

Commentary on the Gospel for Mon, Apr 29th 2024

The Spirit keeps the memory alive

The Lord's promise is huge: When we love Jesus and keep his Word, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit will come and live within us. It is the Holy Spirit who helps us grow in Jesus' love continually. Pope Francis says, "Faith is not static; it develops. It grows as trees grow larger and bear fruit, but the tree is always the same.

"The Holy Spirit will remind you of all that I have told you" (26). He is like a memory; He keeps us always awake in the things of the Lord. Have we not experienced a voice deep within us telling us, "Go ahead! This is what the Lord wants you to do," or "Watch out! The Lord would not want you to do this?" This is the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Listening to catechumens preparing for baptism, a common story emerges: "I studied in a Catholic school, or I had an affinity for the Church and faith at some point, but then I got busy with work and strayed off course. Now, I feel it's time to return to Jesus..." They remember the initial love or spark they felt towards Jesus when they were young, and now they want to come back. According to Pope Francis, "This is the Holy Spirit's memory in one's life. He brings you to the memory of what Jesus taught."

The Holy Spirit reminds us of our life's journey and helps us to distinguish between what is right and wrong, even in minor decisions and provides us with the necessary support during our decision-making process.