



**Clement
Manor**

PASTORAL CARE

SPIRITUAL GROWTH RESOURCE PACKET

5th Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

Gospel

John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way."

Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"

Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

If you know me, then you will also know my Father.

From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us."

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own.

The Father who dwells in me is doing his works.

Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves.

Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father."

The Way to the Father

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year A)

“Where I am going you know the way.” Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:4–6

In addition to His parables and moral teachings, Jesus revealed to His disciples deep mysteries in a direct way that they did not immediately comprehend, especially when He spoke to the Twelve in intimate settings, such as the Last Supper, the context for today’s Gospel. In this discourse, Jesus explains, in veiled form, that He will soon ascend into Heaven where He will prepare a place for His followers. He explains that because they know Him, they know the way to where He is going—the way to the Father—because He Himself is that Way. As Jesus spoke these mysterious truths, we can imagine the Twelve listening attentively, yet with confusion.

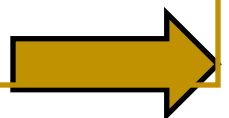
Everything Jesus taught was true. His words, recorded in the Gospels, reveal to us the deepest divine mysteries. Within the Scriptures, we find all we need to know to attain perfect holiness and the eternal life of Heaven. Yet we cannot quickly digest Jesus’ words as we might an intriguing novel or history book. There are many layers of depth to what He says, and we can only understand those layers through prayer.

As the conversation continued, “Philip said to him, ‘Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’” (John 14:8–9).

Jesus’ response likely surprised Philip and the other disciples because they did not understand what He was saying. Their intention was good—they wanted to understand—but Jesus’ words were more than they could comprehend at that moment. Despite this, Jesus gently rebuked Philip as a way of drawing him deeper into the mystery He was revealing.

God often treats us the same way. There are many things that we do not understand. Why do innocent people suffer? Why doesn’t God heal my loved one in answer to my prayers? Why do my children no longer practice the faith? What am I supposed to do with my life?

Just as Philip struggled to understand Jesus’ words, we, too, face moments of confusion when God’s ways seem beyond our grasp. God’s answer to life’s most challenging questions is rarely straightforward or immediate. Why? Because such an approach can never fully satisfy the depth of our hearts. Instead, God reveals a kernel of truth to us and then invites us to ponder it, revealing the divine mystery we seek to understand little by little, to the degree we are open.



The answers we seek come only as we conform our wills to God's, patiently opening ourselves to His Wisdom. Divine mysteries can only be understood through prayer and deep attentiveness to the truths in God's mind. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Only by uniting ourselves to Him in prayer will we discover the path we must walk, the truth we need to hear, and the life we are called to live.

Reflect today on anything you struggle to understand. See yourself as one of the Twelve, listening to Jesus speak, but failing to comprehend. Do not be discouraged; instead, allow the fullness of Jesus' divine Truth to sink in gradually. Spend time in prayer, read the Gospels, be open, and listen from the depths of your heart. Seek out His gentle voice and know that He is your Way, Truth, and Life. Let Him lead you and reveal to you the mysteries of His divine Wisdom so that you, too, know the way to the Father in Heaven.

Most glorious Lord, everything You have revealed to us is pure truth, yet my mind is often incapable of fully comprehending Your Wisdom. Draw me into the many mysteries You wish to reveal, and teach me to pray so that I will more fully comprehend the way to You and to Your Father in Heaven. Jesus, I trust in You.

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Offer Masses for your Loved Ones
The suggested offering \$20.
Contact Tom Brefka – 546-7980

Join us on Clement Manor

Channel 3.1

Word & Communion Service
Monday & Tuesday—9:30am

Mass
Wednesday—Friday & Sunday
9:30am
Saturday — 4:00pm

Individual Reconciliation
Available upon request call
Fr. Bob 546-7383

If you have any personal intentions you would like to add they will be added to our list, contact Tom 546-7980 or tbrefka@clementmanor.org:

Prayer Intentions:

- For those residents who are sick: May they feel the healing presence of God
- For the Church, that we may remain rooted in Christ, the true vine, and bear fruit through lives of love and service
- For world leaders, that they may seek peace, justice, and the dignity of all people
- For those who feel disconnected or discouraged, that they may experience God's abiding presence and renewed hope
- For our community, that we may grow in charity and unity, reflecting the risen life of Christ in all we do



GOD OF LOVE:

In the glory of Easter,
we behold a new world.

Our hearts exalt: "Rejoice, O earth,
in shining splendor, radiant in the
brightness of Your King!"

Fill us with Easter joy, and make us a people
of justice and peace, of compassion and
hope, of kindness and inclusion. Let our
Alleluia be an anthem of humble service,
drawing all people to know Your love.

Let us walk together in unity, and
fill us with reverence and awe for every
person and all creation.

We ask this through Christ our Risen Lord.

AMEN.



FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER

*Jesus said to his disciples:
“Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give to you.”*

JOHN 14:27-31A



God Has a New Address

Reflection: I grew up in a small coal mining town in central Pennsylvania. While my friends lived in company row homes—simple conjoined structures built to house miners’ families a century ago—our family inhabited a multigenerational dwelling with a beer garden and dance hall downstairs. Even after my grandparents closed their business and our relatives took up every square inch of the rooms, our home with its wraparound porch was impressive, the largest dwelling on the block.

By contrast, the house next door was a tiny two-story apparently composed of two rooms: one downstairs and another stacked on top. Their iron-fenced yard was the size of a postage stamp with a magnificent rose bush blooming prodigiously within.

Last year, sorry to say, that tiny house next door burned down. Yet I can still picture the building, timber by timber. Such a fixture of my early years could never be erased and, in my mind’s eye, that neighbor’s house is *still* there.

I can appreciate, then, why the early church employed the memory of the most sacred building of their religious world to describe the living church community. The temple was gone, destroyed by the Romans, its stones thrown down and most carted away. The priesthood was decommissioned without its central purpose, performing rituals within that holy place. Animals, grain, wine, and oil were no longer brought to Jerusalem for sacrifice. Yet the writer recreates the temple by spiritualizing its structure, priesthood, and the community itself: the living stones of the faithful.

Today, Jerusalem remains holy ground to Jews, Christians, and Muslims around the world. Yet our purpose in making pilgrimage there is to be mindful that we are God’s dwelling place now. Sacred memory resides in us. To encounter the Holy, we need only go within.

Mediation: All buildings are “haunted,” in a way, with past associations and purposes. Which places on this earth have special resonance for you, a powerful hold on your heart or imagination? How do you touch these stones, though they may be far from where you are now?

Prayer: Help me cling to holy memories and powerful symbols, O God of sacrament and story. Enable me to find my way to you no matter where the years take me.

Daily Reflections for Easter to Pentecost 2026—Alice Camille

Holy Father's Monthly Intention May 2026

That everyone might have food

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



Queen of Apostles, Pewaukee

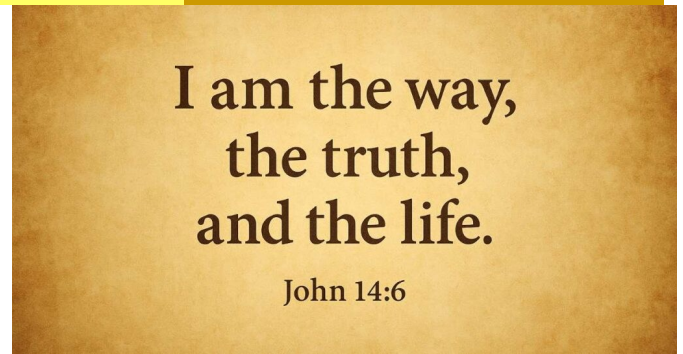
Loving Father,

You are the giver of every good gift, and you nourish all creation with your providence. We lift before you the intention that all people may have food to sustain their lives with dignity. Stir the hearts of those who produce, distribute, and consume, that they may act with justice, responsibility, and care. Help us to recognize the sin of waste and to cherish the abundance you provide. Inspire us to share generously with those in need, so that no one goes hungry and all may partake in your bounty. May our choices reflect gratitude and solidarity, building a world where every table is filled.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS:

Daily Reading for
Sunday May 3, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 6:1-7
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
Gospel, John 14:1-12
Reading 2, Peter 2:4-9



Daily Reading for
Monday May 4, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 14:5-18
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16
Gospel, John 14:21-26

Daily Reading for
Friday May 8, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 15:22-31
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 57:8-9, 10-12
Gospel, John 15:12-17

Daily Reading for
Tuesday May 5, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 14:19-28
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 145:10-11, 12-13, 21
Gospel, John 14:27-31

Daily Reading for
Saturday May 9, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 16:1-10
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 100:1-2, 3, 5
Gospel, John 15:18-21

Daily Reading for
Wednesday May 6, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 15:1-6
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5
Gospel, John 15:1-8

Daily Reading for
Sunday May 10, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20
Gospel, John 14:15-21
Reading 2, Peter 3:15-18

Daily Reading for
Thursday May 7, 2026
Reading 1, Acts 15:7-21
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 96:1-2, 2-3, 10
Gospel, John 15:9-11



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