

‘Jesus the Way to the Father’ (John 14:1-12)

Sunday 3 May 2026 Year A

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,

Open our hearts to your Word,

Help us to sit in silence,

Reflecting deeply on your scriptures.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us to find those words that transform our lives and our world.

Amen

Scripture

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God^{14a}; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.”

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know^{14b} my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

Reflection

When we are troubled do we turn to the Lord?.....

Do we accept that the rooms in our Father's house are unlimited?.....

What does Jesus mean when he says, *'I am the Way, the truth and the life'?*.....

This is a beautiful passage of scripture. The Disciples are lost and uncertain. Who is this man that they have abandoned everything to follow?

Jesus comforts them and then shares a key teaching with them. *"Do not be troubled....I am the Way, the truth and the life.... I am in the Father and the Father is in me."*

This is the essence of the Gospels, of our faith. God has become incarnate to show us the Way to God, right here, right now in our present circumstances. God is no longer distant, He is intimate to us, a loving father. Our address to him changes to Abba, 'Daddy'.

The implications are profound for our faith and our lives. In Jesus, we see God witnessed as all loving, totally giving and forgiving. The vengeful God of ancient understanding is replaced by a God of infinite compassion.

This is our calling. To allow ourselves to be enveloped in this loving embrace and from this embrace transform our lives into lives of love and service. This our inheritance. We are 'co-heirs', as our priest prays in the Eucharistic prayer, and 'become what we receive', in the words of the Great Doctor of the Church, Saint Augustine of Hippo.

It is in our lectio, particularly with the Gospels, that we find the Way, the truth and the life. Jesus reveals this way, these truths and how to live by actions and words throughout the Gospels. Let us keep returning to this Way so that in the words of Jesus we *"will do the works I have been doing...and will do even greater things than these."*

What a gift, what a calling!

Let us take time in silence today to re-discover the Way, the truth and life in the Gospel example of Jesus. Let us pray that we will continue His works, in His name creating the Kingdom of Peace and Love in every thought, in every word, in every action.

Closing Prayer

We Pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,

Show us Your Way, Your Truth, Your Life,

Help us to see Your example and understand your teaching in Holy Scripture,

And may our works build Your Kingdom of justice and peace.

Amen

For Further Reflection

Therefore, when we ask ourselves how a future of justice, peace, harmony and salvation will be possible, we must remember that we are asking God the same question that Nicodemus asked: can our story truly change? We are so weighed down by problems, hardships and tribulations! Can we truly start our lives over again? Yes! The Lord's response, so full of love, fills our hearts with hope. No matter how weighed down we are by pain or sin: the crucified One carries all these burdens with us and for us. No matter how discouraged we are by our own weaknesses: it is precisely then that God manifests his strength, the God who has raised Christ from the dead in order to give life to the world. Each one of us can experience the freedom of new life that comes from faith in the Redeemer. Once again, Saint Augustine offers us an example of this: we revere him for his conversion even more than for his wisdom. In this rebirth, providentially accompanied by the tears of his mother, Saint Monica, he found himself, exclaiming: "I could not therefore exist, could not exist at all, O my God, unless you were in me. Or should I not rather say, that I could not exist unless I were in you" (Confessions, I, 2).

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV

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