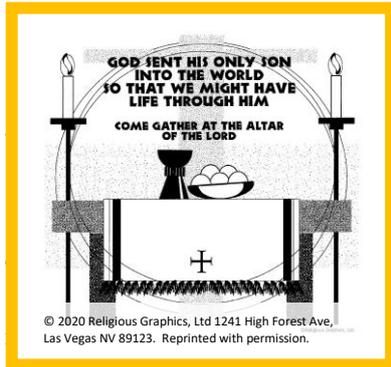


# Observing the Lord's Day

## Easter 6 (21B)

9 May 2021, Father Slowiak. Edited from printed and audio sources.



Bishop Callahan has distributed a diocesan policy for the gradual reopening of parishes to celebrate the Sacrament of Eucharist on Sunday. We are authorized to gather 25% of the church capacity (about 75) with members of the same household sitting together, others at social distancing. The wings of Phone to have your name added to the 25% list. We have opened the 8:00 celebration am on Sunday.

We understand face coverings/masks to be an element of prolife, a sign of respect for the common good.

We will continue to stream the Sunday 10:00 am celebration. I invite parish and families at 4:30 or 8:00 or 10:00 am (or a family time) to gather and observe the Lord's Day with the weekly Communal Prayer.

L = Leader (Certainly rotate within a family and the role of the Leader); A = Assembly

### Opening Rite

L Speak out with a voice of joy; let it be heard to the ends of the earth:

A the Lord has set his people free, alleluia. Isaiah 48:20

L In the name of . . .

A the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

L God who is, we stand before You in our celebration of the resurrection of the Son, Jesus . . . born of woman, but without beginning He suffered for us and through Your care He lives forever. Amen. – based on Sacramentary, 1985

### The Texts

Our Bibles or the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops <http://uscgb.org> then, Bible, Today's Reading for the texts

Acts of the Apostles 10:25-48 or 10:25-26, 34,35, 44-48. Peter and the Gentile centurion, Cornelius, have visions. Eventually Peter chooses to enter a gentile house and face ritual impurity, a gathering is seated to hear about Jesus and the holy Spirit came upon them and the Jewish followers of Jesus were astounded that the holy Spirit would come upon Gentiles.

1 John 4:7-10. Scholars are not in common regarding the writer or the community. It seems, either the letter is an instruction or written to remind a community that the love of God in Jesus is their obligation to continue from their baptism into Christ Jesus.

John 15:9-17. Consider that John (110 AD) is placing these words on the lips of Jesus prior to the Cross to prepare those at table for the trying days ahead. Jesus' divine love will hold them together if they accept and live this love. We are members of this community by baptism.

### A Reflection

The writer of the Acts of the Apostles portrays the gentile Roman centurion Cornelius as a "God-fearing man" (indicates a gentile who accepted some of the practices of the Jews without becoming a religious Jew) who is visited by an divine messenger in the city of Caesarea.

Peter is in Joppa, 30 miles form Caesarea and was visited by a divine messenger who told him to eat food forbidden under Jewish law. The angel told Peter to eat those animals. Peter now had to adapt to a completely different way of seeing God. If all foods and people were acceptable to God, then God's message in Jesus Christ must be shared with gentiles as well as Jews, Peter concludes. Quite of difference realization regarding God and God's creation.

In this light Pope Francis makes headlines all around the world because of his open and cordial interactions with people of all races, cultures and religions, young and old, rich and poor, able-bodied and disabled, people of different backgrounds, lifestyles and political and religious persuasions. For Pope Francis, all are included in God's love, with a particular place for those who are on the margins as did Jesus, the Son of God. – adapted from a reflection by Deacon Ross Beaudoin

### General Intercessions

01. Move world and religious leaders to find ways to eliminate barriers against the just treatment of all peoples. We pray.
02. Be close to those who build personal barriers to love or seek love in inappropriate ways. We pray.
03. We keep in mind mothers and stepmothers; grandmothers and godmothers and all women who have loved and accept us and women who care for others in the face of poverty or violence. We pray.
04. Move us to be more concerned for those who are sick and dying. We pray.

### Sitting at the Table with Christ Jesus (A spiritual communion)

L Risen Christ Jesus, present sacramentally, we bless You that You not only loved us but You also took our human nature. You bedded down with us and revealed Your divine way and characteristics to us. You revealed Your way and forgive us. You not only forgive us but You also rose and settle with us sacramentally. You not only returned to us but You also promised to abide with us. You not only abide with us but You also give us what we need to be faithful to You. Amen.

### Closing

L God who is, You restore us to life by raising Jesus from the tomb. Guide our desire to experience this gift.

L In the name of the Father . . .