

MAY 25, 2014
SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER

taking+ faith home

The Holy Spirit is our helper.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.
We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	John 14:15-21	The promise of the Holy Spirit
Monday	John 14:23-27	The Spirit will teach you
Tuesday	John 16:5-16	The work of the Holy Spirit
Wednesday	1 John 4:13-21	God has given us the Spirit
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11	The ascension of Jesus
Friday	Hebrews 4:14-16	Jesus has gone through the heavens
Saturday	Psalms 68:3-5, 17-20	Ascended on high
Sunday	John 17:1-11	Jesus prays for his disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true.”
John 14:16-17

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, please give us the Holy Spirit each day to be with us and in us. Lead us to do the things that you ask of us. Amen. (John 14:15-17)

Mealttime Prayer:

We thank you God, three-in-one, for these gifts from earth and sun. May praise and honor be said and sung, to the Father, Spirit, and Son. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you the Holy Spirit, so that you love Jesus and obey him. Amen. (John 14:15-17)



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Who has been helpful to you this past week? In what ways have you been of help to others?
- Jesus called the Holy Spirit our “helper” or “counselor.” What does the Holy Spirit help us to do?
- How would you like the Holy Spirit to help you today?

DEVOTIONS

Psalms 66:19-20 says, “God has listened; and heard my prayer. Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or hold back love from me.” Begin a household prayer journal; a book in which to record your prayer points. In your home devotion times, share any prayer concerns you have and write these in the journal. Let these concerns guide your prayers during the week. Review the journal each week and cross off points when the need for prayer has passed. Always remember to give thanks for God’s responses to your prayers.

SERVICE

Jesus told his disciples, “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.” Find out how you can support a ministry to orphans in your own country or overseas. (For an example, visit www.watoto.com.) Pray this week for orphans and for those who care for them.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

This Thursday (May 29) is Ascension Day. This day marks the last appearance of Jesus to the disciples after his resurrection at Easter, and his bodily ascension into heaven. It is the fortieth day after Easter Sunday and always falls on a Thursday. The book of Acts (1:12) suggests that Jesus’ ascension took place at Mount Olivet, located northeast of the town of Bethany. Plan a trip (by car or foot) to a “high place” in your area. While there, discuss what it might have been like to see Jesus ascend into heaven, and your picture of his return at the end of time. Take time to notice the clouds and see what shapes you can find. (There is an old tradition that the clouds on Ascension Day take the form of lambs, in honor of the Lamb of God.) Shout these words aloud: “Jesus has ascended, but he will return! Come, Lord Jesus, Come!”



Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.