



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

Fr. Danny Murphy – Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 14, 2017

Murphy's Law is in full effect once again today. You know Murphy's Law – "Whatever could go wrong, will go wrong." Today we have one of my all-time favorite Gospels, it's certainly within my top three and today is Mother's Day! We'll try to do justice to both, but we might end up doing justice to neither! And if that's the case, blame it on Murphy's Law! The reason why this morning's Gospel is one of my all-time favorites is because I think it tells us that we're going to heaven. I think that's what it says. Because it is one of my all-time favorite Gospels, I have memorized the first part of it – the part where I think Jesus is telling us that we're going to heaven. Now, I've memorized from the previous translation, but I think today's translation says basically the same thing. These next three sentences completely changed my life. Let's see what effect it might have on your life. Jesus says to

us: "In my Father's house there are many mansions, otherwise why would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place there for you? I am indeed going there to prepare a place there for you and then, I will come back and take you with me so where I am you also may be." His Father's house is heaven. Jesus tells us that he is going to heaven to prepare a place there in heaven for us and then, on the day and the hour of our death, he says: "I will come back and take you with me, so that where I am, there you also may be." He's in heaven and that's where we also will be. It seems to me, that Jesus is clearly saying: "I'll see you in heaven!" We're going to heaven, certainly not because we're so good, but because GOD'S so good! Today's Gospel: John 14, first part of it is telling us – we're going to heaven! No wonder, it's one of my favorite Gospels! Now, Mother's Day – one of the wonderful aspects of Mother's Day is that it is all inclusive – we ALL have a mother. We're not all mothers, but we all have or had a mother. So this day affords all of us the opportunity to honor and pray for our mother – whether she's still living or whether she's deceased. It's been said that the highest form of flattery is imitation. If we could take a moment please so that each of us could think of one quality of our mom that we would do well to imitate. Let's take a moment now to do so. (PAUSE) Every year, on Mother's Day I sing an old song to my mother to honor her. My mom knows that I can't sing but she also knows that I sing from the heart and isn't that what Mother's Day is all about? Allow me to suggest strongly that when I'm singing this song to my mother, you think about your mother whether she's still living or whether she's with my mom in heaven. "M is for the

million things she gave me, O only means she's growing old, T are for the tears she shed to bear me, H is for her heart as pure as gold, E are for her eyes with love-light shining, R, means right and right she'll always be. Put them all together any you have MOTHER, the word that means the world to me." Thank you mom! Dear God, thank you for our mothers: if she is still living, please give her all the grace and guidance she needs, if she's deceased please bring her home to heaven to be with you, amen!