

wrote “The place I went to was real. Real in a way that makes the life we’re living now completely dreamlike by comparison.” Unlike many other accounts of near- death experiences, he was able to explain why his brain was incapable of fabricating his journey into the afterlife.

-Bernard Kellet

Entrance antiphon: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29

Psalm 66: Response: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Second Reading: Apocalypse 21: 10-14, 22-23

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: ‘If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.’ Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14: 23-29

Memorial Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Communion Antiphon: If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

“Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.”--St. Francis de Sales



Duccio di Buoninsegna, circa

Sixth Sunday of Easter Cycle C, 2022

Weekly Reflection: A Better Place

God promises eternity to those who put their hope in Christ and the love He displayed on the cross **John 3:16**.

This makes clear to us that life goes on even after we die in our physical form. Jesus spoke to His disciples about a place being readied for them and all others who believed Him. He comforted them about their fate saying in **John 14:3-4**, “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you maybe also. And you know the way to where I am going.”

When we lose a loved one, we too take great comfort in these words. We may have been vaguely aware of Elisabeth Kubler-Ross’ five stages of grief (Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, Acceptance) but after the death of a loved one, the five stages take on a much more immediate significance and help to understand what we are experiencing. It is sometimes said that the stages happen in order, but they are non-linear, and you might not experience all the stages. Feelings can also be different with different bereavements. No one comes back to tell us what it’s like after death, but we trust in God that he has welcomed our loved one to be with Him in a “better place.”

A very interesting publication is “Proof of Heaven – A Neurosurgeon’s journey into the afterlife” by Dr. Eben Alexander. He always considered himself a man of science and had an unwavering belief in evidence-based medicine until one morning in 2008. He fell into a coma after suffering a rare form of bacterial meningitis. Scans of his brain revealed massive damage and he was not expected to survive. As his family prepared themselves for the worst, his brain went from near total inactivity to awakening. He woke a changed man, certain of the infinite reach of the soul, certain of life beyond death. He