

Dear Friends of St Mary's

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

Today's Gospel (John 14: 1-14) is probably one of the more familiar parts of John's Gospel. It is much loved and often used at funeral services, where Jesus says that,

*"in my father's house there are many dwelling places"* and that he promises to *"prepare a place"* for them.

Thomas, my favourite disciple because of his open, honest approach to life, his human doubting and inquisitiveness asks Jesus the question that elicits one of the greatest statements in the New Testament.

Jesus said to him, *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."* John 14: 6-7.

Jesus is the "way" because it is only in following him that we can lead our lives in a holy and fruitful manner.

Jesus is the "truth" because through him we see something of the true glory of God who can change our lives.

Jesus is the "life" because through belief in him we achieve full humanity and purpose for our lives.

That is particularly relevant in our current Covid19 world where everything seems so unreal and where the "way, the truth and the life" provide us with the only real certainty. As we await to see what the next stage of the lockdown awaits us, we may like to adopt as our prayer for the week, the words of the Post Communion prayer for today.

*Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.  
Amen.*

Thoughts and prayers

Godfrey

