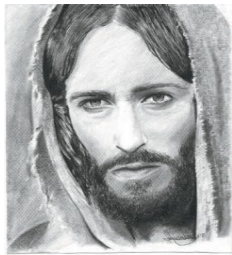


6th Sunday of Easter, Year C

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

There are plenty of songs and poems in lots of languages that share this theme: Don't *talk* of love: SHOW ME. It's a recurring theme because every couple—every *per-son*—needs to work through the experience of being called out for showing something less than love.



The love Jesus speaks of in today's Gospel (John 14:23 -29) is not only an attraction, a feeling, a longing to be close to the One You Love. "Whoever loves me *will keep my word*," Jesus says. "And my Father will love him/her, and we will come to her/him and make our dwelling [there]." *Keep my word?* we have a right to ask: *what's included in that?* Keeping Jesus' word means living with Jesus even though he is physically invisible to us.

Keeping Jesus' word means keeping ourselves mindful of Jesus: living in the awareness of our love for him and not letting ourselves get distracted by some sparkle that catches our eye. It means letting his guidance actually guide us, even letting his word shape the way we act, think, love. This is part of what faithfulness means.

And faithfulness requires effort*. There is no such thing as easy faithfulness. And if it does exist, we will have to be vigilant because it is very possible that it is in serious danger of being lost.

This is particularly true when it comes to our fidelity to the Word of Jesus. It will necessarily require a great effort on our part because the demands will be many. This is the fidelity that will be required of us as a vital and inseparable part of our following of Christ. And following Christ has never been easy; nor can it be for us today

When our love for Christ is sincere, the desire to be faithful to Him, to keep His Word, will naturally spring up in us because in it we will find meaning for our lives.

Your parish priests are in Guatemala this weekend getting to know Fr. Santos and his people. Please pray for us while we're away.

With love and gratitude, Msgr. Mike and Fr. Albert

*This part of our message comes from Andre Seve, El Evangelio de los Domingos.

