

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YRC

May 9, 2010

QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA
Rev. Jeff McGowan

1ST READING: ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 15: 1-2, 22-29

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved." ...it was decided that Paul, Barnabus, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem and ask the apostles and elders about this question....'It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us, not to place on you any burden beyond that which is strictly necessary..."

PSALM 67

O God, let all the nations praise you!

2ND READING: REVELATION: 21: 10-14, 22-23

The angel took me in spirit...and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down from heaven from God. Its radiance is like that of a precious stone, like jasper, clear as crystal.

GOSPEL: JOHN 14: 23-29

The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of everything I told you.

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Today's first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. A crisis had caused the leaders of the Church to meet and resolve the first great controversy in the Church which was becoming Catholic that is universal. The decision they made may have been the most liberal decision Church leaders ever made.

James the Apostle was the spokesperson for the traditionalists who insisted that the ancient Mosaic Law had to be followed by all Christians. Paul and Barnabus spoke for the gentile converts. The question was circumcision. If you want to read St. Paul's version of this, read his letter to the Galatians.

In this first controversy, our Church leaders chose what would be easiest for the people rather than the tradition. Since most of us are descended from gentiles, we can be grateful because if not for this we might not be here today.

Of course none of us would be here today if it were not for the decision our mother's made. Thanks, moms, happy mother's day!