FR. GARY'S CORNER

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Today's Gospel passage is one we often hear at funerals. Jesus, at the Last Supper, just finished telling His disciples that He will soon undergo intense suffering and be put to death. His disciples are shocked and grieving. He says to them. "Do not let your hearts be troubled… have faith."

Then Jesus goes on to paint a glorious picture of what awaits those who believe in Him. He says that His Father's house has many dwelling places and that He, Jesus, is going to prepare a place for those who have faith in Him.

He tells them that while He must depart from them, that He will come back and take them to Himself so that where He is, they also may be. Then He says, "Where I am going, you know the way."

Thomas said, "Master, we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way?" Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me." Jesus goes on to say, "If you know me, then you will also know my Father". But some still don't get it.

Philip begs, "Master, show us the Father…" Jesus responds, "Do you still not know me… whoever has seen me has seen the Father." The Lord is trying to help His disciples realize just who He is. Jesus is the revelation of the Father. The Father is in Him and He is in the Father. He has come to fulfill an amazing plan of God's love to forgive sins, destroy death and restore eternal life.

As we continue our journey in the Easter Season we should hold fast to these truths that Jesus has revealed. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

Jesus came to reveal that those who believe in Him have become "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own" and that He has "called us out of darkness into His wonderful light."

Let us joyfully live this good news that Easter affirms.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life,

Fr. Gary