



Liturgy Cycle A

## **Fifth Sunday Of Easter** **Going Home**

### **Introduction**

Few of us know what it's like to be homeless. Without a home where we belong and are loved, life loses most, if not all, of its meaning. Jesus assures us that ultimately all of us have a home to go to, namely, the Father's house. He even says that he has gone ahead of us to prepare a place for us in that house. What a tremendous reason for hope.

### **First Reading (Acts 6:1-7)**

We see the growth of the first Christian community, and how they sorted out in a peaceful manner the problem that inevitably arose.

### **Second Reading (1 Peter 2:4-9)**

The Christian community is compared to a building, the foundation stone of which is Christ.

### **Gospel (John 14:1-12)**

This contains part of Jesus' discourse at the last supper. He consoles his friends who are saddened at the thought of his going. He tells them that he is going to prepare a place for them.

### **Prayer Of The Faithful**

Life is a journey, and death a homecoming to the Father's house. Let us pray that we may always see our lives in this light.

**R: Lead us home, Lord.**

Christians journey through life, not alone, but as God's pilgrim people: that they may always support and encourage one another along the way. We pray to you, O Lord.

**R: Lead us home, Lord.**

For all political leaders: that they may put their trust in God and not in mere human resources. We pray to you, O Lord.

**R: Lead us home, Lord.**



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**For all those who have lost faith in others, in life, and in God. We pray to you, O Lord.**

**R: Lead us home, Lord.**

**That amid the changing things of the world we may keep our hearts set on our everlasting home where true joy exists. We pray to you, O Lord.**

**R: Lead us home, Lord.**

#### **Communion Reflection**

**One night a man had a dream.**

**He dreamt that he was walking  
along a beach with the Lord.**

**Across the sky flashed the scenes of his life.**

**For each scene he noticed  
not one but two sets of footprints in the sand.**

**He understood immediately that one belonged to him,  
and the other to the Lord.**

**But then he noticed a curious thing.**

**At the lowest and saddest times in his life  
there was only one set of footprints.**

**This bothered him, so he asked the Lord:**

**'How come that during the most difficult times in my life,  
the very times when I most needed you,  
you left me on my own?'**

**Then the Lord replied:**

**'My friend, during your trials and sufferings,  
when you see only one set of footprints,  
those footprints are mine.**

**It was then that I carried you'.**