

Homily
Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter
April 26, 2024

Happy Easter! Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. Our goal, our destination, is the Father and only through Jesus can we get there. This is the message of Easter. This is why we celebrate this season. Everything in our life is focused on following Jesus. Everything that we are looking for can be found in Him.

Thomas asks Jesus, “How can we know the way?” We know the way. Jesus has given us everything we need; it is now up to us to follow.

Who has taken a trip recently or is preparing for a trip? It takes a lot of planning. It requires packing the right things. Have you ever gotten to where you were going only to realize that you forgot something? Then you have to figure out how you are going to either get by without it or where to get another one. On more than one occasion, I’ve forgotten my phone charger. Not pleasant.

Jesus gives us everything we need. We don’t need to pack. In fact, we need to unload our baggage and trust in Him Who provides for all our needs. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. What else do we need?

What do we need to unload? What are we clinging to in our lives that we really don’t need? Are we harboring resentment? Are we attached to some distraction that gets in the way of our love for God and neighbor? Do we hold on to anger for some transgression? Let it go. Give it to Jesus so that He can change it and give it back to us as a blessing. Give ourselves to Him so that He can change us and make us a blessing to others.

This is to what we are called. This is how Jesus wants us to live. We are to live in the light of Jesus. We are to thrive without all those attachments that interfere in our true joy. Jesus gives us everything we need, if only we will let go of what we think we need and rely on Him. He is the way, the truth and the life. Only through Jesus, only through the sacraments, only through love can we be truly happy. This is God’s will for us; that we may follow His Son into everlasting life.