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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

C

FIRST READING

The angel showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

A reading from the book of Revelation

21:10-14, 22-23

With the help of the Spirit,
the angel took me to the top of a very high mountain.
There he showed me the holy city of Jerusalem
coming down from God in heaven.

The glory of God made the city bright.
It was dazzling and crystal clear like a precious jasper stone.
The city had a high and thick wall with twelve gates,
and each one of them was guarded by an angel.
On each of the gates was written
the name of one of the twelve tribes of Israel.
Three of these gates were on the east,
three were on the north,
three more were on the south,
and the other three were on the west.
The city was built on twelve foundation stones.
On each of the stones was written
the name of one of the Lamb's twelve apostles.

I did not see a temple there.
The Lord God All-Powerful and the Lamb were its temple.
And the city did not need the sun or the moon.
The glory of God was shining on it,
and the Lamb was its light.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

67:1-2, 4, 5 and 7

R. (6a) O God, let all the nations praise you!

or:

R. Alleluia.

Our God, be kind and bless us!
Be pleased and smile.
Then everyone on earth
will learn to follow you,

and all nations will see
your power to save us.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

or:

R. Alleluia.

Let the nations celebrate
with joyful songs,
because you judge fairly
and guide all nations.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

or:

R. Alleluia.

Make everyone praise you
and shout your praises.
Pray for his blessings to continue
and for everyone on earth
to worship our God.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

or:

R. Alleluia.

ALLELUIA

John 14:23

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them,
and we will come to them.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to John

14:23-26

Jesus said:

“If anyone loves me, they will obey me.

Then my Father will love them,

and we will come to them and live in them.

But anyone who doesn't love me,

won't obey me.

What they have heard me say doesn't really come from me,

but from the Father who sent me.

“I have told you these things while I am still with you.

But the Holy Spirit will come and help you,

because the Father will send the Spirit to take my place.

The Spirit will teach you everything

and will remind you of what I said while I was with you.”

The gospel of the Lord.



Sixth Sunday of Easter Cycle C

Prayer:

Dear Jesus,
Thank you for the awesome gift of the Holy Spirit! Please help us to recognize the Holy Spirit, listen with all our hearts, feel your love and hear your directions.
In your name we pray.
Amen

Readings:

Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23
Psalm 67:1-2, 4, 5 and 7
John 14:23-26

Reflection:

In today's Gospel Jesus tell us about the Holy Spirit who will come to help us when Jesus is gone. Jesus says that the Holy Spirit will teach us and remind us of what Jesus taught us. When I was a kid, the Holy Sprit really confused me especially since it was called the 'Holy Ghost.' I could relate and picture God the Father/Mother/Creator and Jesus but when it came to the Holy Ghost all I could think of was a white floating thing so it was both mysterious and a bit frightening. I didn't understand was how this white floating thing could be God and help me remember Jesus' teachings. It wasn't until I was grown that I became friends with the Holy Spirit the way that I am friends with God the Creator and Jesus. I've come to know and feel the Holy Spirit as Jesus' presence always with me doing things that I can't see to help me. Watching and feeling a soft breeze blow through a tree helps me to understand the Holy Spirit. I can see the leaves and branches swaying and I can feel the softness on my body even though I can't see the actual breeze. The Holy Spirit also moves and touches us without being seen. Today is also Mother's Day which is very appropriate because our Moms can also help us understand about the Holy Spirit. Much of what our Mom's do for us we never see. They work hard so that our lives can run smoothly and peacefully. They also make sure that we always feel their love even when they are not around. This is exactly what the Holy Spirit does; helps us to feel God's love and works behind the scenes to make our lives healthy and peaceful if we cooperate.

Discussion:

- What does your Mom do for you to make your life happy, healthy, and peaceful that you don't usually see her do or pay attention to her doing? (buying groceries, making our lunches, cooking dinner, doing the laundry, correcting homework, finding the perfect shade of pink shoes to go with your new outfit, smiling when you need encouragement, quizzing you for Friday's spelling test)
- What things does the Holy Spirit do for you to make your life happy, healthy and peaceful?
- What happens when we don't cooperate with our Moms?
- What happens when we don't cooperate with the Holy Spirit?
- How can we show God how thankful we are for the Holy Spirit and for our Moms?

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Activity:

Make a card for your Mom thanking her for the specific things that she does, particularly the behind-the-scenes stuff that never gets noticed. Tell her how she reminds you of the Holy Spirit. Include a prayer thanking God for your Mom.