

RAISE
A
HALLE
LUJAH

WEEK FIVE

EASTER
PACKAGE

RAISE A HALLE LUJAH DAY AE NDP NS DO SG

[10 May 2020] Sunday Gospel - John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father’s house;
if there were not, I should have told you.

I am going now to prepare a place for you,
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,
I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am
you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.’

Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how
can we know the way?’ Jesus said:

‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.’

Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be
satisfied.’ ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to
him ‘and you still do not know me?’

‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father,
so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”?’

Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

I tell you most solemnly,

whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.’

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REFLECTION

Reflection

Philip said, "Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied," "Have I been with you all this time, Philip," said Jesus to him "and you still do not know me?"

To me, Philip's request to the Lord seemed rather odd. He is a disciple who has witnessed for himself the many miracles and the glory of the Lord. Yet, he still desired for more signs. Perhaps Philip was not 100% convinced yet and was giving Jesus an ultimatum of sorts so that he can confirm his belief in the Lord.

Yet, how often does Philip's request translate into our own walk with Christ as well! Especially in moments of despair or spiritual dryness, we cry out "Lord! I will believe IF you give me a sign!" But are we a people of faith, or are we a people of signs?

During this Circuit Breaker, the question 'What now?' always seems to pop up. It is a time filled with uncertainties where we are not even sure of our next course of action or how our lives will shape out at the end of this. It seems we are always looking for a sign from our leaders so that we can have some certainty amidst the repetitiveness of things. And with this continuous waiting, we start to feel tired and idle with the state of things and end up frantically looking for ways just to spend our time.

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REFLECTION

However, we fail to realise how this idleness can also occur in our faith. Expectant hearts build hope and wonder of the infinite goodness of God. But expectant hearts tainted with impatience causes us to grow weary, and we start becoming doubtful whether God really wants to help us.

Like what the Lord calls to Philip, we too are called to remember and reflect on the many wonderful things that the Lord has done and continues to do in our life.

Let us pray for wisdom to overcome our spiritual blindness amidst the dryness we may experience. Perhaps instead of asking for new God encounters, let us pray to be equipped with new lenses to become more aware of how God is already working in our lives.

Let us pray for the grace of remembrance, that our weary souls may be restored as we recall the immense Love of God who “while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

And finally, let us pray for the gift of fortitude to continue wrestling for our faith. That we may enthrone the Lord at the centre of our lives even in these troubling times, for He is our surest certainty amidst the uncertainties of life.

Drew Joseph

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REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS

- 1) 1 blessing that I am grateful to God for during the Circuit Breaker is...
- 2) “The life of a Christian is nothing but a perpetual struggle against self; there is no flowering of the soul to the beauty of its perfection except at the price of pain.”
– St. Padre Pio

What area(s) of my faith am I struggling with?
- 3) “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Without the Way there is no going, without the Truth there is no knowing, without the Life there is no living.”
– Thomas à Kempis (Imitation of Christ)

1 commitment I make to walk with the Lord daily is...

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PRAYER
WEEK

Prayer of St Teresa of Avila

Let nothing disturb you.
Let nothing frighten you.
All things are passing away;
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things
Whoever has God lacks nothing
God alone suffices.

Amen.

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CHALLENGE

Living in Truth

This week, get creative and design your own unique truth jar! Remember those truths you wrote? Drop them in and each day, add a couple of truths that you want to claim to your jar. Whenever you feel you need some truth spoken in your life, pray and grab one from your jar. Allow the Lord to breathe His peace upon you :)

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INVITATION

Let us build the Kingdom of God!

For each day of this week, upload something that you are grateful to God for on your Instagram story!

Though simple, your gratitude and praise to God can go a long way to encourage your fellow brothers and sisters who may be experiencing difficult times.

Remember to #RaiseAHallelujah!