



Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace

Cathedral of the Honolulu Diocese • Founded 1843 • National Historic Register

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025

Beloved Pilgrims of Hope,

Greetings of peace, love, joy and hope!

“Christ in Us: Love and Hope for a Broken World”

Our Gospel this Sunday draws us once more to the intimate moments of the Last Supper, where Jesus, in His final discourse, imparted a profound truth. Last week, we reflected on His new commandment—to love one another as He has loved us. This week, He continues, teaching that love is not merely an expression of affection but a call to faithfulness, truthfulness, and steadfastly keeping His word. Through such love, we do not stand alone; rather, we are drawn into a deep relationship, not only with Jesus but with the Father Himself.

How profound and personal these words must have been for Jesus as He spoke to His disciples. And how relevant they remain for us today. Love is not merely a sentiment; it is a movement of the soul, a commitment that demands presence, integrity, and devotion. To love as Jesus loved is to invite God to dwell within us, shaping and transforming our hearts. What greater gift could we receive? What greater purpose could we embrace?

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, the message of divine love resonates with even greater urgency. Our world hungers for hope—a hope rooted in the enduring promise of God’s presence. In the face of uncertainty, distress, and life’s burdens, love remains the force that renews, uplifts, and restores. And as Christ assures us, we are not alone in this mission. Jesus promises the Advocate—the Holy Spirit, who inspires, strengthens, and guides us in our call to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves more fully.

With the Spirit’s help, we can discern how to cherish the sacred gift of life, care for the earth, and recognize the dignity of genuine human love. We can allow hope to take root, transforming our broken world, healing wounds, and restoring justice where sin has left its mark. Love and hope are inseparable, and through them, we bring forth the Kingdom of God.

As we approach the end of the Easter season, let our hearts be opened anew. May our celebrations deepen our faith, helping us recognize that Christ is truly in us, loving us, guiding us, and calling us to reflect that same love into the world. Let us respond wholeheartedly, allowing His light to shine within us so that, through love and hope, we become instruments of His grace.

Your fellow pilgrim of hope,

Fr. Pascual