



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH

# FED BY THE WORD

*A joyful, inclusive community, on fire with the  
love of God*

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, 2020**

"I came that my sheep might have life and have it more  
abundantly." – John 10.10

# THE GOSPEL

## John 17: 1: 11

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him. And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

I have glorified you on earth and finished the work that you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was.

I have made your name known to the men you took from the world to give me. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now at last they know that all you have given me comes indeed from you; for I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and have believed that it was you who sent me.

I pray for them; I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you:

all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified. I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.'

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# Starting Out

**What did the reading spark in you?**

**Imagine being one of the disciples Jesus is praying over. How might you have felt? How might you have reacted?**

**What do you think God would want you to know from this Gospel?**

**What would he want you to do?**

Context:

Jesus realizes that His time with His followers is drawing to a close. The next day, He will be crucified and die. Anticipating what will happen, He addresses His Abba with this prayer for His disciples, and for all those who will come into a closer relationship with Him and His Father, and the Holy Spirit, through the ministry of these disciples.

# Ready to go deeper

1. What jumped out most to you as you read the Gospel?
2. Jesus gives us an example of deep, fervent, confident prayer. What is he teaching us about our prayer relationship with Abba Father?
3. How might this prayer empower us to fulfill the ministry or service to which we are called in our community? Or to seek a way to serve?
4. Is God asking you to take some action through this gospel?

## **Context:**

Jesus will die the next day, Good Friday. This is his final prayer over his disciples.