



SAINT THOMAS MORE CHURCH CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

1300 Junipero Serra Blvd.
(off Brotherhood Way)
San Francisco, CA 94132-2913
Office: (415) 452-9634
Fax: (415) 452-9653
www.stmchurch.com

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 3rd, 2009

In our largely urban society we tend to glamorize sheep herding. In fact, and especially in Jesus' day, it was a lonely, harsh and dangerous occupation. Jesus was not using hyperbole, therefore, when he says that the good shepherd must be ready to lay down his life for the sheep. It is only the bad shepherd, for whom the sheep are of merely utilitarian value, who flees because he is unwilling to risk his own life when they are attacked.

Jesus is not really talking about sheep herding, of course. He is speaking instead about the intimate, personal bond that must exist between him and his followers. He offers his life for them, and they respond in total trust, so that they know and love Jesus in the same deeply personal way that Jesus knows and loves his heavenly Father.

Life Implications

We live in a world that seems to prize personal freedom above everything else. The problem with that is that one person's use of freedom may easily infringe upon the rights of someone else. In such cases, one must recognize that, in a society of many individuals, personal freedom cannot be absolute. When Frank Sinatra sang, "I did it my way," he was making beautiful music but expressing very dubious theology. The ideal is to live life, not in my way, but in the right way.

When Jesus says that he is the good shepherd, he certainly means that he sacrifices his comfort and safety for the sake of others. There is a graphic description of bad shepherds in Ezechiel (34:2-3): "Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep." Such selfish shepherds do not care for their sheep at all but instead mistreat them as they use them for the satisfaction of their own needs.

If we wish to be followers of the good shepherd, we must have that same relationship with God that Jesus did. This means that we must open ourselves to the reality of God's love for us and then do all that we can to make that love a reality in the lives of others. This will often mean that we will place the interests and needs of others before our own wishes and preferences. In other words, we will often "do it their way." This may, at first glance, appear to be a recipe for disappointment and servitude, but such a conclusion will be reached only by those who have never tried it. The good shepherd is also a happy shepherd!

This concern for others will create in us that wonderful sense of "knowing" Jesus and being "known" by him. In other words, we will sense the presence of Jesus in our lives in a way that transcends all the external elements of religion. These elements will remain important but we will understand that they are really meant to lead us to a personal and mystical experience of Jesus in all the circumstances of our lives. When that happens, we will recognize instinctively the voice of our good shepherd and gladly follow him into God's wonderfully mysterious future.

Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B.

Celebrating the Year of St. Paul

“May the eyes of (your) hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to His call, what are the riches of glory in His inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of His great might, which He worked in Christ, raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things beneath His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.”

Ephesians 1: 18-23

Staff
Pastor: Church & School
 Msgr: Labib Kobti
Parochial Vicar:
 Fr Andrew Johnson
Priest Brazilian Community
 Fr. Sergio da Silva, (415) 454-8141
Deacon:
 Khaled Abu Shaer
Admin Assistant:
 Elvira Garcia
Receptionist:
 Sr Teresa Malave, VDMF
Campus Ministry:
 Verbum Dei Sisters
 Sr. Su Fern Khoo VDMF
 (415) 573-9062
RCIC:
Kathy Sanford
 650) 738-0646
RCIA & Music:
Suzanne Hockel
 (415) 826-6834
STM School:
Principal, Joe Elsbernd
 (415) 337-0100

This Week's Parish
Events
Tue., May 5th
Legion of Mary,
 Scanlan Hall, 6:30 pm
Communion & Liberation,
 Scanlan Hall, 8:00 pm
Wednesday, May 6th
 International Food Festival Committee
 Scanlan Hall, 7:00 pm
Saturday, May 9th:
Bible Study Group,
Alma Via, 7:00 PM
Campus Ministry
Regular meeting:
 Thursday 7:00pm
 at Burk Hall 252
 More info:
 newmansfsu@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM
Sunday
 8:00 AM Portuguese/Brazilian;
 10:00 AM English
 11:45 AM Arabic;
 8:00 PM English
Weekdays:
 8:30 AM
 (Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.);
 5:30 PM (Tue., Thu.)
Holy Days:
 8:30 AM & 8:00 PM
First Saturdays:
 10:00 AM Burmese
First Fridays:
 8:30 AM;
7:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 Followed by Mass for healing at **8:00 PM**
Sacrament of Baptism (infants): Parents and godparents must attend Baptism Preparation Class. Call the office for Schedule.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sundays 9:30—9:45 AM; Saturday 4:30 PM. Any time upon request.

For Children and Youth: Under 6 years old, STM offers a “Crying Room” where parents can follow Mass, while children play away from the community. Over 6 years old, we have the “Children Liturgy”, RCIC and RCIA and FLA groups and Summer Camps
For Adults: English Charismatic group, Sundays 6:00 PM: young adults group (18-late 20’s) 2nd and 4th Saturday 2:00-4:00 PM; Arabic Youth groups, Fridays 6:30 PM; Brazilian Charismatic group, Mondays 7:00 PM; Burmese Youth group, Sundays 2:00 PM; SFSU Campus ministry, Thursdays 7:00 PM (on Campus)
For Families: Bible Study, Saturday at 7:00 PM; Couples For Christ: Saturday 5:00 PM; Legion of Mary, Communion Liberation, Perpetual Novena to the Sto. Nino; Prince of Peace and Friday adorations

Holy Land Museum & Shroud of Turin Exhibit
Open 9-4:30 Monday-Friday

Sacrament of Matrimony: Contact us at least 6 months prior to wedding date.
Communion to the homebound and the ill: Anyone who is ill and unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Communion may call the office to schedule a visit.
Anointing of the Sick: Any time upon request. If a parishioner is seriously ill at home, please inform the parish office regarding a visit for anointing.
Funeral arrangements: Funeral Director should contact Parish Office.

Regular Activities

Parish Council	To Be Announced	Bible Study & Prayer	Saturday, 7 PM at Alma Via
Liturgy Committee	As Announced	AACC Youth Group	Friday, 6:00 PM
Legion of Mary	Tuesday, 6:30 PM	Perpetual Novena: Sto. Nino	Last Friday, 7 PM
Communion & Liberation	Tuesday, 7:30 PM	Prince of Peace	Friday, 8:30 PM
Charismatic groups for different ethnics	See schedule	FLA Youth Group	1st & 3rd Wed. at 6:30pm

Full Plate Program: Thanks for your support of this program. Pls. bring your donations & place them in the green bins at the church entrance. Menu items: 1 container of 100% juice, 2 cans of vegetables, 1 canned meat, 1 bag of rice. No glass items, please. Thanks.



*This Sunday is the Annual **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. The theme of this year is "Faith in the divine initiative - the human response." Let us all unite our prayers to the worldwide Church in the desire of increasing the vocations for the priesthood and the consecrated life.



***STM 7th Graders Confirmation:** Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this Tuesday, May 5th. Our gratitude to the parents and their teachers for their good example, their dedication as well as their perseverance in imparting the basics of our Catholic faith to these teenagers. A special prayer for their parents [and other mentors] as they accompany these teens on their life-long journey of faith.

***Coloring contest.** Once again, children aged 7 and under are invited to color the picture on the front of our bulletins. A prize awaits child with the best colored picture received in the office.

During this Mary Month, please plan on doing something special for her with your family.

© J.S. Patach Co., Inc.



***Bake Sale.** On May 10th, Mother's Day, Verbum Dei sisters will be selling cakes after all our weekend Masses (including 5 PM Vigil Mass). Please support their fundraiser, and get something special for your mother in the process.

***Food Drive.** This Saturday, May 9th, the National Assn. Of Mail Carriers have their Food Drive. They will be most grateful for a few canned goods by your mailbox for your post person to pick up on that day.

Weekly Offering



© J. S. Patach Co., Inc.

Weekend of
April 26, 2009:
Offertory: \$5,297.97
Church in Latin America:
\$640.16
Thank you

GENUINE FREEDOM

"People thirst for genuine freedom. They yearn for the life which Christ came to give in abundance."

—Pope John Paul II

MASS INTENTIONS

May 03 — May 09, 2009

- 05/03 Sun 10:00am Simon Siniora †
8:00pm People of STM
- 05/04 Mon 8:30am Jake Espinueva (Birthday)
- 05/05 Tue 5:30pm Josephine Ryan †
- 05/06 Wed 8:30am Laura & Mario Biagini †
- 05/07 Thu 5:30pm Irene & Russell De Havent
- 05/08 Fri 8:30 am Jose Librojo (Birthday)
- 05/09 Sat 8:30 am Lilia Lobetos Sp. Intention
5:00 pm Katherine Kostouros †

Please call the office to schedule your Mass. Attending the Mass you offer is appreciated.



All the sick people in our parish, especially

Patricia Colburn, Barbara Cunningham, Carmel Desmond, Collin & Sara Fernando-Noguera, Catherine Moynihan, Mac Nuqui, Marie Paynor-Cia, John Schulz, Lourdes Tam, Filemon Trinidad, Alejandro Villavicencio, Ruby Jimenez, Gordon Lu, Rosauro Tan, Jean Lu, Bridget Suazon, Rhona Palencia, Annika de Leon and for all who are ill in our parish.

All the deceased in our parish.

© J. S. Patach Co., Inc.



The good shepherd gives his life for his sheep



If you are new to the area and not yet registered at Saint Thomas More Parish, we invite you to fill this out, cut it out and return it to the parish office/rectory or drop in the collection basket.

I choose to become a member of St. Thomas More and commit myself to building a community that seeks to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God. I will commit myself to this mission by my active & consistent presence at worship financial giving even when I can't be present.

Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____ Phone (s) _____
 Email: _____ I want to use the envelopes and commit myself to a weekly contribution.
 Yes, please _____ No, thanks. _____
 Subscribe to our mailing list by e-mailing us: stmchurch@aol.com