

Sacred Heart – St. Louis Parish

26 May 2020

Tuesday of the Seventh Week of Easter – Memorial *St. Philip Neri*

“The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.”

(readings are from the Easter weekday)

Reading 1: Acts 20: 17-27

Psalm 68: **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**

Gospel: John 17: 1-11a

Homily for Tuesday of the Seventh Week of Easter

As we are well aware, we are approaching the end of the Easter Season, but it is not only the end of the Easter - there are several other ends that we are approaching as well. We are approaching the end of the school year. For many, that are seniors in high school or college, and this will bring the end of their formal school studies, for now. For other, it will be for a few months over the summer. For some people, they might be nearing the end of their lives, some people may be near to losing their jobs or have already lost their jobs which will bring an end to a chapter in their life. One thing that we must always remember with endings, is that there will always be a beginning.

Today, in both the gospel and the first reading from Acts of the Apostles, we hear about an ending. In the book of Acts, Paul is speaking to the presbyters of the Church of Ephesus. He is sharing with them that his time with them is coming to an end. He is going to be going on to Jerusalem. During his time with them, he has shared all the things that they need to know about in their lives to be able to live as disciples. Now, his time with them is ending, but they will have a new task, to continue to preach the good news of Jesus.

In the gospel, Jesus is speaking to God and speaking about how his time with his people is also coming to an end. He had lived with them for his whole life, he taught them what they needed to know and now he will be leaving them - leaving us. However, he is not leaving us alone. We know that at the Ascension he promised that he would send us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit to be with us, so that we are not alone. Although his time with us is ending, a new time will be starting. This is a time for us to take up that mission that Jesus called us to embrace. He called us to go out into the world and share the Good News. We are to take Jesus to other people. We are not just to sit around, but we are called to do something. We have a job to do. Sometimes this is the part of our discipleship that we often forget. As we get nearer to the Feast of Pentecost, let us call

upon the Lord to send his Spirit so that we can carry out that mandate to take Jesus into the world.