

6th Sunday – Easter – Year A

- It is Mother's Day – now I have a story about my Mother I like to tell & it applies to readings
 - I may have told it here before, but I like it, its my Mother, & you're going to hear it again.
 - Old Orchard beach – end of the day pickup, beach bag, sand toys, cooler
 - The lifeguard whistle, jumps off the chair, runs to the surf, dives in – everything stops
 - The life guard swims out to a man struggling and going under
 - I look at my mother and, standing there in her bathing suit, & she has a rosary,
 - O Dear God Help him, Hail M
 - Where she got a rosary, in her bathing suit, at the beach, was beyond me
 - But her faith was out there for everyone to see = Hail M
 - Turns out it was a test – a random lifeguard test & all was well, but my mother gave me an example I've never forgotten

Now here's the link to the reading from Acts

- Deacon Philip is preaching to Samaria (why? – cause they stoned Stephen in Jerusalem)
 - In Samaria he begins to proclaim Jesus (because he's not that afraid)
- Remember the criteria for Deacons last week? 12 men filled with wisdom and HS
Jesus promises in the Gospel – I will not leave you orphans, I will send the HS
Philip has the HS, and like my mother, puts that faith out there for all to see,
- Despite Stephen's death, Philip is still preaching JC**
- The crowd pays attention
 - Unclean spirits come out – paralyzed and cripples are healed
 - Great joy in the city
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- My mother's example proclaimed her faith to me
 - She wasn't a preacher, she didn't sit me down and evangelize
 - She just lived her faith, and by seeing that faith, **I believed.**
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- Jesus promises, “I will be with you always” “I will not leave you orphans”
 - Peter and John join Philip and they pray that they might receive the HS and -
 - They receive the HS, Christianity is born in Samaria ***they become a new creation.***
 - If I added Red/Blue clay together I'd get purple – new creation
 - When the Lord took FRANK & added HS – new creation
 - When the Lord took our Confirmation kids & added HS – bingo!
 - ***Jesus promised He would not leave us orphans, that He'd send HS – and HE did IN NORWOOD – the HS is in our midst –***
 - ***Now its up to us to live that faith – let Norwood see it.***
Old Orchard Beach I saw my mothers' faith – and it changed my life
Samaritans saw Philip's faith – and it changed their lives
Your children, family, co-workers, brothers ... need to see your faith
You can change lives too