

FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAY 9-10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading

Jn 14:15-21

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always,

the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you.

Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

Intercession

May we show our love for Jesus by living his commandments and, through generous participation in the Catholic Ministry Appeal, help reveal his love to others through the ministries and outreach of the Church.

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The old saying, “When God closed a door, He opens a window” comes to mind with today’s Gospel. Soon, Jesus will ascend to the Heavenly Father, and he is trying to prepare his disciples for this eventuality. The understanding that Jesus will not be with the disciples on earth indefinitely unsettles—scares, even— them. But Jesus reassures them that while he cannot be with them forever physically, he is not abandoning them. They have the commandments to guide them. And in keeping Christ’s commandments, they will be demonstrating their love for Jesus, and he will be present in their actions and their prayers. Further, Our Lord says he will send the Holy Spirit – the Spirit of truth, another Advocate – to be with them forever.

Jesus connects love not just with feeling, but with faithfulness. Love is shown by how we live, how we follow his way, and how we care for others. His love is not distant or abstract – it is revealed in presence, in mercy, and in action. “I will not leave you orphans,” he says, reminding us that love always makes a home in the lives of those who need it most.

When we support the Catholic Ministry Appeal, we are living out this love by being the hands and voice of Christ for others, to help those who feel forgotten, to walk with those who are alone, and to witness to the truth that God is still present in our world. Please consider making a gift today to help ensure that no one feels abandoned.

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Jesus has provided all that we need to live good and fruitful lives – his laws, which are rooted in wisdom and designed so that those who follow them will enjoy everlasting life with the Lord. The disciples will soon learn that Christ’s commandments will connect them to the Lord always. We have this same reassurance today.

Jesus says, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments... and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always.” What a comfort. These are not the words of someone leaving; they are the words of someone planting the seeds of a love that will abide and flourish in us always. Jesus assures us that through the gift of the Holy Spirit, he remains with us, within us, and among us.

Through sacrament and prayer, this is how Christ works in the world even now. He also is present through our willingness to love as he commanded. In supporting the Catholic Ministry Appeal, we can keep Christ’s commandments alive through concrete acts of love and make visible the love that the Spirit continues to pour out.

Social Media Post/Content

Photo: A child’s hand in an adult hand

Header: “I will not leave you orphans.” – John 14:18

Copy: In Christ, we are never alone! We are Christ for another through support of the Catholic Ministry Appeal.