

V (A) Sunday of Easter > Homily ~ May 3, 2026.

Today's readings invite us to look at the early Church - not as a distant memory, but as a living model for us today. In the Acts of the Apostles, we see a community that faced real problems, even tensions and complaints. Yet instead of dividing, they responded with wisdom, prayer, and service. They created new ministries so that no one would be neglected. This is a reminder: the Church remains alive when it listens, adapts, and serves with love.

St. Peter, in the second reading, deepens this vision. He tells us that we are not just followers - we are "living stones," being built into a spiritual house with Christ as the cornerstone. Each one of us matters. Each one of us has a place. The Church is not just a building we enter; it is a community we become. When we live in unity, fidelity, and humble service, we make Christ visible in the world.

Then in the Gospel, we hear Jesus speak words of comfort to his troubled disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled." He knows their fear and confusion. Moreover, He responds not with a map, but with himself: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

This is not just a beautiful phrase - it is a call to decision.

Jesus is the Way. We follow him not by words alone, but by walking his path: a narrow road of love, sacrifice, forgiveness, and service. In a world, that often chooses convenience and self-interest, Christ calls us to something deeper and more demanding.

Jesus is the Truth. He reveals who God is and who we are meant to be. Accepting this truth means more than knowing it - it means living it, even when it challenges us or goes against the culture around us.

Jesus is the Life. He does not just teach about life; he shares his own divine life with us - through the Word, through the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, and through the presence of the Holy Spirit within us.

So the question for us today is simple: how do we respond?

We respond by being an active, living community like the early Church - serving one another with love. We respond by building our lives on Christ, the cornerstone. And we respond by embracing Jesus fully as our Way, our Truth, and our Life.

This means participating deeply in the Eucharist, receiving the Sacraments with faith, nourishing ourselves with Scripture, and staying rooted in prayer - both personal and as families.

If we do this, then like the early Christians, we will not only keep the memory of Jesus alive - we will make his presence real in our world today.