

Today is the sixth Sunday of Easter and our Scripture readings invite us to live more consciously the gift of the Spirit in our everyday lives.

In the gospel reading, Jesus promised that he will not leave the community orphaned. He will send another Advocate, one who will not only be *with* us but be *in* us, the abiding, indwelling presence of God. Jesus promises this as part of his deep and ongoing relationship of love with each one of us. We are never alone and we are charged to make present and visible the power of this Spirit of God in our every day lives.

How do we know the power of the Spirit of God in our lives? A spirit that is not visible and not tangible, except in those moments when we “know” – not so much with our mind, but with our hearts...an unexplainable knowing” that our energy is aligned with ‘something’ (or Someone) bigger than ourselves. Or when we are able to forgive in spite of the hurt and the anger. Or we find words of comfort that we did not know we knew. Think about it – and add your own experiences of the Spirit to this.

This week, let us open our hearts to the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit alive *in* us. Let us pray that as a community of faith we may speak a word of hope, rooted in love, for the healing of our world today.