



Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

*I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Jn 13:31-35

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified,
and in him God has been glorified.
If God has been glorified in him,
God will in turn glorify him in himself,
and will glorify him very soon.
My little children,
I shall not be with you much longer.
I give you a new commandment:
love one another;
just as I have loved you,
you also must love one another.
By this love you have for one another,
everyone will know that you are my
disciples.'

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1956, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Everything is new! There is a new law of love, a new heaven and earth that is established in the church, a new depth of communion there, and a new glory of God that shines forth from its members.

The new commandment that Jesus announces is more than tolerance or mutual respect. It requires self-sacrificing love. Perhaps the greatest obstacle to this love is the diversity discussed last Sunday. It is hard enough to love those who are like us; how can we possibly love those who are different? And how can we love those who do not love us? It is no wonder that the commandment is called new. It calls for something completely different.

The new commandment is the law of the new heaven and the new earth that are established in the new Jerusalem. Standards are entirely different there. The greater ones serve; the meek possess the earth; happy are the poor; woe to those who laugh. This is clearly a city that comes down from heaven, not one made by human hands. It is a city that embraces all who come to it. God dwells in the midst of this city, in the heart of this people. God dwells with them and they dwell with God.

Through this new love, this new heaven and new earth, this new depth of communion, the glory of God is manifested in a new way. The eschatological future is anticipated in the present. The age of fulfilment has dawned.

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year C

15 May 2022

First Reading Acts 14:21-27

They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1

*(R.) I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.*

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their
blessing.

They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God,
to make known to men your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendour of your
reign. (R.)

3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule lasts from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Rv 21:1-5

He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth;
the first heaven and the first earth had
disappeared now, and there was no longer
any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new
Jerusalem, coming down from God out of
heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed
for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice
call from the throne, 'You see this city?
Here God lives among men. He will make
his home among them; they shall be his
people, and he will be their God; his name
is God-with-them. He will wipe away all
tears from their eyes; there will be no more
death, and no more mourning or sadness.
The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke:
'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

