

May 17, 2020
6th Sunday of Easter
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
John 14:15-21

Today's Activities & Tasks

- Sunday Mass at 9:30am via Facebook Live
- Sunday Homily from Fr. Brian Johnson
- S.L.I.M. Award Recipient
- Public Celebration of Mass will begin May 20th. Please follow the link below for general information. More details about our parish will be published soon.
- Children's Sunday Bulletin

St Pius-St Anthony Homily 6th Sunday Easter Year A

You will see! When do you hear that? You'll see. No, I don't mean that like a threat (sometimes people say it that way, like 'you got it coming' or 'oh, just keep playing with that knife, or just keep taunting that wasp nest)-you'll see; No I don't mean anything like that. I am just repeating what we heard Jesus say twice in the gospel today. In John 14:17, He says, "the Spirit of truth, ***which the world cannot accept***, because it neither sees nor knows it" and in John 14:19, He adds, "In a little while *the world will no longer see me.*" But You will. We will see. But how about those others who Jesus says will not? Twice he says the world neither knows nor sees Him or the Spirit. So, the world cannot see and cannot accept Jesus? You wonder why not? Is it just too much?

But let's not scapegoat (pick on) the world, because same thing happened among several of Jesus' own disciples: that they did not see or accept that Jesus was alive after being dead. Do we recall back a couple of Sundays ago, some of those early resurrection appearance where even Jesus disciples didn't recognize him? How about Mary Magdalene in the garden at the tomb? She didn't see Jesus in the gardener. Or the two disciples on road to Emmaus, that couldn't see Jesus right beside them walking, filling their ears and hearts with his words of grace. Or even Peter on the morning of the First Breakfast who had to be told by the John, the Beloved Disciple, that Jesus was the man on the shore calling out to them. Do

we think we would see Jesus any better than them? I suggest that each person may suffer his/her own handicap or impediment that prevents us 'seeing' Jesus. Like what? Mary's eyes full of tears obscuring her vision, the Emmaus disciples all discouraged (downcast) with too much droop in their eyes to see, and Peter's issue, trying to be so self-reliant, preoccupied with his business details of fishing-getting nets just right and keeping the fish hands on deck working, that he missed seeing Jesus on the shore. So, each of us misses Jesus due to our preoccupations.

And isn't that the lesson Jesus is giving us today? How easy it is to just fall in with the world and not see Jesus (God). Think of it as 'in the box' syndrome, or still 'in the tomb' syndrome! When we can't see the new, the different, the risen, the changed and transfigured because we are so stuck in habitual patterns or molds. When our ways of thinking and acting are so preprogrammed that only automatic response thinking comes out. Once in a lane, we see nothing else.

Here's a couple of sayings meant to throw us off or out: ***"A new study showed that humans eat more bananas than monkeys"***. I hope so, I've never eaten a monkey. Or ***"Time flies like an arrow, and fruit flies like bananas."***

Stuck in patterned behavior we miss the change-shift, when it comes. Like the resurrection of Jesus, who could have imagined such a change-up to resurrect and then further to ascend? (but we'll cover that one next week!)

So the world not seeing, not accepting, I understand. It is about being stuck in the ruts, well-worn paths blocking us from seeing the new, difference, change.

What do they say about a hammer, that to hammer everything looks like a nail?

I confess I do it too, about answering problems or even when it comes to interpreting scripture. I have an autopilot switch too, that can lead me right down a fixed path, just as easily as a cow coming down a hill to pasture, sticks slavishly to the cow path, staying in the chute or between the rails every time.

Or how about a little family dog I loved growing up named Bo, (she was a mix dog). We kids used some discarded, old wood shelves from the store to make her a house at the back of the yard (okay, a mansion). It even had a front porch she could stand on to watch it rain. In those rains, she might see us at the back door and look at us with those eyes, saying, "Aren't you going to bring me food?" But anyway she was cute about this walk she had. She never ran straight to the back door across the yard (straightest, closest shot). No, she'd run to the side, over to the walk, around edge of garage, then to our patio & porch. Why? We thought she didn't want to get her feet wet on grass. She had worn down that

sideways path to the sidewalk. But, we later learned that she knew where all the package-presents were in the yard she had dropped (she knew where she went).

But my point is that it is so easy for us to be like the world Jesus talks about, and not see or not accept Him. We can be blocked from seeing the resurrected Lord, because of what we expect, because of all we have known from the past, or because we choose limitedly to only see what reinforces our comforts. There was a very interesting book written back in 2013 titled On Looking: Eleven Walks with Expert Eyes by Alexandra Horowitz. It was like an observation journal-record of her quest to walk around a city block with eleven different “experts,” from an artist to a geologist to a dog, on eleven different walks and each time incredibly new discoveries of previously unseen fascinations in the otherwise so familiar world were shown her from that other set of fresh eyes.

So how do we always ‘see’ and ‘accept’ Jesus, resurrected alive and right here with us? Jesus tells us that it is by 1) His Word, 2) His Spirit and 3) Love. We 1) hold His words dear, we 2) seek to move, live and be in His Spirit and 3) feel his presence in the love of Him we show others. He says, “I in you and you in me”. We can see by keeping His Word, living in His Spirit and loving as He loved us.

S.L.I.M. Award (Servant Leader In Ministry)

Congratulations to Case Thomason for receiving the S.L.I.M. Award from the Diocese!

Case is one of our students graduating from high school this week. He has attended our Faith Formation for the Youth program and is a member of our Youth Group. Case is very involved at school and has been very active in our parish. He is a Lector, Mass Server, helped with community projects and has attended many youth retreats. Case will be attending Murray State in the Fall and has plans to attend law school in the future.

Case will become an Eagle Scout soon. His final Eagle Scout project was the creation of the Rosary Walk near the parish's playground. The Rosary Walk will be dedicated and blessed very soon.

Case always has a smile and has a very positive attitude!

He is a blessing to our parish!

Returning to Public Mass

Bishop Medley has released a statement about the Diocese of Owensboro returning to public Mass. St. Pius X Parish in Calvert City will have public Mass starting Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 8:00am.

More information will be given to our parishioners on Sunday, May 17, and in the next few days. Please be patient as parish staff and volunteers prepare the church in accordance to the Bishop's guidelines.

Please read or view Bishop Medley's announcement from our Diocese's website:

Returning to Public Mass **Announcement**

Children's Bulletin

Here is the [Children's Bulletin](#) for the 6th Sunday of Easter. These activity pages are fun for children of all ages!