

Day Fifty Two

Season of Eastertide

Sunday, 17 May 2020

Reading: Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:7-19, 1 Peter 3:13-22, Gospel Reading: John 14: 15-21

The Lord is here

His spirit is with us.....

The month of February is long gone, yet the topic love is expressed very clearly in our Gospel text today. A word so loosely used in the here and the now. When did love become such a loose term? How did fake loving strangers become so easy, especially on social media? Where has the real meaning of love gone?

With its different meanings and different associations love has become a stagnant verb. We profess it with our lips but we hardly convince others with our deeds that love is actually a word that requires an action.

Christians have for many years looked at this Gospel passage and thought to themselves, well Jesus said I should follow his commandments, love my neighbour and love God which seems quite easy to do. But history has proven something else.

Christians have not exactly over the course of history loved one another. When Jesus said “if you love me, you will keep my commandments.....” No one really paid close attention.

Don't get me wrong we have those saints who by all their might always try to love by doing more for others than they do for themselves but society today proves that in yesteryears Christians were Christians for the sake of being Christians. No one really loved one another. There are too many broken societies. Too many broken families. Too many broken laws. Too many wrongs than rights.

Why is that? Love has been seen as something else.

But love is so much more than just a sensation of feeling good. Love is forgiving someone else when they give you a kiss knowing that they will soon stab you in the back. Love is, feeding five thousand hungry people and not having the opportunity to eat yourself.

Love is looking at someone who will soon deny you. Love is sometimes a painful experience. Love is getting the opportunity to serve revenge on a cold platter and letting it pass you by. Love is looking at those who hurt you and still finding the courage to ask, “Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.” Love is hard work. Christians have stopped to work really hard in this area of their faith.

Love is actively switching off your own emotions, ideals, selfish desires and still telling your mind, “Hey you need to love this person, regardless.....”

That is love. I hope that history will cease to repeat itself and that Christians of this day and age will really keep Jesus’ commandment by truly loving one another.

“May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight. O Lord my strength and my redeemer.”

Psalm 19:14