



*Reflection on the Scriptures of the Day*  
*by Deacon Bob McAllen*  
*of Holy Cross Parish*

*Wednesday of the Sixth Week of Easter*

Both readings today meet in the recognition that human beings can absorb only so much at any one time. Paul, speaking to the Athenians, starts where they are with reference to their altar of an unknown God. He goes on to speak of other beliefs of theirs, which he also shares; thus they are with him. When he gets to the resurrection of Jesus, they begin to wander and say they need to hear him on this at another time. This was too much for them.

The gospel tells us that Jesus ran into the same situation with his disciples. "I have much more to tell you but you can not bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth. He will guide you to all truth." If we reflect on our life with Christ we must realize that there are certain truths that we have only come to appreciate with experience, often with hard and painful experience. There are other truths that we have heard repeatedly in homilies and scripture readings that we still don't understand, which will await the right moment to mean anything to us. There is for most of us a time, determined by circumstances and the maturity of our heart, when the mysteries of human life and of God become clearer to us. We probably find ourselves in that circumstance now. All of that is to be expected and simply tells us to be earnest in listening and open through prayer and reflection on our life to what God has yet to teach us. "When the spirit comes he will guide us to all we need to know."

Our current situation allows us the time to reflect and to quietly listen. Sometimes when we attend daily Mass we go through it rotely. Take advantage of this time to change your prayer life and to reflectively listen.