

Gospel Reflection

We customarily say that Jesus redeemed us by dying for our sins and rising from the dead. Yet in today's Gospel, Jesus says: "I am the way, the truth and the life." Presumably he was telling the disciples that not just his upcoming death and resurrection, but his entire life and message up to that point should be for them the way, the truth and the life. For example, in the Sermon on the Mount as recorded in Matthew's Gospel, chapters 5-7, Jesus urged his listeners to trust in God as their heavenly Father, to be kind and forgiving in their dealings with one another, and never to use violence even in defense of their own rights.

This is precisely how Jesus himself behaved in undergoing his passion and death. His resurrection on Easter Sunday, accordingly, was not simply a reward for enduring so much suffering on Good Friday, but the climax of his entire life and message. He witnessed by his own death to the truth of his words in the Sermon on the Mount. For this reason, we Christians today do not need to become martyred and to die a violent death in defense of our faith in order to follow after Jesus as the way, the truth and the life. If we live with deep trust in God's love for us and act out of self-giving love for our neighbor, then we too will be witnessing to the way, the truth and the life.

Fr. Joe Bracken, S.J.

KEEPING FAITH FIRST FAMILY FUN

John 14:1-12

E M T Q K P S Q G W O Q U
S W G N H D W N S P E A K
U L O I R F I O Z D O T T
O W L O C L G R E A T E R
H I W X L Y E P W R B W U
P U L E B H N C P O T B T
H M W Y F H T I A F R S H
N D Z T A A G D N L G K U
R M Z H R W T R F I P N S
C D C O O D Q H B X X M J
O L O M J C M S E F I L I
E I B A P O Z U P R J N S
O K S S N H Z Y C A V L Y

Find these words from the Gospel passage.

DWELLING	FAITH	FATHER
GREATER	HOUSE	KNOW
LIFE	PHILIP	PLACE
SPEAK	THOMAS	TRUTH
WAY	WORDS	WORKS

Disciple's Reflection & Questions of the Week

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
4/20/2008*

*John 14:1-12
Faith-Sharing
Questions of the Week*



Our Lady of the Assumption

435 Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, CA
www.olaclaremont.org

Call to Prayer

We begin by calling upon God:

**In the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, Amen.**

*We then pause for a moment to listen with
our hearts to this week's Gospel passage...*

The Word of God: *John 14:1-12*

The Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: "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."

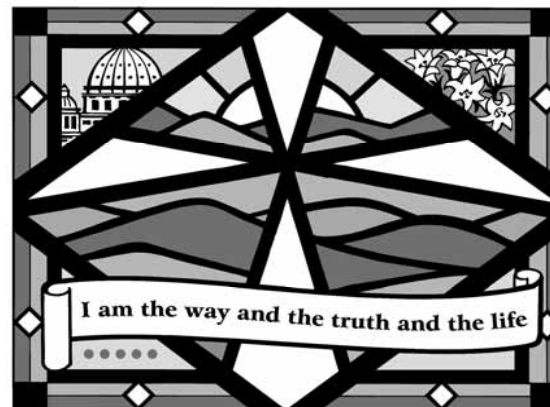
Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

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."

The Gospel of the Lord



Gospel Glossary

You have faith: Sometimes translated as just "Have faith"

Show us the Father: Philip is asking for a vision of God like the one described in Exodus.

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week

- What do I see as the message offered to other people by my life and work?
- Do I even offer a consistent message about myself to other people or do they often wonder what is really going on?
- How can I make my life and work more consistent with what Jesus stood for?

Closing Prayer

God our Father,

Look upon us with love. You redeem us and make us your children in Christ. Give us true freedom and bring us the inheritance you promised. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

Fifth Sunday of Easter