

6th Sunday – Easter – Year B

- I had a conversation with a teenage girl this week.
 - She was out with her boyfriend & he tells her they're going to a party.
 - Where? He tells her
 - She knows that place & the parties they have – DRINKING, DRUGS, SEX
 - “NO – I don't want to go there” “I don't want to do that stuff”
 - “If you're going to go there you can take me home NOW”
 - Peer Pressure ‘What's the matter – afraid your Father will find out?’
You afraid your Father will hurt you?
 - “NO, I'm afraid I'll hurt my Father”

Where did the boy get his values? Where did the girl get hers?

Both born the same year Both grew up in the same town Both went to the same school
BUT THEY WOUND UP IN DIFFERENT PLACES

- Jesus says, “if you love me, you will keep my commandments, ...”
- How many commandments are there? 10.
- Jesus tells us a new commandment in Gospel – He says “This is MY commandment”
 - Love one another – that's not new! **What makes it new?**
 - Love one another” How? “As I have loved you” – **pretty tall order**
 - How can we love as JC loves? That requires the Holy Spirit
 - When the Holy Spirit comes – He comes with power.
 - Holy Spirit comes – even when its against Church policy (like in 1st reading)
 - The Church of ACTS was Jewish
 - HS comes to Cornelius - Gentile AND a Centurion
 - And when HS comes – it silences every objection
 - God's love was in their midst – and there is nothing as contagious as love
 - God's love is in OUR midst – and its still just as contagious
- Today we are given great examples of God's love –

THESE CHILDREN	MOTHERS
Precious – incredible potential	Taught us
Doctors, Musicians, Artists, Nuns	Held us when we were hurt
God's gift to us	Loved us
With any gift comes responsibility	Beat us – and forgive us
What will we do with these gifts	God teaches us
How we live – act – speak – THEY WATCH	God holds us up when we're hurt
They acquire values (like the teenage boy/girl)	God loves us
Some good – some bad	God disciplines – and forgives

We have all been given the gifs of God's love – what will we do with it?

Jesus asks us to follow HIS commandment and love one another

As we rejoice on this special day our prayer is not only for (these children/our mothers)

But also for each & every one of us – the Church. That together we may grow the KOG