heart – St. Louis Parish***

30 April 2020

Thursday of the Third Week of Easter – *opt. mem. Saint Pius V*

**“Let us sing to the Lord, for he has gloriously triumphed. The Lord is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation, alleluia.”**

Reading 1: Acts 8: 26-40

Psalm 66: **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

Gospel: John 6: 44-51

### **Homily for Thursday of the Third Week of Easter**

Today in our Church we celebrate the optional memorial of Saint Pius V. He was elected to be the pope in 1566, following the Council of Trent. This council was assembled to work through a number of issues that the Church was facing. They worked on these reforms over the course of eighteen years. The reforms that were called for at the end of this council that Pope Pius V needed to implement began with the founding of seminaries. It was recognized that there needed to be a system in place to make sure that all the clergy were getting a proper education. Additionally, he published a new Missal, a new Breviary, and a new Catechism, along with founding what we might remember in the church CCD classes (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.) Pius V is also remembered for founding of hospitals to care for the sick and the poor, providing food for those that are in need and giving monies usually dedicated to papal banquets to poor converts.

One can imagine that when any change is made to the church, particularly the liturgy and our prayers, we sometimes can get very upset. We get upset because it is different, we don't like things to be different. That is why so many are struggling now with our stay-at-home orders and the changes that are constantly being put into place and updates to previous policies. It is the change that is the most upsetting, because we get into very regimented schedules for carrying out our daily tasks, and we do not like any change.

As with many reforms in the Church, they were made and put into place to correct an error that was taking place. When something is not working right, it can cause all kinds of damage. Think of being in your car and suddenly your brakes are not working correctly. What happened - the car might not be able to stop safely, it would crash and you then would not only risk injuring yourself and others but you have damaged your investment in car by the damage due to the result of not being able to stop.

The same can be said in the way that we are praying to our God, or the way that we celebrate the Mass, or how we educate our children. If we are not teaching the truth of the faith and living it out, then how can we be living out our lives to the fullest? What happens when we teach someone an error of the faith and they are living their lives in a sinful way because they were taught incorrectly; this person may have their salvation risked because of something that they were taught incorrectly.

As we are encouraged to go out and spread the good news during these Easter days, may we strive to do so teaching and proclaiming the message truthfully

and without error. May the Holy Spirit guide our words and St. Pius V  
intercede on our behalf.