

Homily for the Sixth Sunday of Easter, 2025

“Peace I leave you, my peace I leave you”

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

These words we hear all the times we celebrate the Holy Eucharistic. But, what do they mean to Jesus; what do they mean to us who hear them all those times?

- In the tradition of the Jewish people, this is a greeting (Shalom, peace be with you, and Jerusalem, which is connected to that word means the city of peace)
- For Jesus, this is more than a simple greeting: it is a gift, a promise, and a call to share.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you."

Jesus spoke these words during the Last Supper, just some hours before His Passion. He knew that His disciples would very soon face fear, doubt, and sorrow, that is why He want to reassure them with a PEACE, a PEACE that is different from worldly peace, a PEACE that comes from trusting in Him, a PEACE that only those who trust in Him can experience.

In our world today, peace often seems temporary. We think will come from our success, security, or human relationships, but these can be shaken by the challenges of life. The peace that Jesus offers does not depend on any situations; it is a peace rooted in His presence, His love, and the certainty that He has already conquered sin and death.

Jesus then says: "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." These words are an invitation to faith over fear, to trust over anxiety. Jesus reminds us that even in the midst of trials, we are never alone, His peace is with us, His Spirit gives us strength, and His love remains with us always.

As Easter people, we are called not only to receive Christ's peace, but also to share it. We are invited to be the instruments of peace in our families, workplaces, and communities, responding with patience, kindness, and forgiveness (this is how we reveal the presence of Jesus, ...).

Moreover, there is a promise that we will no longer need to walk far away seeking the risen Lord, because keeping His word will make of us His Temples, and He and God the Father will dwell within us, through the Holy Spirit.

When we live in the peace of Christ, we become witnesses of His resurrection, showing the world that His love transforms hearts and lives.

Today, let us truly embrace the peace that Jesus gives, choosing faith over fear, bringing His peace to our brothers and sisters.

May this Easter season renew our trust in Christ's presence and help us to live as bearers of His peace in the world.

Amen.