

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

John 14: 15-21

“I will not leave you orphans.”

At this very time, there is for sure, someone that I know who wants or even needs to hear these words. They speak directly to what can be the greatest fears and challenges we are facing with the lockdown. There can be so much feeling of abandonment and isolation, loneliness, vulnerability. They remind us that we are not destined to walk these times alone.

For certain, a season of life like the one which has overwhelmed us can leave us feeling as orphans. Whether spoken or unspoken orphan questions begin to surface. Where am I? What am I doing here? Where do I go? What will happen next? Who will love and guide me? Who stands on my side? What is becoming of me? These are pertinent orphan questions.

It is not nice to be left in an orphanage. That fear of being orphaned rises from the fact that by ourselves we are not enough. This is not because we are deficient. It is rather because we were never intended or created to be self-sufficient. We are never intended to stand alone as individuals. We were created to love and be loved, to live in relationship as persons giving themselves to each other, to dwell, abide, and remain within each other even as the Father is in Jesus and Jesus is in the Father.

“I will not leave you orphans,” is a reminder for each one of us that even though we are apart at this time, we should never be absent from each other. Neither should we abandon yourselves or others to the orphanages of this world.

“I will not leave you orphans,” is also a promise. Regardless of our current circumstances we have never been orphaned and we will never be orphaned by God.