

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

2 May 2020

Saturday of the Third Week of Easter – *Saint Athanasius*

**“In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory, alleluia.”**

*(readings are from the Easter weekday)*

Reading 1: Acts 9:31-42

Psalm 116: **How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?**

Gospel: John 6:60-69

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

*St. Athanasius*

Today in the gospel we encounter a conversation between Jesus and the disciples. Not only the twelve apostles, but also many others that had been listening to Jesus and were learning from his teachings and trying to live this new way of life that he was presenting to them. The disciples asked him a question, they said “this saying is hard, who can accept it?”

Being disciples of Jesus as well, and having heard his teachings and message, we know that the teachings of Jesus are not easy. But, I don't think that what Jesus teaches us is unattainable. We will never

be perfect at everything that he asks of us, perfection is only attainable in Heaven when we are with God, but that does not mean that we shouldn't try to follow Jesus.

The hard part comes, I think, in following the teachings of Jesus, is that we live in a world in which so many people do not follow Jesus and his teachings. They think that it is a waste of time or foolish. The drive for humans to want to be accepted by those around us, to fit in, overrides our ability to want to live a life that sets us apart from so many people, many of which are friends, family and co-workers. For some people, they choose to not follow the teachings of Jesus because they are just too lazy or apathetic or think that it will not make a difference.

Towards the end of this gospel, we see that many people decided to return to their former ways of life and no longer walked with Jesus. Jesus asks the apostles if they wanted to leave too. They respond, to whom shall we go? That same question is directed to us as well. Do you want to leave? Our answer is the same, to whom shall we go? We have come to see and experience in our lives, just as the apostles did, that Jesus has the words of eternal life. He is the way. We are convinced that Jesus is the Holy one of God. Without a doubt, we will follow someone or something in our lives. Jesus is the one that

is risen from the dead. He is the one that gives us life. Let us follow him, not only during these Easter days, not only during the time of the pandemic, but each and every day of our lives. AND0 may how we live our life give example to others that this way is worth it and all the work that it requires.