**FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAY 6-7, 2023**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Gospel reading**

Jn 14:1-12

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come back again and take you to myself,

so that where I am you also may be.

Where [I] am going you know the way.”

Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going;
how can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

If you know me, then you will also know my Father.

From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Master, show us the Father,

and that will be enough for us.”

Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time

and you still do not know me, Philip?

Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own.

The Father who dwells in me is doing his works.

Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me,

or else, believe because of the works themselves.

Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do,

and will do greater ones than these,

because I am going to the Father.

**Intercession**

That, guided by Jesus, the Way, our Annual Diocesan Appeal may reach great heights.

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

In last week’s Gospel, Jesus gave us the comforting news that we can securely follow his voice. In today’s Gospel, he explains where he’s taking us: “In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places” (John 14:2).

What security to know that the *good* shepherd has prepared homes unique for each of us. Such knowledge gives us the freedom to let go of worry since he’s already taken care of our needs. With that freedom, we can serve his kingdom first.

Even more exciting is that he gave us power in his service: “Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these” (John 14:12). He gave our parish the gift of a mission to carry out his works here. Please give to our Annual Diocesan Appeal. Through it, we can do His works!

He gave us the power to draw souls into his eternal family through Baptism. He gave us the ability to offer forgiveness through Confession. He gave us the power to fill souls with peace, warmth, and strength through the Eucharist. Please help us continue to accomplish these works by supporting our Annual Appeal. Your brothers and sisters in Christ will thank you in this life or the next. Let’s get to work!

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

Our Annual Diocesan Appeal needs your support so we can walk Jesus’ way. Today, Jesus said in the Gospel, “I am the way” (John 14:6). He tasked us with the mission to baptize, reconcile, and give the Eucharist to our neighbors. Help us accomplish His mission by giving with a generous heart. Help our Appeal be a success!

**Social media post/content**

Photo: An image of a road/path.

Header: *“I am the way and the truth and the life.” – John 14:6*

Sub-header: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Copy: When a flock of sheep is large, not every sheep has a line of sight to the shepherd. When sight fails, they rely on his voice. Other sheep can also “pass along” the message simply walking toward him.

When you support the Annual Diocesan Appeal, you help others follow Jesus’ way to ensure sure His directions get to the sheep who haven’t heard them, so we can all get home.