

6th Sunday of Easter

(Acts 15:1-2,22-29, Revelations 21:10-14, 22-23, John 14:1,23-29)

Theme: Let us be "Messengers of Peace"

Our Lord Jesus Christ before his physical departure to heaven after his resurrection, did not leave the church empty handed. He left the church or his sons and daughters with many precious gifts to see us through life and lead us back to our God.

Before his crucifixion and death on His cross, at the last supper, Jesus gave us His body and blood, for the forgiveness of our sins and food for eternal life.

During Jesus' earthly life, through His teachings and deeds, He showed us the way to reach God and be saved.

When Jesus rose from the dead and visited his disciples he said to them "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:19-31)

So one of the major things Christ left for us is the gift of "Peace." God sent Jesus into the world as a "Prince of Peace." Jesus lived a life of Peace during his physical stay on earth. He preached peace and was known as an advocate of peace. "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God." (Matthew:1-12)

Our Jesus has called us as his disciples, to be messengers of Peace in the world we live in. For us, to accomplish this we have to begin with ourselves, in our homes, in our families, in our schools, in our various areas of work, and in the community in which we live in.

We need to start with being at peace with ourselves and our God. Let us always bear in mind that peace goes with, "Love, sacrifice, tolerance and forgiveness." Peace is not an absence of war. Peace strives when there is love, understanding and a forgiving spirit. Let us remember that "Peace" is that which makes us children of God.