



Sons of Saint Joseph tm

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6 - Evangelii Nuntiandi : Taking Courage in the Unity and Truth Saturday, February 17, 2024

John 14: 15-25

Jesus said: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate* to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live, and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.” Judas, not the Iscariot,* said to him, “Master, [then] what happened that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?” Jesus answered and said to him, “Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me. “I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you. Peace* I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

Questions

1. The divisions within Christianity add an element of evangelization that makes it more challenging. How do we respond to fervent evangelicals evangelizing and bringing people to Christ, though not the Catholic Church? How do we interact with them?
2. Paul says we must have reverence for the Truth; how do we grow in greater love of truth? How do we help others get enthusiastic about the Truth that can actually demand they change their lives?
3. Have we found ourselves silent when confronted with the need to speak the Truth? Have we denied like Peter when we should have defended Christ? What are common excuses today to avoid preaching Christ publicly, and how can we overcome them?
4. How do we approach different categories of people; i.e. people who are apathetic, people who are very skeptical of the Church, people who see themselves wounded by the church? Each can easily require a different approach, what are they?