

1 Peter 3: 15 – 18

In this passage we find an emphasis on communicating the Christian faith with gentleness. But there is much more here than a simple guide to Christian evangelism, because what we have is a description of Christian discipleship.

Revering Jesus in our hearts is about recognising that He is at the centre of our lives, for He is the object of our love and absolute devotion. Hence prayer and worship are essential.

We are also to be people of mission, sharing our faith in Jesus with others. The Christian way of life is to be defended but this should be done with courtesy for those we are talking to.

The emphasis on a clear conscience reminds us of the need to recognise our shortcomings, confess them and ask for grace to overcome them.

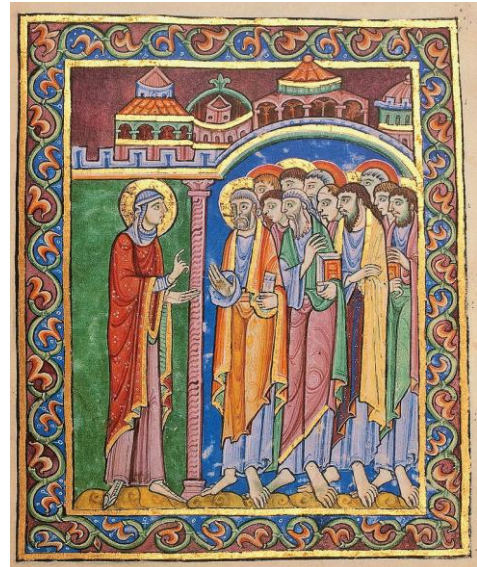
Our good lives that will be the best way to counter false accusations. Christian living carried out with compassionate, prayerful integrity is what is called for. If Christians suffer for doing good, they should remember that Jesus, though innocent, suffered and died so as to lead us to God. The servant is no different from his master.

Rogationtide

Rogation Days are set aside in the early Summer for prayers for a good harvest. The Major Rogation was on 25th April (Feast Day of St Mark), while Minor Rogations took place on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Ascension Day. In England only the Minor Rogations have survived.

In these days of heightened climate awareness, perhaps Rogationtide should be restored to prominence.

Sunday 10th May 2026 Sixth Sunday of Easter Gospel: John 14: 15 – 21



Throughout Eastertide, the readings are filled with the message of the Good News about the resurrection of Christ, accompanied by wonderful signs of healing and joyful conversion. In our Gospel today, we hear how Jesus promises the Holy Spirit of truth to be with us for ever, to teach us how to live out the love of God. Jesus speaks to our fears and calls us to the apostolic task of living out the Gospel. Yet we are never alone, abandoned or forgotten. The Holy Spirit forms us into a eucharistic community and gives what we need to bear witness to the world.

From St Augustine of Hippo

‘The truth is there is one mediator whom you in your hidden mercy have revealed to the meek and lowly and have sent as an example of humility to be followed. That is the mediator between God and man, the Man Christ Jesus...’