



BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

May 9, 2021

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Lectionary: 56

Gospel Jn 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another."

Spiritual Reflection:

"If you go to play football and decide you want to use a baseball, have 3 end zones instead of 2, and run the ball by crawling, you aren't actually playing football. That isn't "freedom", its absurdity. Freedom in that game comes from learning how to play football as it was intended, as it makes sense, and to learn how to do that with a high level of skill."- Fr. Louis Merosne

Spiritual Questions:

1. How does knowing the commandments help you grow your relationship with God?
2. What is Freedom to you?
3. Why do you think God chose you?
4. Does being chosen by God come with any responsibilities?
5. What are some of the steps that you take in order to try to love someone you find difficult?