



ST PETER THE FISHERMAN
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. MICHAEL - HOLY NAME OF JESUS - SACRED HEART - ST. TIMOTHY
CHERRYFIELD MACHIAS LUBEC CAMPOBELLO ISLAND

5th Sunday of Easter

"Do not let your hearts be
troubled.
Trust in God still, and trust in
me..."



I am the Way, the Truth, and
the Life."

Acts 6:1-7

Psalm 32

1 Peter 2:4-9

John 14:1-12

Jesus' words at the beginning of today's Gospel seem to come at the perfect time as He reminds us, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in Me."

There are very many times in our lives when God allows us to experience difficulties and trials in order to get us to quiet our hearts and turn to Him. Perhaps we had strayed; perhaps we stopped listening; perhaps we stopped trusting; perhaps we began building a life that was moving in a direction that was contrary to God's will. These trials and tribulations can often bring hills and valleys that can make the way seem difficult and uninviting, but that is not a reason to give up. In fact, it is all the more reason to keep going.

Each adverse circumstance is an invitation to prayer, which is where we go to be one with God. And if a difficult path is the way to follow, then we should take comfort in Jesus' words that He is not only the way, but the truth, and the life also. If He chose the journey to the Cross, then we should see our crosses as our journey to Him. And if His journey through the cross brought Him to the Father, then our journey to Jesus will end with the Father as well, for no one can go to the Father except through Him. This is our reality because He is our Truth.

The last few weeks have certainly been a trial, and for many, it has been a drain on our spiritual endurance. We might do well to ask ourselves, "Are our hearts troubled?" If they are, then we can take comfort in the words of today's Responsorial Psalm, "The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine."

Certainly this seems like a time of famine, especially in regard to the Eucharist. Nearly two months now without a communal celebration or the reception of the Eucharist. A spiritual famine indeed! Never let us lose hope, however, and may we continue to trust in

the Lord. For our encouragement, let us also remember and pray the refrain from today's Responsorial Psalm, "May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you." Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. For this reason, we always have hope. It is simply our responsibility to choose it and to let it live.

One day soon we will be together again at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. In the moment we are able to once again experience the source and summit of our faith, the depth of that experience will depend on our faith in Him, on our hope in Him, and on our love for Him. Use this time wisely. Continue building your relationship with Jesus, and make Him the centerpiece of your life and of the life of your family. As He said in today's Gospel, He is busy building a place for us with the Father. Let us busy ourselves with building a place for the Father with Him.

Finally, on this day when we celebrate mothers, let us celebrate and thank our Blessed Mother. Daily she prays for us and attempts to mold our hearts of love for Jesus. She, also, is our advocate and guide along this journey. May our hearts of love for Jesus be molded after her immaculate heart of love for Him, and may we always be grateful for her presence in our lives.

Let us also take a moment to thank and celebrate our earthly mothers, they who have cooked and cleaned, loved and nurtured, and fought to hold things together especially during these difficult weeks. May our hearts of gratitude be expressed in words and gestures of love today and always.

As is our custom, I extend the following blessing to all mothers, those present to you and those far away, those who live in health care facilities, as well as those who are deceased:

*Loving Father,
as a mother gives life and nourishment
to her children,
so you watch over your Church.
Bless these women,
that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers.
Let the example of their faith and
love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,*

*may honor them always, living and deceased,
with a spirit of profound love and respect.
We ask this through Jesus, your son,
with the Holy Spirit,
From age to age. Amen*



**"In quietness and trust is your
strength."**

Isaiah 30:15