



Reflection on the Scriptures of the Day
By Deacon Vince Pisano
of Holy Cross Parish

Monday of the Sixth Week of Easter

Did you ever think about the age-old question, “Why am I here?” No, not why do I exist; here, but rather why am I where I am? Sometimes I wonder how did I wind up here at Holy Cross Church in Dover, Delaware. I always believed that there is a plan and that God has it all worked out for me. Sometimes I just can’t figure out the plan. I would think that God would send me written directions or at least a set of instructions to follow. So I play the guessing game and ask, “OK, Lord, now what do you want me to do?”

One day I was asked to become a volunteer chaplain at the prison. Me? Really? I must say that with much trepidation I did become a volunteer chaplain and for the past 8 years have worked with the men in the prison. It’s almost enjoyable to sit down with these men and talk about Faith, Religion and God working in their lives and mine. This can only be attributed to the workings of the Holy Spirit.

In the first reading today, we find the Apostles at the river talking to women. One in particular woman, named Lydia, who just happens to be a wealthy and predominate person of the community. “A dealer in purple cloth,” is one who would sell her material to the wealthy. She listens intently to what the Apostles have to say and then her and her household are Baptized. Again, the working of the Holy Spirit.

Because of our Baptism, we have received the Holy Spirit and we are empowered to preach the Good News by our lives. We are sometimes in a position where we can help someone turn back to the Church who has fallen away. We are sometimes called upon to “pray for,” a friend, a relative or someone in need. We are asked to be a listening ear to someone, or a shoulder for someone who needs to cry. Or even asked to reach out and hold someone’s hand. We don’t think about it at the moment, but it’s the Holy Spirit who prompts and moves us to do such things.

Ask yourself next time when someone asks for help, or you find yourself doing something good just because you happen to be in the right place at the right time, “why am I here?” Could it be because the Spirit prompted you? Don’t stifle the Holy Spirit.