



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 12, 2019

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH



PARISH OFFICE
415 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905

PRESBYTERY
407 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905

ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
80 Gilbert St., Johnstown, PA 15906

FATHER MARK'S NOTES

*In hearing the voice of
Jesus, and in following
Him as our Good
Shepherd is what we
mean by mystical.*

Congratulations to Our Confirmation Class

I want to congratulate all our young people Confirmed this past Thursday and also their parents for bringing them to this moment in their lives. Confirmation is about mission, and in the deepest sense the mission we all have to be authentic and integrated human beings – good women and good men. We often think of mission or vocation as what we do. Actually, on the deepest level it's who we are. Then, who we are affects everything about us, especially what we do, and how we do it. So, if Baptism is a "new birth" in to this divine life, and if in the Eucharist we become what we eat, Confirmation is about who we are and what become in this adventure of life. So, Congratulations to those newly Confirmed. We so want you to walk with us in this awesome journey. You have much to teach us!

WEEK THREE MESSAGE SERIES:

LOVE ONE ANOTHER AND REMAIN (ABIDE) IN ME

Our Gospel for this week is only 3 verses long, but they are very powerful verses. As I've mentioned before, I have actually been to the Holy Land. It was a long time ago, but there are those things you never forget.

Here's one of those things. While in Jerusalem I was walking past a corral filled with sheep, with the shepherds all sitting around outside the corral talking about whatever shepherds talk about. (As I shared with the staff, you can smell all this before you see it!) At one point one of the shepherds got up to call his sheep. It's hard to describe, but he made this very distinctive call or sound (which I understand to be unique to each shepherd.). It was something like a high-pitched whistle or a yodel. Suddenly, certain sheep, and I'm thinking they were his sheep, made their way to the gate of the corral and began to follow him to wherever he was leading them. Certainly, Jesus also witnessed such things as did the people of His day, so His words came to life for them when He said, "**My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me.**" (10:27)

There are two things here that strike me: First, the sheep hear the voice, recognize the call, of the shepherd. And, His sheep – and only His sheep follow. Second, it states that the shepherd knows the sheep. I never knew it, but sheep have personalities too. They too are different and unique, and the shepherd knows his sheep intimately and uniquely.

This leads me to why we are doing this message series, this "deep dive" into the Gospel of John. First, it's the Gospel for the Easter Season. Secondly, it's the Gospel of hearing the voice, of following the Shepherd; it's the Gospel of intimacy, conversion and mysticism.

Let me explain briefly. This "knowing the voice" of the shepherd, and this knowing deeply and personally his sheep are something that was very important to the Community of John. Let me offer a quote here from Fr. Demetrius Dumm's book on John called "A Mystical Portrait of Jesus." *He writes, "John's special concern (the reason he wrote the Gospel in the first place.) seems to derive from the fact that Christians of his day ALREADY had begun to succumb to that most dangerous temptation of sacramental religion, namely, the careful observance of ritual without that deep, spiritual counterpart that constitutes the true meaning and purpose of the ritual. This temptation was so dangerous because it is so much easier to observe rituals than undertake personal conversion. Consequently John is attempting to warn again superficial Christianity that knows all the words and rituals, BUT has not discovered the rich personal and mystical union with God in Christ for which these words and actions exist and point.*

In hearing the voice of Jesus, and in following Him as our Good Shepherd is what we mean by mystical. It's a deep personal and unique experience of Jesus the Good Shepherd. It's that deep personal conversion that we seek – that we all long for. It's coming into a communion with Jesus that takes us all the way to the Father. And, since I'm running out of room here let me simply say here that this mystical touch must be the hallmark of the post-Christian era Christian. The prophecy of Karl Rahner has come true, "*Christianity will become a mystical Religion, or it will have no future.*" Brothers and sister, we now live in the mystical era of the Church.

MESSAGE SERIES

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Questions from the Gospel of John

Week 3: Love One Another and Remain (Abide) in Me

Chapter 13:32-38, 14, 15, 16,17

This week's readings offer a very personal and mystical exploration of the death and resurrection of Jesus. The disciples recall the words of Jesus and that helps them understand why the Passion and Death had to occur. As you read these passages consider:

- These passages are primarily a narrative by Jesus as He uses His last few hours to teach and console His disciples. What does He have to say?
- Love is the focus of Jesus' message. He makes a very important change to the commandment. What is it?
- Remain in Me. What does that mean and how do we do that?

JOIN US

Be sure to join us after Mass on **Wednesday, May 15** at 6:45 pm, for a video on these chapters, a short talk by Fr. Mark, fellowship, refreshments, and group discussion. Bring your small group or come on your own and we'll find a group for you! All are welcome!

OMOS SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

APRIL 28, 2019

Envelopes	\$9,430
Loose.....	1,361
Online (64).....	4,223
Total	\$15,014

May 5, 2019

Envelopes	\$10,529
Loose.....	1,004
Online (152).....	12,021
Total	\$23,554

SERVE OTHERS SATURDAY

JOIN US ON MAY 18—9 AM –NOON

Join us at Holy Grounds for coffee, treats, prayers, and fellowship before we go out to serve our local community. Projects this month include:

- **Fleece Blankets:** Make blankets to help our keep some of our Johnstown children warm next fall & winter
- **Nursing Home Visit:** Join together to brighten the lives of those in a local nursing home by playing a lively game of Bingo and visiting with the residents
- **St. Vincent de Paul:** Help out at the local thrift store which in turn serves countless people in Johnstown
- **Gardening:** Clean up some of the flower beds to prepare for our Spring Flowers
- **Highway clean-up:** Clean up our section of Menoher Blvd.

Hope to see you there!

NEWS FROM DMCA AND BISHOP MCCORT

We join DMCA and BMCHS in welcoming Tom Smith as Bishop McCort's new principal. As the Chief Administrative Officer for students from PreK-12, he'll also oversee a growing partnership between the schools. Visit www.divinemeracy.academy or mccort.org to read more on the schools' plans for the future.

Read about our growing PreK program, summer camps, our all-girls team that's heading to the national Tech Student Association competition, and our popular **Trout in the Classroom** program.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday, May 13

6:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration
8:00 a.m. Mass

Tuesday, May 14

6:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration
7:30 a.m. Confession
8:00 a.m. Mass

Wednesday, May 15

7:00 a.m. Praise & Worship
4:30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
5:30 p.m. Confessions
6:00 p.m. Mass
6:45 p.m. Message Series Video/

Talk beginning in the church

Thursday, May 16

6:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration
9:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, May 17

6:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration
8:00 a.m. Mass

Saturday, May 18

3:00 p.m. Confessions
4:00 p.m. Mass at OMOS
6:00 p.m. Mass at St. Michael's

Sunday, May 19

8:30 a.m. Mass at OMOS
11:00 a.m. Mass at OMOS

PRAYER MINISTRY AT OMOS



FAITH AND HEALING

Why does God miraculously heal some people but not others? This seems to be the million-dollar question. The answer is: it's a mystery why God miraculously heals some people and not others. Unfortunately, this is not a concrete answer.

The January, 2019 issue of *The Word Among Us* contained three short articles on healing and faith. While the author alludes to a connection between faith and healing (certainly several times in the gospel we hear Jesus say "your faith has healed you", "not everyone with faith gets the exact healing they ask for." (TWAU, p. 8)

The following paragraph from that publication says it as well as can be said. "And neither is it to say that people who do not get healed are weak in faith. Ever since the beginning of the Church, believers have been challenged by the mystery of God's will and his wisdom. We just don't know why some people are healed while others are not. But we do know that Jesus answers everyone who turns to him. Sy, sometimes the answers are surprising, and sometimes they far surpass the physical healings we are asking for. But whether the healing is physical, spiritual, or emotional, the truth remains the same as what St. Peter said at Pentecost two thousand years ago: 'Everyone shall be saved who calls on the name of the Lord.'" (Acts 2:21).

In the book *Tokens of Trust*, p. 47, the author says, "It is simply the case that we never fully know how much is altered by prayer, what other circumstances might stand in the way of it's fulfillment and so on." He notes that "it is important for us to know that if a miracle doesn't occur, that doesn't necessarily mean that the sufferer has failed to show enough trust or hasn't deserved healing."

Risk receiving prayer for whatever ails you! You never know what might happen.

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

St. Michael's is in the process of planning for our 3rd Annual Rummage Sale. Please consider donating household/kitchen items, home décor, children's toys, children's clothing, and books to this great community event. For more information, please contact Jess Smith at 412-965-5811 or Riek's at 814 539-6280. ****Collection for Sunday, May 5 was \$859.**

Morning rosary has resumed Wednesday mornings at 9 am. Please join us!

REST IN PEACE

Josephine Patrick
Mother of Jim & Renee Patrick

Larry Holbay
Husband of Beverly

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Congratulations to our 11th grade students on your Confirmation! We applaud your commitment and dedication to Life Teen and our parish. Thank you for choosing to confirm your faith as an adult in the OMOS community! May this just be the beginning!

Mark your calendars...Our High School Mission Trip is scheduled for July 14th—July 19th. We will be working with the St. Vincent DePaul Young Adult Center in Germantown, PA. Students have the opportunity to work with children, the elderly, the homeless, food distribution centers, state parks, and so much more. Space is limited so don't let your teenager miss this life changing opportunity!

SUMMER MINI-CAMPS

**BREAKFAST WITH JESUS
LEGO-LET GOD
FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS
POOL PARTY**

Our first mini-camp *Breakfast with Jesus* Will be a morning camp on June 20th.

Grades K—5th
See next week for more details.

The Fatima Rosary will be prayed at the Mary statue by the playground on the 13th of each month. The first one will be Monday, May 13th with the last one on Oct. 13th. Rain or shine, bring your folding chair.

PARISH STAFF

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MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Monday, May 13 – 8 a.m.

Server: Joseph Gritzer

Tuesday, May 14 – 8 a.m.

Server: Tea Ashcom

Wednesday, May 15 – 6 p.m.

Server: Tim Burgess

Thursday, May 16 – 9 a.m.

Servers: Divine Mercy Students

Friday, May 17 – 8 a.m.

Server: Olivia Baumbaugh

Saturday, May 18 – 4 p.m.

Servers: Alexis Smith & Ayda Dorian

Lector: Nelson Lowes

Euch. Min. Michelle Petrell, Sharon

Kovac, Melanie Criswell, Michelle Rivetti,
Michelle Stutzman, Vicki Wesner, Bridget
Byrne

Hosp. Val Deater, Nancy & Tom

Simmons, John Flynn, Bill Livingston, Ann
& Jim Mattie, Jim Galiardi

Saturday, May 18 - 6:00 p.m.

Servers: Tim Burgess & Olivia
Baumbaugh

Lector: Mary Kay Simmons

Sunday, May 19 – 8:30 a.m.

Servers: Grace Messina & Andy
Messina

Lector: Rick Messina

Euch. Min: Monica Puraz, Janet Bowser, Ed
Sheehan, Julie Sheehan, David Milligan, Estelle
Milligan, Joyce Dailey

Hosp: Kevin Evans, Jackie Ayres, Marge
Pipan, Ron & Carol Golias, Jerry Unger,
Marjorie Lechene, Martin Malek

Sunday, May 19 – 11:00 a.m.

Servers: Chase Neumann & Nathan
DiFrancesco

Lector: Marty Radovanic, Jr.

Euch. Min: Amy Bradley, Maria Nesmith,
Brad & Tonya Duca, Mary Beth & Deron Lintz,
Michele Varner

Hosp: Anne & Matt DiFrancesco, Gil
McDonald, Janice Rayha, George & Mary
Kogut, Jim Patrick, John Onufro

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 11, 2019- Vigil

4:00 p.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of
Kathy Parks (sister)

6:00 p.m. Hilary & Lucille Schrum & Karen
Pinkas (Frank & Ruth Zack)

Sunday, May 12, 2019 – Fourth Sunday of
Easter

8:30 a.m. Sister Dorothy Antonazzo,
CSJ (Dan & Vanessa Hummel)

11:00 a.m. Carmella Youchak (Bill & Terri
Ray)

Monday, May 13, 2019

8:00 a.m. Deceased Members of
Sprigle & Willett Families (John Golden
Family)

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

8:00 a.m. Helen Gelormino (Mary Beth
& Deron Lintz)

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

6:00 p.m. Jack Wilson (Amy Kittka)

Thursday, May 16, 2019

9 a.m. Larry Speigle (The Willett
Family)

Friday, May 17, 2019

8:00 a.m. Josephine Patrick (Nadorlik
Family)

Saturday, May 18, 2019 - Vigil

4:00 p.m. Ronald Budash (Marie Goff)

6:00 p.m. Catherine Carothers (Richard Murin
& daughter Carol)

Sunday, May 19, 2019 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Anthony Berrich (Tony &
Marianne Spada)

11:00 a.m. Albert Palmiere (Daughter,
Bridget Byrne)

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3, 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17

Wednesday: Acts 12:24--13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14

Next Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 1]/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a,
34-35