

May 2, 2010

The 5th Sunday of Easter

The Acts of the Apostles 14: 21 -27

Revelation 21: 1 – 5a

John 13: 31 – 33a, 34 – 35

Today's Gospel reading from John 13 - takes place as Christ is about ready to depart for destiny on the cross. Jesus gives a new commandment on brotherly and sisterly love – "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love for one another" (vs. 34 -35). This new commandment is as old as the Word of God and spoken here it is somehow enlarged. One last parting shot from our Savior.

The basic premise for all the Peace & Justice columns ** springs from the idea that God's worldview is of *abundance* and humanities worldview is of *scarcity*. Jesus reminding his disciples to "love one another" – is like reminding a newborn baby to suck at an abundant breast. Love should be as natural as night following day – but it is not.

The first principle of Catholic Social Justice Teaching is expressed as: The Dignity of the Human Person. This is the foundation of Catholic Social Teaching. All people are made in the image and likeness of God. This is the Natural Law – that we all have a part of God is us. This is why we are to love one another as Jesus has loved us.

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