

R P D L S M Y Y A B
 E P E E O R I L M L
 J Y O N N C O D O E
 O X C U T I K O S H
 I K E E W E A E D T
 C S T O O D C T D T
 E Q W B M B W O E G
 D G O S P E L F S R
 D I S C I P L E S T
 S B H R U L J B G S
 N P O H J O R F N U
 I E W V H E A Z I S
 S A E N A T E T N E
 Y C D T H V K M E J
 U E H E I L F L V F
 P E R E W L P P E O
 D N C T I R I P S B
 G E N E V I G R O F
 R S A B G A I N U T
 H I J F P W X N I Y

BREATHED	JESUS	RETAINED
DISCIPLES	JOHN	SHOWED
DOORS	LOCKED	SINS
EVENING	MIDST	SPIRIT
FATHER	PEACE	STOOD
FORGIVEN	PENTECOST	WEEK
GOSPEL	RECEIVE	
HOLY	REJOICED	

Catechizing Corner!

PHEME PERKINS suggests that since John uses “only the general expression, ‘disciples,’” the commissioning in these verses may be intended to apply to the believing community as a whole, not to some specific group ‘power’ of forgiveness is probably expressed in the bestowing of the Spirit on those who believe as a result of the disciples’ “mission” and who join the community, rather than in a process of dealing with Christians who have committed sins (as in Mt 18:19).” Jesus insists that this is possible because of the gift of the Spirit. If people forgive each others’ sins, then there will be no “obstacles to community oneness. If they continue to hold on to the sins against them ... the sins remain as obstacles to community harmony.” The Holy Spirit, thus, is not only given to empower them for mission, but to enable them to live in harmony with one another. Jesus gives the Spirit to fulfill the promise that all would be one in him. This oneness is accomplished through the forgiving of one another. The sins that are to be forgiven are post-baptismal sins of Christians committed against one another. Many though we are, through the power of the Holy Spirit we are called to be one in Christ.

John posits this event on Easter Sunday as a foundational document. Through it he hopes to remind his progressive community that the Christian life is lived only through the cross and resurrection of Christ. John believes that it is essential to identify the Christ who appeared after Easter as the earthly one who suffered and who promised to return. Today's gospel is a reminder that Jesus' journey to Jerusalem took him eventually to Golgotha before the subsequent resurrection of Easter morn. We, too, are to walk the same journey to Jerusalem, strengthened and supported by the risen presence of Christ in the Holy Spirit.

Mary Birmingham, Word and Worship Workbook, Cycle C
 Paulist Press, 1998



Holy Family Catholic Church
 South Pasadena, CA
www.holyfamily.org

Disciple's Reflection

for the
Question
of the Week

5/28/2023

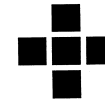
A Call to Prayer

The Word of God
 John 20:19-23

Faith Sharing
 Questions of the week

Closing Prayer

20



HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Family is a welcoming Catholic Eucharistic community of disciples of Jesus Christ connecting faith with life and reaching out to those in need!

Call to Prayer

Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment and listen attentively to this week's passage.

The Word of God John 20:19-23

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the **disciples** were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me,

Gospel Glossary A **disciple** is a follower of a teacher, in this case a follower Jesus Christ.

so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."
The Gospel of the Lord.



Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week:

Adults: Jesus invites us to be one with God. Name a moment when you were one with God.

Teens: What Gift of the Holy Spirit do you most desire or need at this time in your life?

Children: Name a time when you knew that God was with you in a special way.

Families: Who is the Holy Spirit to you? If you have a relationship with the Holy Spirit, how did it begin and develop?

Closing Prayer

Lord, You have called us to be your disciples, to live in faith, walking always in your footsteps. By your suffering, death, and resurrection, you have made us children of God. As you have loved us and asked us to love one another, help us to love and embrace everyone in our lives. Fill us with love, compassion, forgiveness, patience, understanding, and tolerance, even when we face the pain of hatred, rejection, and failure. Guide us to be good disciples. May we seek always the praise and glory of God and the good of all people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pentecost