

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

Acts 14:21–27 † Revelation 21:1–5a † John 13:31–33a, 34–35



Reflection by: Mary Lanni, OPA

The Gospel reading is a most tender scene showing us the love Jesus had for his friends. We use the term disciples, traditionally, but they were more than that to Jesus. From the rough and tumble Peter to the delicate, young John, Jesus saw the strength that was in them and the love that they had for him. He wanted them to share that love with each other because it would be the common bond to carry them through the difficult journey ahead.

“Love one another as I have loved you” is so associated with Jesus’ and his gentleness, kindness, and goodness that we forget that it is a mandate to us to become Jesus’ persons in our own worlds. We each sometimes harbor hateful thoughts about others, and yet Jesus did not exclude anyone from “as I have loved you”—not even Judas. We are all loved in the same way.

Pope Francis tells us: “How beautiful it is to love one another as true brothers and sisters...to pray for those with whom we are angry is a beautiful step toward the law of love. Shall we take it?”