A Way to Pentecost: Friday



**Reading: from John 21: 15-19**
When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter,

 ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’

He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’
Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’

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**Wondering**
We move away from the Last Discourse today and have a Reading that reminds us of the commission placed on Peter and his successors. How aware am I of being part of a Church with over 2000 years of history? How am I playing my part in witnessing to my Catholic heritage - and in building up the contemporary Church?

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**Contemplating**
Read through the extract from the Gospel and see what speaks to you today. If you read the rest of today's Gospel, you will read the consequence of Peter's decision. Why might the words or phrases be significant for you today?

***or***Spend some time creating the scene of this Gospel. Where do you imagine that it is set? What might you see - or hear - touch or smell? Where are Peter and Jesus in relation to the other disciples? What emotions do you sense -in the disciples - in Peter and in Jesus?

**Reflecting**
Although the call to "feed my sheep" and to "feed my lambs" was given to Peter in a very special way, it is one that is given to all Christians. It may the food of the prayer of our contemplative communities - or the sacramental ministry of our priests - the pastoral care of deacons and parish religious - or the day-to-day sanctification of homes and workplaces by lay people of prayer. How can we do both - feeding ourselves and feeding the world? What skills will be called for in people? How will we, like Peter, express our love for Jesus by feeding those amongst whom he has placed us?

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**Praying**

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful.
Give us ears to hear the call of Jesus
and minds, hearts and wills ready and willing to respond to it.

**From the Sequence for Pentecost**
Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Our Father… Hail Mary… Glory be...

**Action point from the writing of Pope Francis**

Moved by his example, we want to enter fully into the fabric of society, sharing the lives of all, listening to their concerns, helping them materially and spiritually in their needs, rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep; arm in arm with others, we are committed to building a new world. But we do so not from a sense of obligation, not as a burdensome duty, but as the result of a personal decision which brings us joy and gives meaning to our lives.

*(Evangelii Gaudium 269)*

Who might you rejoice with today – or weep with today?