

## **Homily for Monday May 9th**

The Entrance Antiphon for our Mass today says that since Christ has risen from the dead. He dies no more.

This has a profound implication for us who have the faith of Christ in us and who as the followers of the risen Christ realise that death is not the end of life.

Death has been defeated. Our death is a transferring from life here to life "there".

Of course Christ has died and risen and gone ahead of us to prepare a place for us.

It is this hope that allows us to hear today's Entrance Antiphon with such relevance to us, that there is no more death and dying in the ultimate sense.

## **Homily for Tues May 10<sup>th</sup>**

Today is the feast day of St John of Avila.

He said that we should all remember that God will not judge us by our earthly possessions or our human success but rather on how much we loved.

He also said that in a situation where there is no love that if we pour love in , we will draw love out.

Importantly he teaches this - that God leads every soul by a separate path. This is the danger of so called 'formation' programmes whether in convents or parishes because formation in a one size fits all makes people who are to have a different path feel uncomfortable and as if they do not belong.

What we need is an individual growth process so that each person has their own spirituality that suits them.

The source of all Christian spirituality is Christ Himself but how we follow Him is as individual as the number of people there are in the Church.

### **Homily for Wed May 11<sup>th</sup>**

The opening prayer of the Mass today speaks of God listening kindly to our prayers. The word kindness or kindly has appeared in a number of the prayers at Mass during Eastertide.

Let us really hear this word. It comes from God. It is who and what God is.

Remember that the fruit of the Holy Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, KINDNESS, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Having the kindness of God's loving gaze on us let us drink in His endless kindness to us and then pass it on to everyone else and indeed to all the animals in our lives too.

### **Homily for Thurs May 12<sup>th</sup>**

There are always wonderful new things to learn from the Scriptures and today is a day to learn something new from John's gospel.

After Jesus washed the disciple's feet, Jesus said to them that no servant is greater than his master. He went on to say these remarkable words -

"Now that you know this. Happiness will be Yours if you behave accordingly. "

What a remarkable statement from the Lord. He says that we will know happiness if we do the modern equivalent of caring for the needs of other people.

### **Homily for Fri May 13<sup>th</sup>**

This is the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady of Fatima tells us that we should be constant in prayer.

She wishes to have us unite ourselves to her heart so that she can take us to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The motto of the Legion of Mary is "To Jesus, through Mary".

In devotion to Mary we take on her spirituality which is a very simple spirituality , Our Lady says in the Gospel - "Do whatever Jesus tells you."

On this feast day let us ensure that we are listening to Jesus as the gospel is proclaimed at every Mass.

### **Homily for Sat May 14<sup>th</sup>**

We celebrate the feast of St. Matthias the Apostle. He was the chosen replacement apostle after Judas.

Not a lot is known about St. Matthias other than that God chose him to be the apostle to take Judas's place.

We can learn from this the gentle truth that God has chosen us to have the gift of faith in Him. We can live a relatively quiet and ordinary life and we can be people who enjoy the amazing and gently grace of God with us. This is especially true of everyone who is in a background role, not prominent, not up front, not well known, but background and accepting of the role we have in this life. St. Matthias can be our patron as we seek to live our life as a Christian.

### **Homily for Sun May 15<sup>th</sup>**

We hear in our reading from the Acts of the Apostles that God opened the " door of faith" to the people.

First of all let us be grateful that we too have had the door of the Christian faith opened to us from our Baptism all the way through until now.

Second, let us be happy that the door of faith is open for all the people of the world and for all the people of our town.

This is a gift we have, it has been given to us, we own it as our own and it is also a gift for everyone else, offered freely to all, no payment need be made by anyone for the free gift of faith.

Let us live in the space of Faith. Let us think more often of the gift of faith that lives in us. Let us be aware that we are part of the Church, the community of faith. Let us remember to live as a person of faith. Let us move through our daily lives as people of faith and as people who are remembering more and more that we are people of faith, faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faith is God's way of saying to us and to everyone in the world - I want to give myself to every person, it seems not everyone is accepting my gift of faith but to those of you have accepted my gift of faith know that I am with you always. Trust in me! I am risen from the dead to live in you.