

It often seems that the more schooling we have the less able we are to handle the ambiguity of Christian living. The logic of scientific thought encourages us to focus upon one concept at a time. The poetic language of the scriptures leads us to hold in a healthy tension concepts which, at first glance, seem mutually contradictory.

God calls us to a way of life which makes demands, yet God's ways frequently seem to contravene the way we have taken. This was certainly Peter's experience. Peter thought that only those born in Israel could come to Christ, but the manifestation of the Spirit's gifts in the life of the Gentile Cornelius shattered all his comfortable notions.

Christ's resurrection shattered all notions of how God might work among us. It destroyed all barriers which might hedge in the possibilities of God's power working in human history. Christ's victory showed forth the power of love: God's love which could draw forth from death the servant who had gone to death in obedience to love.

For the makers of greeting cards love might be sentimental and soft. For Christians, love is as strong and as real as the demands made by friends who are willing to die that the other might live. That gives greater cause for the singing of alleluias than do fuzzy fantasies about some sort of love which can be reduced to pastel holy cards. Only living in that sort of love will enable us to know that death and life, obedience and freedom, vigilance and surprise are but different refractions of one true Light.

#### LITURGICAL READINGS

Today: Sixth Sunday of Easter. Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/ Psalm 98/ 1 John 4:7-10/  
John 15:9-17

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/ Psalm 149/ John 15:26 through 16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/ Psalm 138/ John 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 through 18:1/ Psalm 148/ John 16:12-15

Thursday: (Archdiocese will observe the Solemnity of the Ascension on Sunday, May 17)

Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle. Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/ Psalm 113/ John 15:9-17

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/ Psalm 47/ John 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/ Psalm 47/ John 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: Ascension of the Lord. Acts 1:1-11/ Psalm 47/ Ephesians 1:17-23/ Mark 16:15-20

**COLLECTION FOR LAST SUNDAY:** \$4,494.00

**CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS:** \$295.00

**SIMPLE SUPPER:** \$497.00 Thank you.

#### **HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

9:00 AM: Kay Fagan and Barbara Kitzberger

11:00 AM: Denise and Doug White

Please come early. If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you.