

Reflection:

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
1 John 3.18-24**

This Sunday's gospel encourages us to stay in Jesus, knowing that he will never abandon us. Additionally, when we are in close communion with Him, everything we do and say as a witness for Christ will be powerful. In John's first letter, we hear that, "let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." Therefore, **the connection of doing with knowing is necessary. It is needed to satisfy us, and others, for Jesus says blessed are they that hear the word and do it.**"

Even in the face of death, Christ commands that we love one another without conditions. We should ask ourselves the following basic questions: Do we care about the well-being of our brothers and sisters? Can we honestly discuss our needs with one another in our deep Christian fellowship? Are we sufficiently committed to our community on a personal level to alternately bear each other's sorrows and make every effort to ease our brothers and sisters' suffering? This is a clear call to action: don't merely speak the talk; walk the walk. Moreover, as if wanting to make a final impression on His followers and teaching them to practise love, our Lord got up from where He was sitting during their final meal, took a towel, wrapped Himself, and proceeded to serve them by pouring water over their feet and wiping them with the towel with which He was girded.

In conclusion, let us humbly say to one another: No creed, no matter how nice it is, can ever make up before God or before people for, untamed habits, domestic tyranny, transgressions committed in the community, self-indulgences, or disregard for the ill whom we may visit, the impoverished whom we may feed, or the naked whom we may clothe. Of course, it is our duty to provide for the ill, elderly, imprisoned and anyone in need as listed in Mt 25:35-45. Let us pray to God for the ability to cling to Him always and to love others with all our hearts, even when it hurts.