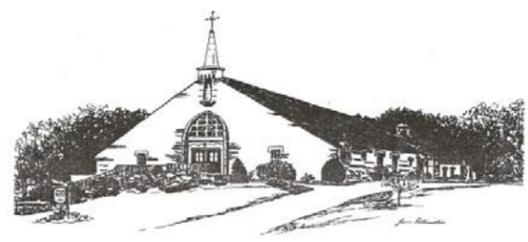




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1 John 4:12
**If we love one another,
God remains in us.**
Gospel of the Week
John 17:11b-19

May 7, 2018
**Seventh Sunday
of Easter**

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A MESSAGE FROM FATHER'S DESK... 

Then they prayed, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen..." (Acts 1, 24)

We had a great First communion celebration last Sunday. It was nice to have 'a full house'. We thank Lucy Marcil and her sister Anna Griffin for all they do for our parish. Religious education classes are done but Sunday Mass is not, we hope to see the children and their families around still.

Next weekend we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. It is the birthday of the Church. What gifts and charisms have helped grow the church for as long as we have known it! Each one of us has a gift they can share to renew and build our community. Share your gift or talent! Do not be afraid! Do it anyway! We will be talking about this next weekend at the masses.

In the first reading this Sunday the disciples are still suffering the effects of Judas' betrayal of Jesus. They must find a *right fit* to take his place. Someone who 'knows' Jesus (not 'knows of' him); someone who companied with Jesus; witness to the Resurrection. Someone who is 'at heart' a disciple. Who will it be?

Making decisions is a very big problem for many of us. It is so easy to get 'lost' today. What shall I do decisions; how are we to discern. Discernment is the art of responding to God's will in our daily life. We have an answer hidden in the reading: what is at heart? (Knowing your heart) and Prayer as a way of discerning. Prayer invites the Holy Spirit into our decision making.

Other forms of discernment are: talk to someone you respect, find some solitude, start with what you know, tell God what is it that you desire and what you fear (be honest), let God speak to you, know that He has a plan for you. Pray, wait, pray, check out the fruits

The prayer of Jesus is a very 'worried' prayer. He pray for his disciples. He prays that they may not get 'lost' in the hate of the world, in divisions, in incomplete joy, in not belonging, in untruth. These are exactly our worries too many times. He lifts his eyes to heaven. The attitude of prayer matters, knowing without any doubt that God has the answer.

Have a great week in the Lord!

**Congratulations!
First Communion Class 2018!
Please keep them in your
prayers!**

