# CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

## SAN FRANCISCO DE ASÍS

Committed to living and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition, we are blessed to have as our patron saint someone who continues to call us to reach out to others in charity and compassion.


**Church of**
**St Francis of Assisi**
1114 Third Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904
507.288.7313
http://stfrancis-church.org


**Parish Center Hours:**
Mon-Thurs: 8:00AM - 3:30PM
Friday: 9:00AM - 3:30PM

**Weekday Mass:**
Monday - Friday 7AM

**School Mass:**
Tuesday 9:15AM

**Weekend Mass:**
Saturday 4:30PM
Sunday 8AM, 10AM

**In Spanish:**
Thursday 7PM
Sunday 12PM

**Misa En Español:**
Jueves 7PM
Domingo 12PM

**Pastor**
Rev. Jim Berning

**Parochial Vicar**
Rev. Luis Vargas

He said to them,
"These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you,
that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in
the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled.
You are witnesses of these things."
- Luke 24:44, 48

## FROM THE DESK OF FATHER BERNING

**EASTERTIDE.** This Third Sunday of Easter, Peter proclaims the wonders of the Lord: the suffering Messiah is raised from the dead and has been glorified. This Jesus is our intercessor, and our offering for sin, our PEACE…

Next Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is Good Shepherd Sunday as well as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray for vocations to Marriage, Single-life, Consecrated Life, Priesthood and the Diaconate. May the Good Shepherd call many into the vineyard to fulfill the call and mission that God has entrusted them with in life for the good and service of God's holy people.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Our Confirmation Candidates were confirmed on Saturday, April 17 by Bishop John Quinn at St. Pius X Church. Blessings to Abby Borth, Arly Contreras, Daniela Cruz Torres, Bryanna Flores, Ennrick Guerrero, Kayley Hernandez-Ruiz, Roselyn Kassiano, Abril Maldonado, Grace Marschall, Michael Nguyen, Ellen O'Hara, Kathleen O'Hara, Ryan Patek, Jackie Reyna, Victoria Scaccio, Griffin Thompson, Andy Vasquez Garcia, Selina Vasquez Garcia and Alex Woodward. May they experience with courage and joy the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit into their lives and - with us - continue to participate in the Catholic Faith! We thank their catechists, sponsors, parents and guardians who have assisted with their formation and process for the last 2 years. Congratulations to all of them! Come Holy Spirit!

**FIRST COMMUNION.** Our First Communion children will receive First Holy Communion on May 8 and 9. We look forward with joy for them to join us in partaking in the Holy Eucharist for the first time in their lives. Let the children come!

**CMA 2021.** We are so grateful to the 109 parishioners that have already contributed $46,156 towards our 2021 goal of $50,145 (92%). If you have yet to make a contribution, please prayerfully consider doing so. It is not how much you contribute - participation is the key to reaching our goal. As always, 100% of the monies reached over our goal will be returned to the parish for designated projects: 1) refinishing pews and woodwork, 2) upgrading our sound system/Wi-Fi capabilities in our church. Let us reach our goal quickly - and exceed it - to help fund our own projects!

Blessed Easter Season! Alleluia! Alleluia!

FR JIM BERNING

Holy Spirit, strengthen our Confirmandi with your gifts of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord, as a disciple of Christ. Fill them with the joy of your presence. Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit. Help them to experience and trust your dwelling within, so that they may count on your guidance today and every day. Show us the way to help one another become better disciples of Jesus Christ, sharing your love with our world and with each person we encounter. Amen.

## Welcome

Welcome to the Church of St. Francis of Assisi. Our church has helped to bring Jesus Christ to the city of Rochester since 1937. We seek to foster the spiritual growth of our parishioners through the celebration of the Sacraments, catechesis, community life, and personal prayer. Like our patron saint, we strive to rebuild the Church and to console the heart of Jesus by serving our neighbors in need.

## Parish Contacts

**Parish Center Office**
(507) 288-7313
**Pastor** (x 202)
Rev. Jim Berning
**Parochial Vicar** (x 203)
Rev. Luis Vargas
**Parish Administrator** (x 204)
Sarah Kinsman
**Office Manager** (x 201)
Michelle Ibarra
**Financial Secretary** (x 205)
Debbie Worden
**Director of Music/Liturgy** (x 301)
Zack Stachowski
**Faith Formation** (x 207)
Mark Nuehring
**St. Francis of Assisi School**
(507) 288-4816
**Principal**
Barb Plenge
**Trustees**
Bruce Anderson
Rosemary Bengal
**Knights of Columbus**
Dale Frank
**Calvary Cemetery**
Steve Flynn, Director
(507) 273-0140
**Catholic Charities**
(507) 287-2047

## A NOTE FROM FR LUIS

**TIEMPO DE PASCUA**

El tiempo pascual comprende cincuenta días vividos y celebrados como un solo día: "los cincuenta días que median entre el domingo de la Resurrección hasta el domingo de Pentecostés se han de celebrar con alegría y júbilo, como si se tratara de un solo y único día festivo, como un gran domingo".

El tiempo pascual es el más fuerte de todo el año, que se inaugura en la Vigilia Pascual y se celebra durante siete semanas hasta Pentecostés. Es la Pascua (paso) de Cristo, del Señor, que ha pasado el año, que se inaugura en la Vigilia Pascual y se celebra durante siete semanas, hasta Pentecostés. Es la Pascua (paso) de Cristo, del Señor, que ha pasado de la muerte a la vida, a su existencia definitiva y gloriosa. Es la pascua también de la Iglesia, su Cuerpo, que es introducida en la Vida Nueva de su Señor por medio del Espíritu que Cristo le dio el día del primer Pentecostés.

La unidad de la Cincuentena queda también subrayada por la presencia del Cirio Pascual encendido en todas las celebraciones, hasta el domingo de Pentecostés. Los varios domingos no se llaman, como antes, por ejemplo, "domingo III después de Pascua", sino "domingo III de Pascua". Las celebraciones litúrgicas de esa Cincuentena expresan y nos ayudan a vivir el misterio pascual comunicado a los discípulos del Señor Jesús.

Las lecturas de la Palabra de Dios de los ocho domingos de este Tiempo en la Santa Misa están organizados con esa inrención. La primera lectura es siempre de los Hechos de los Apóstoles, la historia de la primitiva Iglesia, que en medio de sus debilidades, vivió y difundió la Pascua del Señor Jesús. La segunda lectura cambia según los tres ciclos: la primera carta de San Pedro, la primera carta de San Juan y el libro del Apocalipsis.

## This Week's Intentions and Readings

# Mass Intentions

For the Week of April 19, 2021

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| MON Apr 19 | 7:00 AM | Tom O'Connor † |
| TUE Apr 20 | * 9:15 AM | Shirley Leiferman † |
| WED Apr 21 | 7:00 AM | Isidro Duarte (Birthday) |
| THU Apr 22 | 7:00 AM | Helen & Louis Sell † |
| | ** 7:00 PM | |
| FRI Apr 23 | 7:00 AM | Brian Neisen † |
| SAT Apr 24 | 4:30 PM | Ben Montes † |
| SUN Apr 25 | 8:00 AM | Virginia Smith † |
| | 10:00 AM | For the Parish |
| | ** 12:00 PM | |

* *School Mass* ** *Spanish Mass*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

If you have a desire to remember someone who has passed away or simply in need of some extra prayers, Mass Intentions are available every day for our weekday Masses and on the weekends. You are welcome to stop by the Parish Office and schedule a Mass intention during normal office hours.

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**Readings for the week of April 18, 2021**

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48
Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40
Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51
Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59
Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69
Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

**Las lecturas de la semana del 18 de abril de 2021**

Domingo: Hch 3, 13-15. 17-19/Sal 4, 2. 4. 7-8. 9 [7]/1 Jn 2, 1-5/Lc 24, 35-48
Lunes: Hch 6, 8-15/Sal 118, 23-24. 26-27. 29-30 [1]/Jn 6, 22-29
Martes: Hch 7, 51—8, 1/Sal 30, 3-4. 6 y 7 y 8. 17 y 21 [6]/Jn 6, 30-35
Miércoles: Hch 8, 1-8/Sal 65, 1-3. 4-5. 6-7 [1]/Jn 6, 35-40
Jueves: Hch 8, 26-40/Sal 65, 8-9. 16-17. 20 [1]/Jn 6, 44-51
Viernes: Hch 9, 1-20/Sal 116, 1. 2 [Mc 16, 15]/Jn 6, 52-59
Sábado: Hch 9, 31-42/Sal 115, 12-13. 14-15. 16-17 [12]/Jn 6, 60-69
Domingo siguiente: Hch 4, 8-12/Sal 117, 1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28. 29 [22]/1 Jn 3, 1-2/Jn 10, 11-18

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## Faith Formation

On Saturday morning, 18 of our high school students received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Quinn at Saint Pius Church. If you know any of the students listed in the bulletin, please send them a text, a note, or simply congratulate them in person. They have been preparing for this special Sacrament for the past two years and are now fully initiated into the Catholic Church. I want to thank Melissa Scaccio for teaching these students about our faith in a fun and engaging way. She was a true role-model of faith for these students.

One young man recently told me that it was because of his participation in the Confirmation process that he now wants to participate in our summer Mission Trip. Currently, we have 13 youth signed up for the Mission Trip. At our last Confirmation class, four more students expressed a strong interest in participating in this life changing event. Yes, mission trips can be life changing because young people see real poverty and need and recognize that they can make a difference. All of our Confirmation students completed 10 hours of service in preparation for Confirmation. One young lady said, "I think we were asked to do service because it is an act of kindness. Good Catholics do good things for other people." Our Church needs the example of high school students living out their faith. Amen.

**High School Mission Trip: June 20 - 26.** This trip is available for any 9-12 grade student who has a passion for service to others. Please visit our website for more information. Cost: $500

**Totus Tuus: July 19 - 23.** This program is kind of like Vacation Bible School, but with more content. College age students lead the program and it goes from approximately 9–3PM everyday. Registration forms will be available in early April. Cost: $10/per person or $25/family. There is also an evening component for High School students every night.

**Steubenville North: July 23 - 26.** This is a conference for High school students to help them understand and appreciate their faith. Typically over 2,000 high school students from all over the upper Midwest attend. Registration forms available in early April.

**Camp Summit: August 3.** Due to COVID, Camp Summit, a summer camp experience for middle school students, will only be on Tuesday, August 3. We will leave St. Francis early in the morning and return after dinner. Cost: $75/day. For Middle school youth.

The parish does not want cost to prevent anyone from participating in any of these wonderful experiences. Please contact me if we can help!

**- Mark** (youthminister@stfrancis-church.org)

## Music and Liturgy

**MusicNotes**

**THANK YOU.** I want to thank all the liturgical ministers for their extraordinary work during Holy Week and Easter. Everyone - sacristans, readers, ministers of hospitality, Eucharistic ministers, decorators, musicians, maintenance, - went beyond the call to prepare these most sacred liturgies under unusual circumstances. I also thank everyone who came to worship with us. As a liturgist, it was some of the most "normal" feeling liturgies I've experienced in over a year. I look forward to many more liturgies like this. Know of my prayers for a blessed Easter season!

**DIGITAL WORSHIP AIDS.** I am seeing more and more people use the digital worship aids we are providing on their mobile devices. I want to encourage you to try it if you haven't yet. These worship aids provide access to the readings and music for the 4:30pm, 8am, and 10am Masses. These are a great substitute for following along with the Mass until we are able to bring our hymnals back. The placards with the QR code can be found in the Gathering Space. In most cases, you can simply open the camera app on your phone, point it at the QR code, and a link will be provided. Older phones may require a few more steps. Feel free to find me before Mass if you need assistance.

**UPCOMING MINISTRY SCHEDULE 4/24-4/25**

| Mass | Reader | Eucharistic Ministers | Minister of Hospitality |
|---|---|---|---|
| Saturday 4:30PM | Maureen Jones Sans | Beth Lamsam | David Klinkhammer<br>Natalie Norris |
| Sunday 8AM | Mary Sagstetter | Joe Wick | Alan Helmer<br>Jean Helmer |
| Sunday 10AM | Rick Fishbune | Lucy Becker<br>Dave Oelh | Lisa Patek<br>Steve Patek |

**- Zack** (litfranc@stfrancis-church.org)

## School News

- NWEA Testing is continuing this week. Please refer to communication from your child's teacher about testing days and times.
- There will be a virtual Parent Information meeting regarding the Eagle Bluff trip in 2021-2022 on Monday, April 19th. Parents of 6th and 7th graders will be sent the link to the information.
- The weekly school Mass will be celebrated by grades 6 and 8 on Tuesday, April 20th at 9:15 am.
- The 8th Grade Graduation picture will be taken on April 22nd. Eighth Graders may dress up for this picture.

## Rochester Catholic Schools

THE NEST
EARLY LEARNING ACADEMY

**ENROLL TODAY FOR PRE-SCHOOL & EXTENDED CARE PROGRAMS AT RCS!**

**THE NEST: EARLY LEARNING ACADEMY.** Rochester Catholic Schools offers children ages 3-5 opportunities to experience faith and prayer, music and creative art, children's literature and language development, science discovery and exploration, individual and small group activities, and indoor and out-door playtime. Extended Care is also available for preschool-age students and is designed with a flexible schedule to meet the needs of our students and their families.

**RCS PRESCHOOL SUMMER CARE.** At Rochester Catholic Schools Summer Care, children ages 3-5, will enjoy fun-filled days of faith, activities, and structured enrichment. Space is still available. For more information or to secure your spot, visit: rcsmn.org/summercare

To learn more or register for the 2021-2022 school year, visit rcsmn.org/thenest. For questions or to schedule a tour, call 507-424-1817 or admissions@rcsmn.org

Hola! Bienvenue
# Welcome!

✠ *Nicholas & Jaclyn Meeker*
✠ *Nick Augeson*
✠ *Steven & Kimberly Beery*
✠ *Dante Moroni*
✠ *Lawrence & Mary Dittman*
✠ *Paola Ferron de la Vega & Kyle Brink*

*to the Church of St. Francis of Assisi!*

✠

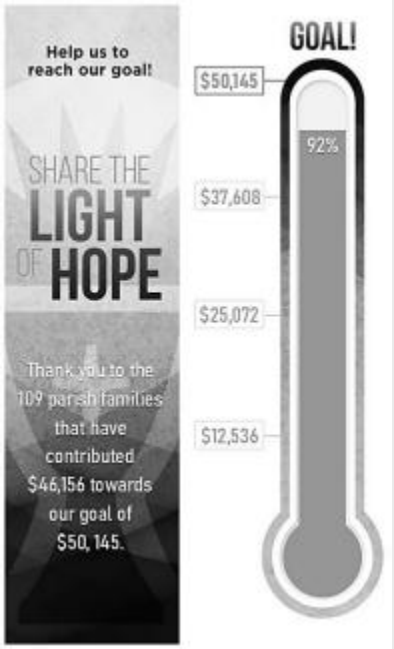
*We are grateful to our faithful parishioners & welcome our neighbors & guests who are visiting us. We want you to know that you are always welcome here!*

## Parish Notes

**BECKLEY'S "SHRED" EVENT TO SUPPORT LOCAL NON-PROFITS.** Beckley's Office Products is holding a special "SHREDDING" Event on WEDNESDAY, May 26 and THURSDAY, May 27 from 9AM to 4PM. Bring your boxes of documents and Beckley's will shred them for $10/box - and $5 per box will be donated to our parish. There is a limit of 10 boxes per vehicle. Cash and check only! Beckley's Office Products is located at 125 Woodlake Drive SE, Rochester, MN. Call 507-282-8659 with questions.

**2021 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 25.** The World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed next Sunday, April 25 - also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The Holy Father has asked all Catholics to intercede for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests and deacons in prayer throughout the week.
- Encourage your children or grandchildren to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.




**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL PRAYER.**

Heavenly Father, may we grow closer to Christ through our support of the 2021 Catholic Ministries Appeal. We thank you, Lord, for your many blessings you have bestowed upon us. We cherish the gifts of time, talent and treasure that each member of our universal Church family makes to build up Christ's Church in love. We ask you, Lord, to send us forth in this spirit of love to serve our communities and our world with open hearts. Amen.

## The Greater Catholic Community

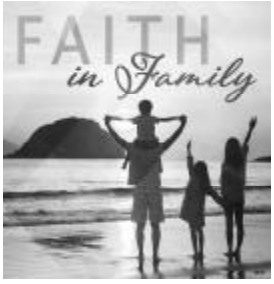
**CATHOLIC CHARITIES ZOOM STUDIES.** Catholic Charities of Southern MN is offering 3 new ZOOM studies beginning later in April! Choose from: The Dignity of Work (led by Isaac Landsteiner – beginning April 20) The Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching (led by Chad Cagle and beginning on April 22) Fratelli Tutti (led by Lisa Kremer – beginning April 27). To register or for more information, please contact Lisa at 507-360-3423 or lkremer@ccsomn.org. More information can be found on our website: (ccsomn.org).

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION.** Christ the King parish in Byron, is looking to fill the position of Administrative Assistant to the parishes of Christ the King, Byron and Holy Family, Kasson. This position is part time. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact Jennifer in the parish office at (507) 775-6455 or via email at jenniferckhf@gmail.com. A full job description is available upon request. Thank you.

**ROSARIES.** St. James Coffee is selling Rosaries! Our rosaries are works of art. Handmade here in Rochester, they're a timeless gift for any friend or family member. Their simple beauty will inspire a deeper prayer life for yourself. Visit St. James Coffee to view and purchase them. Prices range from $12 to $40. Heirloom quality beads available in stone, metal, glass, and Swarovski Crystal. There are also two First Communion rosaries available: a pink pearl bead with glass roses joined with a silver chalice/ a stone tiger eye bead with bronze metal and crucifix (arriving soon) Consider our rosaries for Confirmation students, RCIA, and newlyweds too. Special orders are available upon request. Any crucifix or medal on the rosaries are able to be changed out for another.

**SACRED RELICS OF THE SAINTS.** On Saturday, May 15, the Church of St. Dominic in Northfield will have an Exposition of many sacred relics that have traveled all the way from the Vatican. The evening begins with Mass at 5PM. The event is free and open to all. For more information on the Exposition, please visit www.churchofstdominic.org or call the parish office at 507-645-8816.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS.** 2020 has been an incredibly difficult year on all of us and marriages have suffered! Please let us help you to find enrichment, joy, and hope in your relationship! Register for the May 1-2 or August 21-22 Marriage Encounter. Weekends are held at Mt Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington. Visit www.marriages.org for additional information or call 651-454-3238. If you have any questions, please call Mary Jackson at 651-454-3238.




**FAITH IN FAMILY.**

Family life is strengthened through storytelling and shared meal times. In a similar way, Christian life is sustained by God's word in Scripture and by Christ's presence in the Eucharist. We are especially sustained in our faith through our weekly celebration of Mass. Today's Gospel reading reminds us that the Scripture and the Eucharist are given to us so that our acts of bearing witness to Christ might be strengthened.

As you gather as a family, ask each person to share their favorite story about your family. Talk about the importance of these memories about your family life and the importance of the meals you have shared together as a family. Recall that these stories and meals strengthen the love you share. In a similar way, our Christian life is strengthened by sharing God's Word and the Eucharist at Mass. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 24:35-48.

Discuss the mission that Jesus gave to his disciples after their shared meal. The Eucharist also sends us to be Christ's witnesses in the world today. Conclude by praying together that we will be strengthened by God's word and by Jesus' presence in the Eucharist to be witnesses to Christ. Pray together TANTUM ERGO or today's psalm, Psalm 4.

TANTUM ERGO

With heads bowed
let us now worship a sacrament so great;
And let the old teaching give way to the new;
Let faith reinforce our belief where the senses cannot.

To the Father and the Son
let there be praise and jubilation,
Salvation, honor, virtue, and also blessing;
To the Holy Spirit let there be equal praise.

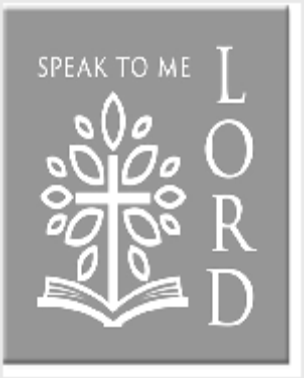
- Saint Thomas Aquinas

| Report on Stewardship Giving | | |
|---|---|---|
| Fiscal Year July 2020 - June 2021 | | |
| | **Mar 2021** | **Year to Date** |
| Envelopes/Check/Cash | 19,177.60 | 240,567.18 |
| Electronic Giving | 22,032.07 | 189,022.48 |
| Children | 10.00 | 57.55 |
| Offertory | 2,216.78 | 21,349.67 |
| **Totals** | **43,436.45** | **450,996.88** |
| Budget | 50,583.33 | 455,249.97 |
| **Over/(Under) Budget** | **(7,146.88)** | **(4,253.09)** |

*CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS*
*to our Confirmandi who were confirmed on Saturday, April 17th by Bishop John Quinn at St. Pius X Church.*

✠ Abby Borth
✠ Arly Contreras
✠ Daniela Cruz Torres
✠ Bryanna Flores
✠ Ennrick Guerrero
✠ Kayley Hernandez-Ruiz
✠ Roselyn Kassiano
✠ Abril Maldonado
✠ Grace Marschall
✠ Michael Nguyen
✠ Ellen O'Hara
✠ Kathleen O'Hara
✠ Ryan Patek
✠ Jackie Reyna
✠ Victoria Scaccio
✠ Griffin Thompson
✠ Andy Vasquez Garcia
✠ Selina Vasquez Garcia
✠ Alex Woodward

*Come Holy Spirit.*
*Fill the hearts of your faithful.*
*Kindle in them the fire of your love.*
*Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created,*
*And you shall renew the face of the Earth!*




**UNDERSTANDING THE SCRIPTURES: SCOTT HAHN REFLECTS ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Jesus in today's Gospel teaches His apostles how to interpret the Scriptures.

He tells them that all the Scriptures of what we now call the Old Testament refer to Him. He says that all the promises found in the Old Testament have been fulfilled in His Passion, death, and Resurrection. And He tells them that these Scriptures foretell the mission of the Church—to preach forgiveness of sins to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

In today's First Reading and Epistle, we see the beginnings of that mission. And we see the apostles interpreting the Scriptures as Jesus taught them to.

God has brought to fulfillment what He announced beforehand in all the prophets, Peter preaches. His sermon is shot through with Old Testament images. He evokes Moses and the Exodus, in which God revealed himself as the ancestral God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (see Exodus 3:6, 15). He identifies Jesus as Isaiah's suffering servant who has been glorified (see Isaiah 52:13).

John, too, describes Jesus in Old Testament terms. Alluding to how Israel's priests offered blood sacrifices to atone for the people's sins (see Leviticus 16; Hebrews 9–10), he says that Jesus intercedes for us before God (see Romans 8:34), and that His blood is a sacrificial expiation for the sins of the world (see 1 John 1:7).

Notice that in all three readings, the Scriptures are interpreted to serve and advance the Church's mission—to reveal the truth about Jesus, to bring people to repentance, the wiping away of sins, and the perfection of their love for God.

This is how we, too, should hear the Scriptures. Not to know more "about" Jesus, but to truly know Him personally, and to know His plan for our lives.

In the Scriptures, the light of His face shines upon us, as we sing in today's Psalm. We know the wonders He has done throughout history. And we have the confidence to call to Him, and to know that He hears and answers.

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