

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 8, 2022



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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WELCOME!

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

12:30 pm (Vietnamese for Youth)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30 pm Adoration
6:00 pm Mass

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30 pm - 4:50 pm
Sunday 8:00 am - 8:20 am
Tuesday - Friday 5:30 pm - 5:50 pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed

Tuesday & Friday: Please Call for Appointment

Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm

Thursday: 9:30am - 3:00pm

Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (APRIL 30 – MAY 1)

Donation	\$5,645.00
Donation Online	\$1,430.00
Maintenance Fund	\$60.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$7,135.00



Annual Catholic Appeal



**TOGETHER WE CAN
be Christ to Others**

FOLLOW



“I know them,
and they follow me.”

JOHN 10:27

www.archseattle.org/GiveACA

God Is the Good Shepherd

Homily by Father Joseph Vu

One of God's favorite ways to describe himself is by saying he is like a good shepherd.

Jesus did so more than once, as he does in today's Gospel.

In the Old Testament, the comparison is everywhere:

- God chose shepherds to be the Patriarchs;
- he chose shepherds to be Israel's first kings;
- the prophets ceaselessly speak of Israel as a flock and God as their shepherd;
- the image returns again and again in the Book of Psalms, as in the beautiful expression from today's Psalm: "Know that the Lord is God; he made us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends."

We are used to this image, but even so, the Church likes to remind us of it, frequently.

Why? What is it about this image that God likes so much?

It is interesting to note that among world religions, this image is unique to Judaism and Christianity.

- Even though most primitive religions are polytheistic, they usually express some inkling that behind all the powers of the universe there is one supreme god.
- Usually this god is associated with the sky, or the sea, or the mountain - with some natural phenomenon that the culture depends on.
- In none of these instances, however, is god seen as a divine shepherd of humankind.

Comparing God to a good shepherd can only happen in a religion that recognizes a special connection between the human person and God - for instance, that man is created in the image of God.

Only then does the comparison make sense, because a God who is a good shepherd is a God who walks with his people and cares about their every joy and sorrow.

That, Jesus tells us, is what our God is like.

Being Christ's Sheep Dogs

But sheep are not perfect; sometimes they wander.

- When the flock is feeding in a meadow, the shepherd will take his sheep dogs up to a spot a little bit above the flock, a little away from them, so that he can see all of them at once.
- He will sit and rest while keeping an eye on them.
- When one of the sheep starts to wander away, he whistles to his sheep dog, and the dog sprints off in pursuit of the wanderer, chasing it back into the safety of the flock.

If Christ is the good shepherd of the Church, who are the sheep dogs?

- Every one of us.
- He gives us his word, his grace, his sacraments, and he sends us into the world around us, to gather all the wandering and lost sheep.

Our mission is to bring them back to the flock.

It's not always easy.

- It takes prayer, sacrifice, and patience.
- It takes an ongoing effort on our part to know the faith well enough to be able to answer objections.

But above all, it takes sharing Christ's own love for his people, for every person.

When we care about the people God puts in our path, we will do whatever we can to bring them closer to Christ, because we know that if they go off on their own, they will easily get lost, and they will be vulnerable to attacks, to the deadly lies that say happiness can be found in money, pleasure, prestige, or the glamour of a false religion.

Today, when he feeds us again with his grace in Holy Communion, let's ask him to give us a greater share of his love, so that we will more eagerly share in his mission.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

For so the Lord has commanded us,
"I have made you a light to the Gentiles,
that you may be an instrument of salvation
to the ends of the earth." (Act 13:47)

PSALM:

We are his people, the sheep of his flock. (Ps 100)
Or Alleluia.

SECOND READING:

For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne
will shepherd them
and lead them to springs of life-giving water. (Rev 7:17)

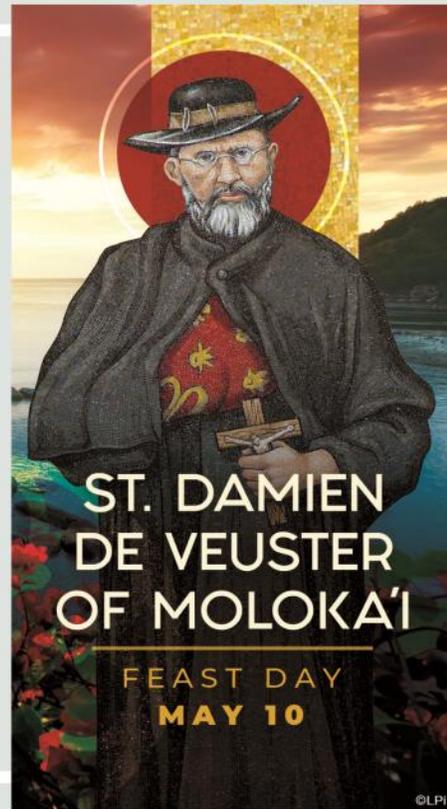
GOSPEL:

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

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 8, 2022

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations; Mother's Day
Tuesday: St. Damien de Veuster, Priest
Thursday: Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr
Friday: Our Lady of Fatima
Saturday: St. Matthias, Apostle
Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter; St. Isidore



Saint of the Week

People may be familiar with leprosy from Biblical times, but not so much in the 1800s. However, St. Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i (January 3, 1840 – April 15, 1889) would eventually shed a light on the effects of this devastating disease and allow people to see those afflicted with it with more compassion and love.

Born Joseph de Veuster in Tremelo, Belgium, he quit school at 13 so he could work on the family farm. Feeling called for more, however, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary six years later, where he took the name of a fourth-century physician and martyr. His brother, a priest from the same congregation, fell ill and was unable to go to his assigned location. Damien quickly volunteered in his place and found himself on the Hawaiian Islands in 1864. Two months after arriving, he was ordained a priest of Honolulu and assigned to the Island of Hawaii.

In 1873, he visited the Hawaiian government's leper colony on the island of Moloka'i, where he petitioned to stay permanently to care for their physical, medical, and spiritual needs. After years of working to improve their location and those who lived there, he contracted Hansen's disease and died of its complications. St. Damien was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009.