



Small Groups

Parish Community of Saint Helen



Sunday, May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter
In the Zone Week 5

Opening Song

[Raise a Hallelujah ~ Saint Helen Band](#)

Opening Prayer

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,
That I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit,
To defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit,
That I always may be holy. ~ St. Augustine

Reading 1

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Philip went down to the city of Samaria
and proclaimed the Christ to them.
With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip
when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing.
For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice,
came out of many possessed people,
and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured.

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There was great joy in that city.

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem
heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God,
they sent them Peter and John,
who went down and prayed for them,
that they might receive the Holy Spirit,
for it had not yet fallen upon any of them;
they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Then they laid hands on them
and they received the Holy Spirit.

Gospel

Jn 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

And I will ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always,
the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept,
because it neither sees nor knows him.

But you know him, because he remains with you,
and will be in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

In a little while the world will no longer see me,
but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

On that day you will realize that I am in my Father
and you are in me and I in you.

Whoever has my commandments and observes them
is the one who loves me.

And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

Reflection: [Loyola Press Weekly Reflection](#)

Discussion Questions

1. Picture yourself in the crowd in Samaria as Peter and John pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. You watch as they lay hands on the people. Now imagine that Peter comes to you and lays hands on you. What do you tell him? What does he say to you?
2. In this gospel Jesus says, "In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live."
 - a. How do you think the disciples felt when they heard this?
 - b. Jesus does live. How do **we** see Him today?
 - c. How do you see Jesus in **your life** today?
3. How does Jesus reveal the trinity in this week's gospel?
 - a. How do you experience the Holy Spirit?
 - i. as a guide?
 - ii. a counselor?
 - iii. a coach?
 - b. How would you describe the Holy Spirit to a non-believer or a young child?
4. We invited you to "get in the zone" and ask the Holy Spirit to enter into your being in a deeper way. How have you seen evidence of His presence?

Closing Prayer

Ask for the group intentions ~ *Lord hear our prayer* after each

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning,
is now,
and ever shall be,
world without end.

Amen.

Closing Reflection Song [I Could Sing of Your Love Forever](#)