

Reflection- May 11, 2020

The Upper Room

They are gathered back in this room. It seems like they have been here forever. It all began with a feast. The place turned into a hide out where they locked themselves away. It turned into a place of desolation and mourning when the word reached them of his death. Early on Sunday, it became a place of confusion and some small glimmer of hope. Then that night he was there with them and it has become the central place of the joy that now fills their life. They had seen him in many places but when he told them to stay in Jerusalem; there was only one place to stay and wait. This Upper Room is their place to watch and wait. Here they will look into their lives with him. Here they will wait for the call to go out and to go forward.

The first Upper Room that I see as present in our lives is the church, not any old church, Our Church. Here we come to sup with the Lord in our weekly feast of the Eucharist. Here we come in our moments of fear or our moments of pain. Here we know our pain of loss at the death of friends and relatives. Here is proclaimed the hope of resurrection and new life. Here we await the coming and power of the spirit.

But there is in these days another more real Upper Room in our lives. It is our home. Here we live the joy of God's love. Here we now see ourselves locked away in fear at the virus that seeks to enter and to hurt us or even kill us. Here we mourn the loss of our lives as we know them. But here also is where God sends his Spirit to give us new life.

That is where we will be in these days leading up to Pentecost. So we can spend this time locked away as I believe they did, reflecting on their lives with Jesus. What did his life mean for them? How had he touched them or changed them? We, in our Upper Rooms, will spend these days reflecting on their lives with Jesus and how this intersects with our life with Jesus. The Upper Room is where they and we can touch the life and Spirit of Jesus and celebrate his presence in their lives but more importantly his life as it touches our lives.

First person up tomorrow, Mary, His Mother.

Fr. Marty