## FR.TK. REFLECTIONS 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A 2023. GOING HOME- JESUS THE WAY,THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE:

Three weeks back, St. Luke in the Acts of the Apostles (Act 2:42-47) told us about how the first Christian community got along with one another. They devoted themselves to prayer, teaching of the Apostles and generously shared the material possession according to ones needs.

As the community grew so did **problems, challenges and issues arose** (Acts 6:1-7). There were converted Jews from Greek origin who were culturally different even in Language the (Hellenistic) from the Hebrew, Aramaic traditionalists hence the issue of accepting one another especially in the distribution of material things like food. The Hellenistic complained of their Widows being down looked, neglected and discriminated economically (Acts 6:1)

The Apostles had to sort this by creating the **office of Diaconate(6:3-5)** who would look into this issue of food as the Apostles continued in **prayer and preaching(6:2)** 

In the Gospel, we have very powerful sermon of Jesus during last supper as he addressed his Apostles over his impeding death. He gave them encouragement as he knew very well they were worried, had fear hence needed strength (Jn 14:1-12) let you hearts not be troubled, trust in God and trust in me also, in my fathers house there so many rooms if they were not would I have told you. Am going to prepare for you a place after which I will come for you so that where I am you might be there also. what are powerful words from the master. He is talking as if he is going home.

He is telling us that we are immigrants in the world, we are not citizen, we are just passing through. He is telling us we should not live in the world as if we are permanent, we are on transit our permanence is in heaven, where we will not be refugees or stateless, the Visa and passport are assured, it is Jesus himself in the home office, He is the way, the truth and the life.

Don't we all need a place we can call home surelly!where we belong feel Loved, welcome, free and accepted even to express ourselves freely.where we don't need demonstrations, tear gas, quoting the constitution which protects the freedom of expression because justice will be accorded to all.close ties, will be realised at home, freedom of association, expression and of true worship without conning and sacrificing human beings in the name of religion. All these will bring us healing and peace after struggles in this world we are passing through. Our hearts are restless until they find rest in you says St. Augustine, it is only in Christ that we will find such tranquillity and rest.

He is encouraging us to trust and have faith in him,he has gone ahead to prepare for us in that home and He will come for us so that where he is we might also be. He is telling us he is the reflection of the father to have seen me you have seen the father (14:9)

He is directing us in through events of life, in all moments of pains, joys, confusions difficulties, hardships and challenges, in all these he is leading, directing and guiding us mapping the way, he is our director, campus, GPS leading us to our destination which is Heaven our <u>HOME</u>. He is THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.