



OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

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SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." - Jn 10:27-28a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Served by the Mercedarian Friars USA

Pastor: Fr. Matthew H. Phelan, O. de M.

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Daniel A. Bowen, O. de M.

Other members of the Local Mercedarian Community:

Br. Martin J. Jarocinski, O. de M. & Br. Dominic Matthew F. Whetzel, O. de M.

“Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start.” (Pope Francis) We have a difficult time figuring out what is true and best for us. There are many voices talking and so many trying to get our attention. We wrongly convince ourselves that the true voice is the voice of progress, the one that speaks of contemporary wants and desires, enticing us with the latest trends and causes. We are taught, by listening to the voices around us, that truth is found in feelings and thought, and ideals must match current and popular human wants. Because we feel a particular way it must be true. Then, we find a shepherd who empathizes with us and affirms us. We follow that voice even though listening to that voice will render us powerless and lead us to harm. There are many with me in this procession to this pasture. I must be on the right path



and listening to the right voice. We are very confused. What can keep us safe and from harm? Where do we go to find life, love, and happiness? Jesus tells us that he is the way, the truth, and the life. The only way to get to Truth, who is God, is through him. There is no other way. The Church, the gate around God’s pasture of life, is charged with the mission of directing us where God desires that we go. In the midst of all of the conflicting voices around us, the voice of truth is often muffled in all of the noise, but it beckons us to a life of virtue and grace. Helping us understand who we are and where we have to be, it discerns the voice of God, providing us with the safety net we need to stay straight on our path to life eternal. We have to trust the voice of God, the true Shepherd, even when it does not mirror what we want and what others may believe. Faith goes way beyond feeling and involves a radical trust in Someone who can lead us and form us. At day’s end, if we do not know to find our way home, we will be truly lost.

Do we hear and follow? Before we can welcome Jesus as the Good Shepherd, we have to hear his voice. God’s voice breaks into the dialogue of our lives in myriad ways, but we have to be attentive and receptive in order to hear it. It comes through the beauty of creation, the warmth and energy of love, the gift of compassion both received and given, the sacred miracle of life, and the orderly and purposeful design of things and in the truth found in God’s commandments. Once we see the wisdom behind the commandments and teachings God places before us and are attentive to listening for His direction, we can begin to take the necessary steps and follow Him. We are easily misled and there are many convincing “shepherds.” Only one is Good. It is only the Good Shepherd who can lead us away from the evils that can hurt us and bring us to the good. We may not always like where God asks us to go, and it may not be the path others prefer to take. But we have to follow it because we trust that our kind Shepherd will keep us safe.

Readings for the Week of May 8, 2022

- Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 [3c]/Rv 7:9, 14b-17/Jn 10:27-30
- Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10
- Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30
- Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50
- Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20
- Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6
- Saturday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17
- Next Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35



Sunday, May 8

- 8:00am +John Levis
- 9:30am Fr. Shaun Mahoney
- 11:30am For All Mothers, Living and Deceased
- 8:00pm Pro Populo

Monday, May 9

- 8:30am +Philip Lomonaco

Tuesday, May 10 *St. Damien de Veuster*

- 8:30am +Fr. Michael R. Rock, O. de M.

Wednesday, May 11

- 8:30am Kajet Washington

Thursday, May 12 *SS. Nereus and Achilles*

- 8:30am +All Souls in Purgatory

Friday, May 13 *Our Lady of Fatima*

- 8:30am +Daisy Gray

Saturday, May 14 *St. Matthias*

- 8:30am Nathaniel McKnight
- 4:00pm +Vincent and Anna Carbone; and Anthony DiSante

Sunday, May 15

- 8:00am +Fr. Michael R. Rock, O. de M.
- 9:30am Harold Fries
- 11:30am +Thomas, Laura, and Maria Ranieri
- 8:00pm Pro Populo





For those of us who are Catholic, we believe in the power of vocations to help spread the Gospel message. And vocations are an important part of the community. The vocations to priesthood, or the diaconate, or religious life are at the center of our efforts to spread the good news. However, we need to also speak about the vocation of married life as service to the church; and furthermore, the vocation of single life. It is at our baptism that we are given the mandate to spread the Gospel through our vocation in the church.

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me" (Rv 3:20).

We hear in Scripture that Jesus stands at the door of our heart and knocks. He only invites and never demands or breaks into our lives without our acceptance. He knocks, we open the door, and the invitation and welcome are complete.

Let us pray...

God of the invitation,

you knock upon the door of everyone's heart.

We seek the courage to open that door, for we know the responsibility of saying yes.

We humbly ask you for your wisdom to serve your church with compassion and acceptance.


We believe that when we say yes, you will provide the grace for the work ahead.

Give grace to those men and women who have dedicated their lives to constant service to your church.

Also give grace to those couples and single men and women who work for the church in their secular lives.

We ask all this through Christ our Lord and brother, who live and reign with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Listening Session for Synod
Wednesday, May 11th - 7pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church



Before the session, please do your part by completing the Disciple Maker Index Survey (specifically for our parish) linked at the parish website.

AID FOR UKRAINE

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has recently announced that funds received in this year's Collection for Aid to the Church in Eastern and Central Europe will be earmarked for Ukraine. For those wanting to make a direct contribution, visit: www.ukrarcheparchy.us/donate. Click on the Flag of Ukraine at our website: www.ourladylourdes.org. Your prayers and support will make a difference.



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM

Please remember the souls of the faithfully departed.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Dorothy Hardy, Kurt Mohammed, Patricia Nicholson, Colin Ramberan, Avery Lofton, Eugene Colombaro, Monica Ramberan, Yosan Gabriel, Jenell Sifontis, Cathy Norman, Sabrina Freeman, Leslie Wade, Esmond Family, Scott Stierbeim, Sr. Mary Charles, A.S.S.P., Mecca Taylor, Melissa Becker, Christian Lafty, Lisa Becker, Debbie Everett, Nigel Simon, Donald Graham, Jean Hargraves, Marci Wade, Mary Frances Doran, Maureen Doran Hendrix, Melissa Potts, Cayla Wade, Theresa Gilliam, Suzanne Dupre, Indramattie Somwaru, John Bricker, Alina Simon, Carmelina Desiderio, Graham Family, Samantha Johnson, Charles Epps, Ramona Wade, David and Gay Cooper, Jack Weber, Miguel Pulido, Matthew Pulido, Alex Julius Wade, Bernadette Sanchez, Kaela Marie Davis, Catherine Joseph

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The Sanctuary Lamp intention is:

For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

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We offer to anyone who may wish to 'donate' for the following "Memorials":

For personal intentions;

For your beloved dead; and/or For the living

Sanctuary Lamp in the Church - \$15.00 per week

STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE
GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING
Our Lady of Lourdes - A Tithing Community

Total Collection Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022: \$ 17,380.49
Offertory: \$ 15,180.49
Electronic Giving: \$ 2,200.00

Total Collection for Good Friday, April 15, 2022: \$ 1,390.00
Offertory: \$ 1,315.00
Electronic Giving: \$ 75.00

Total Collection for May 1, 2022: \$ 6,261.00
Offertory: \$ 5,696.00
Electronic Giving: \$ 565.00

Thank You for your continued support and generosity.

BLESSING OF MOTHERS

During the season of Easter, what a great time to remember our mothers and ask for God's blessing on them. It is God who ultimately gave us life. It is through God's unselfish love--mirrored in our mothers' willingness to associate their love with God's and take the risk to love us into life--that we have the opportunity for life. We remember our mothers this Mother's Day with much love. Let us pray for each of them:

God our heavenly Father,

you give to each the ability to share your generative love.

Bless those women in our lives who mirror your love

and bring forth life through their willingness

to risk bringing new life into this world.

Help us to show them our gratitude

for the gift of life and the gift of a mother's love.

May our life-giving God continue to bless them

and show them his unfailing love.

We ask this through Jesus, God's Son and our brother. Amen.





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