

The Holy Spirit leads us like a mother.

- St. John Vianney



Scripture of the Day:

Acts 8, 5-8. 14-17
Ps 65, 1-7. 16. 20
1 Pt 3, 15-18.
Jn 14, 15-21

Weekly WORD

To love Christ is to be led by the Spirit

Perhaps it was the revolutionary Christian message about equality among men by St Paul, that shifted the mindset of the West over the next two millenniums - "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Gal 3:28). Albeit, it was a very slow process indeed.

I have equated love with Christianity because this is what our faith teaches us – love is from God, and God is love (1 Jn 4:16). It would have been nonsensical to expect the world to change automatically with the advent of the Christian faith - to expect a world without war, poverty or injustice. It is, however, expected of the Christian to decide for themselves what kind of person they choose to be. That is, to be, or not to be, more *Christ-like*. Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" (Jn 14:15). **To love Christ then, is to allow ourselves to be led by the Holy Spirit** – a spirit that graces, strengthens, guides, inspires and moves us to be one with Christ. Unless we are Spirit-led, we will never see, nor experience, the truth of Jesus – His love for you, me, and the whole world.

Jesus is the truth that the world simply could not recognise (Jn 1:10). Yet, He is the very reason why the world has hope and love! There are some in this world who would rather turn a blind eye to the good news of Christ, and yet here we are, continuing to extend ourselves to all, just as Christ did. We, however, are not able to do this by our own strength. But we can with His. As the presider lifts up the body of Christ and acclaim, "Through Him, with Him and in Him", we understand that as we consume the Sacred Host, Jesus is restoring us with His body, strengthening us to be messengers of hope and love, and to bear witness without fear. †

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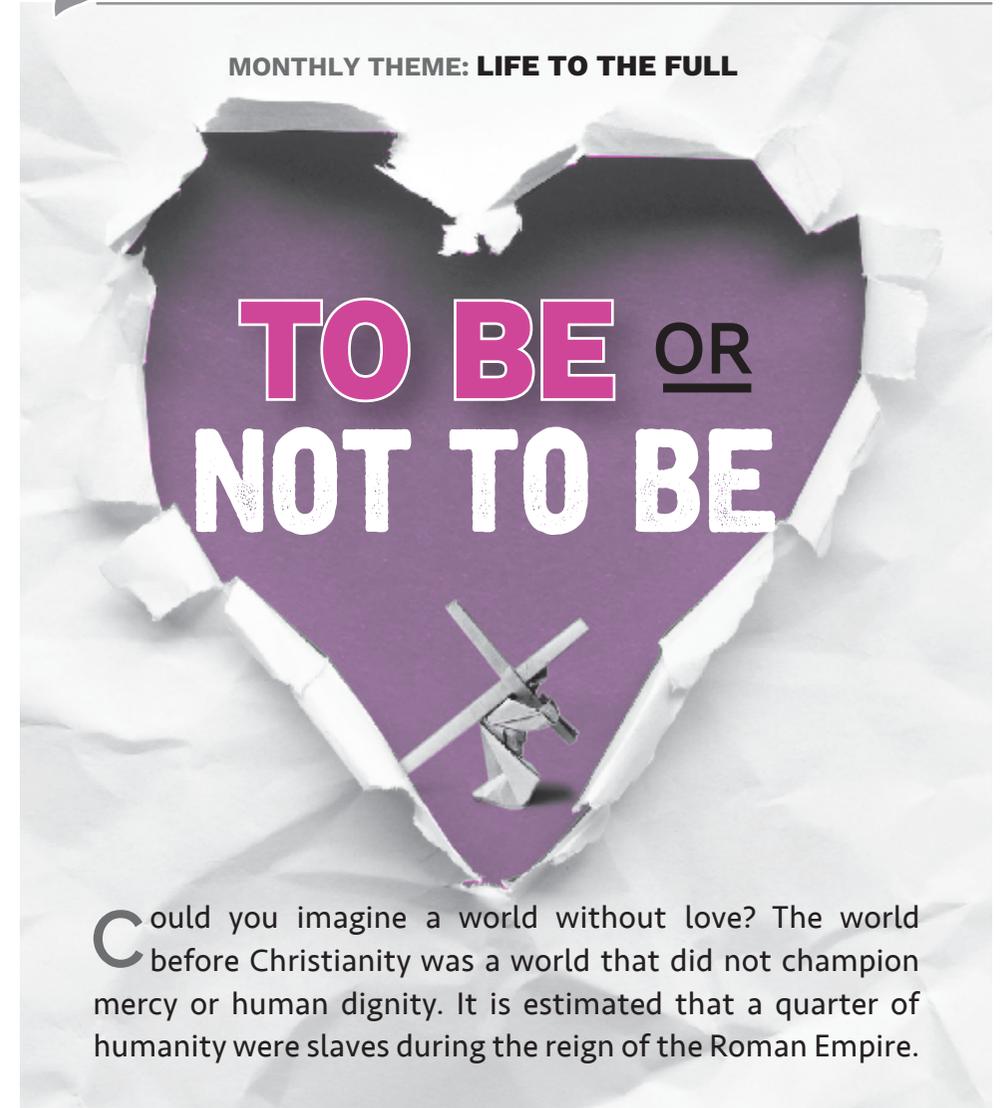


NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

6th Sunday of Easter

SENT WITH JOY TO HEAL

MONTHLY THEME: LIFE TO THE FULL



Could you imagine a world without love? The world before Christianity was a world that did not champion mercy or human dignity. It is estimated that a quarter of humanity were slaves during the reign of the Roman Empire.