Sixth Sunday of Easter — May 9, 2021

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The world today continues to be torn by threats of wars, by riots and frequent protests and strikes, by ambitious aggression and seething unrest. The rich nations make little effort to help sufficiently the crying needs of the poor. A growing flood of resentment, hatred, spirit of reprisal or ambitious expansion makes itself manifest. This is the work of the powers of darkness, and yet, are these not all God's children whom the Father wanted united in the one family of Christ? How could the powers of darkness have wrought such havoc on the family of humankind?

What has happened? How is it possible that even the Christian world experiences such jealousy and envy with its membership? How could we explain that instead of love leavening the world of humankind, hatred and cruelty have the upper hand, whereas suspicion, distrust and fear gain ground daily? Is it not because Christ's followers have not kept his commandment of love? He loved them to the extreme. With the fullness of the Father's love he loved them, not only during a life of selfless noble toil and labor in Nazareth, not only in his relentless journeying and preaching for their sake in his public life but above all in laying down his life for them in the hard wood of the cross. He did that in order to obtain from the Father and pour out on them his own personal Spirit of love, the first fruit of his passion and death. In that Spirit, people of all nations would form a family of God, permeated with love of God and love for one another. He sent out his disciples to preach this Good News to all the corners of the globe so that all of humankind could come under the gentle sway of his Spirit of love. Have the messengers of Christ's defaulted in their mission? Have the followers of the Crucified preferred selfish aims to the ideal of Christian love?

He does not call them slaves though they belong to him, God's own Son, with their entire being and all their possessions. He calls them his intimate friends to whom he has confided everything the father confided to him. This is the mark of intimate friendship: to confide to another the deepest secrets of one's heart. As friends he puts them in equal footing with himself, he shares all he has with them and chose them to be his "doubles" all over the globe. Because of their intimate friendship with him, the Father will grant all their requests, because they are made in his name, that is, in line with his express thoughts and intentions. That intention is that they love one another as he loved them.

Pentecost is approaching, and we ought not to let the matter stand still, but do something about it. Renewed endeavor to love those in our immediate neighborhood, renewed periods of earnest prayer begging God to grant a new outpouring of love, coupled with a deep conviction that we can and must do something about the situation will surely bring about good effects.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**May 10**	**11:00AM**
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	**May 11**	**11:00AM**
Christina Quiapo		Mom & Dad
Thur.	**May 12**	**11:00AM**
Matthew Bañaga		Lolo & Lola
Fri.	**May 13**	**11:00AM**
Tony Licad †		Beth
Sat.	**May 14**	**4:30PM**
Ted Gallo†		Your family
Sun.	**May 15**	**9:00AM**
Tiangsing Family		Olivia Austria Edwards
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
People of the Parish		

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