

FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAY 4-5th, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Gospel reading

Jn 15:9-17

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 may 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.

Intercession

That, inspired by Jesus' example of the greatest love, our Catholic Ministry Appeal may succeed greatly.

Copy for bulletin announcement

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us where the bar is for great love: *"to lay down one's life for one's friends"* (John 15:13).

Jesus' authority as God is more than sufficient to command people how they should live. Nevertheless, Jesus prefers the influence of humility: Jesus *"did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather... He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross"* (Philippians 2:6-8).

As God's presence in this neighborhood, our parish has been entrusted with authority in our neighbors' lives: the authority of His kingdom on Earth. We do not seek to wield authority heavy-handedly. We humbly ask you to support our Annual Appeal so that we, together, can spread His Kingdom humbly, by the sweet influence of love. Doing so will lead us to lay down our lives for our friends. May God bless you abundantly for your aid!

Copy for pulpit announcement

The authority of Jesus in our lives is the authority of love. Jesus prefers to draw us to Himself by the sweetness of his love for us. He is a King of Love.

Today, we ask you to prayerfully consider giving to our Catholic Ministry Appeal so that we can help our neighbors see how sweet His love is.!

Social media post/content

Photo: Painting of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Christ gesturing to direct the viewer's attention his flaming heart.

Text: *"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."* – John 15:13

Copy: God values sacrificial love. He yearns for His followers to love sacrificially, and He rewards those who do. Our Catholic Ministry Appeal is a plea for your sacrificial love. God will take care of the rest: *"Those who give alms will enjoy a full life."* – Tobit 12:9