

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

29 May 2020

Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter –

**“Christ loved us and washed us clean of our sins by his Blood, and made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father, alleluia.”**

*(readings are from the Easter weekday)*

Reading 1: Acts 25: 13b-21

Psalm 103: **The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**

Gospel: John 21: 15-19

### **Homily for Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter**

Just one more day until we begin the celebration of Pentecost and the conclusion of the Easter season. While, I had somehow hope much of this COVID-19 stuff would have been wrapping up by now, we are still under many of its effects. We are able to now have Mass with 25 people and hope to be able to move forward with greater numbers in the near future. Let us pray that our Lord would mercifully grant this request.

In our Gospel verse today, which is taken from John 14:26, we are told that the Holy Spirit will teach us (you) everything and will remind us (you) of all that I told you. As Pentecost nears let us

breathe in once again this spirit that will remind and teach us of everything, particularly how we are to follow Jesus.

In the gospel reading today from John we hear Jesus asking Peter; “do you love me?” He asks Peter this three times and Peter responds three times, yes Lord, you know that I love you. Peter was beginning to get disturbed that Jesus kept asking him again and again. Didn’t Jesus believe what Peter said? We are asked this same question. Do you love him? Do you love Jesus? I am sure that we would all say yes, just like Peter did. Yet, we must remember what comes next, that is not in the gospel passage that we have today, but it takes place none the less. Peter comes to deny Jesus three times on the very night that Jesus is arrested. Remember back to Passion Sunday and Good Friday?

The last words of the gospel today are; “Follow me.” These are the words that are spoken to us during these final hours of the Easter season. Let us follow Jesus. Yes, there will be times that we will deny him, but just as Peter went on to become a leader in the Church and to grow in his faith, so do we. We are given another opportunity to grow in our faith and in our relationship with Jesus and with one another.

Come Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your mercy and love. Let us follow you with all our heart, growing in our love for you as continue to live in this world doing what you commanded us to do, to repent of our sins, to believe in you and share the good news of your salvation to the whole world.