

Second Hand Preacher

5th Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2016

Revelation 21:1-5a

I am basically a slob. It is not that I necessarily like being a slob, but I get overwhelmed, things pile up, and presto things look overrun. I usually survive the clutter, but sometimes I fall victim to misplacing things. I think my Guardian Angel works overtime just to keep me in line. Every once in a while I need to clean. I organize and end up donating a few things and throwing out other things. I need to make all things new.

That is precisely what John writes about in Revelation. We are basically messy and we have a Savior that makes all things new. Christ has prepared a place for us. A new heaven and a new earth that our eternal. We will be separated from what we knew previously. We at times have attachments to things of this world. In this world things are perishable, things die. We have to adjust and there can be great sadness. But the reading tells us that every tear will be wiped away and there will be no more death. This book was written to give the people of John's community hope. They needed to believe that Christ was dwelling within them due to their baptism. John's community was a thriving community that passed on a faith that spread throughout the world.

We can't just sit around and wait to go to heaven. We need to continually be made new through prayer, the sacraments, and service. This wonderful world is not just for us. It is meant to be shared with the world. Our love for Jesus is not just a personal relationship. We do need to do some developing on our own, but we need to share that love with others. Our faith is individual and communal. The whole faith of the Church needed to be built up. Through this baptismal call, we become a community of believers that worship the one who makes all things new. Through Word and Sacrament, Jesus is revealed. I believe the actions of the Mass can build faith among all people. We need to encourage people to experience Jesus and the community within the Sunday Mass. We need to believe that this world is not an end in itself, but a pathway to eternal life. Through this faith we are made new.