

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

8 May 2020

Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter

**“You have redeemed us, Lord, by your Blood, from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us into a kingdom, priests for our God, alleluia.”**

*(readings are from the Easter weekday)*

Reading 1: Acts 13:26-33

Psalm 67: **You are my Son this day I have begotten you.**

Gospel: John 14:1-6

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

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me.”

So often, our Lord knows the words that we need to hear at a particular moment, and these are the words that our Lord gives us today. (Now pay attention to these words, we will hear them again as we read and hear the coming Sunday’s gospel.) *Do not let your hearts be troubled.* These words are the words that Jesus speaks to us today. These are words that we need to hear today, well sometimes even every day.

What does it mean to not let our hearts be troubled? As with many things, it can be different for each person, but there are many things that can trouble our hearts, those things that take away our peace. Just in our normal daily lives, there are so many things that we carry with us, the burdens of our families and our work, we carry around with us our financial situation, our children and their health and education. Many people carry around the weight of knowing that their parents are getting older and their health is beginning to decline, and they are going to need more care. Maybe we have a sick friend or relative or know someone that just has been diagnosed with a terminal disease. These are just a few things that we carry with us and that trouble our hearts, and this has not even touched some of the worries that we carry with us today in regard to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

When our hearts are burdened, then we often are not able to focus on what is going on around us. We are not able to live our lives in the fullest possible way. That is what Jesus wants for us, for us to be able to live life to the fullest.

*Do not let your hearts be troubled.* You have faith in God; have faith also in me, Jesus tells us. Why? Because he tells us "in my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If not, would I have told you

that I am going to prepare a place for you"? Do not let your hearts be troubled, Jesus has all of this under control. Think of what is to come, what has been promised to us, eternal life. Nothing that we face here can take this promise away. Have faith in Jesus, have faith in God, they will take care of us. That is God's promise. That is what the disciples were going out and doing in the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. Paul is preaching to the people the Good News, that Jesus is the one, everything in the scriptures attest to this and he fulfills the oracles.

We have just heard this same proclamation during the Easter Vigil. Each year at the Easter Vigil, we read through many of the books of the Old Testament and these readings are a testament to the fact that Jesus is the one that God has promised all along. He is the one promised to set his people free and he takes upon himself our burdens and all that weighs us down so that we can live in freedom. *Do not let your hearts be troubled*, now or any time. Let us put our trust and belief in the Lord, that the God who sent his Son to die and then resurrected him from the dead, will too raise our burdens and will continue to carry us to everlasting life.