

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A): *The Way to the Father*: Acts 6:1–7; 1 Peter 2:4–9; John 14:1–12

Once a man got lost his route while traveling and he said himself, “If only I had a perfect GPS, I would never miss the way!” Suddenly, he imagined God speaking to him: “*I already gave you the perfect GPS—My Son, Jesus Christ. But the problem is, you keep recalculating your own route!*”

We smile at that, but it carries a deep truth. Many times, God has shown us the way, but we still try to follow our own directions. That is exactly what Jesus speaks about in today’s Gospel. He tells His disciples, “*Do not let your hearts be troubled... I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*” These words are not just comforting—they are decisive. Jesus does not say He *shows* the way; He says He *is* the Way.

This is why we celebrate Easter with such joy. Because in Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, God has shown us His everlasting love. Despite our sins, our stubbornness, and our failures, God did not abandon us. Instead, He sent His Son to save us, to lift us from darkness, and to open the path to eternal life.

In the Gospel, the disciples are confused and anxious. Jesus speaks about going away, about His suffering. They do not fully understand. And yet, He reassures them: “***Trust in me.***” He promises that He goes to prepare a place for them. This is not a farewell of abandonment, but a promise of hope. Christ goes ahead of us—not to leave us behind—but to lead us home to the Father.

So what does it mean for us today to follow “**The Way to the Father**”? First, it means **trusting Jesus completely**. Like the disciples, we often face uncertainties in life—problems in our families, struggles in our vocation, fears about the future. In those moments, Jesus tells us: “***Do not let your hearts be troubled.***” Faith does not remove difficulties, but it gives us the confidence that Christ walks with us and prepares something greater for us.

Second, it means **living as God’s chosen people**. **In the second reading**, St. Peter reminds us that we are “***a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation.***” Through baptism, we are not ordinary—we are consecrated. We belong to God. Christ is the cornerstone, and we are living stones built upon Him. Our lives, therefore, must reflect His truth, His love, and His light.

Third, it means **servicing others in love**. In the first reading, we see the early Church facing a practical problem—some widows were being neglected. The Apostles responded by appointing deacons to serve the community. This shows us that following Christ is not just about prayer and belief—it is also about service. Each one of us has a role, a vocation, a mission.

Some are called to priesthood, some to religious life, some to marriage, some to dedicated single life—but all are called to love and serve. Walking the Way to the Father means using our talents for others, building up the Church, and bringing God’s love into the world.

There is also a challenge here. Jesus says clearly: *“No one comes to the Father except through me.”* This means we cannot create our own path to God based on convenience or personal preference. We must follow Christ—His teachings, His commandments, His example of humility, sacrifice, and love. Sometimes, like in the joke, we try to “recalculate” our own route. We choose comfort over sacrifice, pride over humility, selfishness over service. But Jesus gently calls us back: *“Follow me.”*

The good news is this: the Way is already open. Christ has walked it before us. He has conquered sin and death. He has prepared a place for us. And He continues to guide us every day. Therefore, let us renew our trust in Him. Let us live our vocation faithfully. Let us serve with love. And let our lives become a witness that leads others to the Father.

May the Risen Lord strengthen us on this journey, guide us in His truth, and bring us one day to the home He has prepared for us. Amen