



Our Lady of Victory Memorial Parish

"We, the people of Our Lady of Victory Memorial Parish, accept as our mission to be a welcoming, diverse parish family who shares our gifts and talents that God has given us to serve others in need as we grow in our Faith."

April 13 & 14, 2024 3rd Sunday of Easter

Pastor: Father Efoe "Emmanuel" Anani
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Baptism: Contact Father for more information
Reconciliation: Saturday from 3:30 - 3:50 pm.
Matrimony: Contact Father six months in advance.
Sacrament of the Sick: Call Father as the need arises.

Contact Father for the following:

- Blessing of the Home
- Visiting the Sick
- Mass intentions

Contact Sam for Hall Rentals: bookolv@gmail.com
For Bulletin Inquiries: bulletin@victoryedu.com

To Contact the School: olv@victoryedu.com 204-452-7632

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

SATURDAY—4:00 P.M.
SUNDAY—9:30 A.M.

WEEKDAY MASSES

TUES, THURS, FRIDAY—9:30 A.M.
**ROSARY AT 9:10 A.M.
WED—10:00 A.M. AT RIVERVIEW

**EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Readings for Next Sunday

4th Sunday of Easter

1st Reading—Acts 4:7-12
2nd Reading—1 John 3:1-2
Gospel—John 10:11-18



Events - News - Information

3rd Sunday of Easter

Introduction: The common theme of today's readings is the challenge to adjust our lives to the living presence of the risen Lord as we grow daily more aware of the presence of His Holy Spirit within us and surrounding us. This awareness should strengthen our hope in His promises, bring us to true repentance for our sins and the renewal of our lives, and lead us to bear witness to Christ by our works of charity. The readings also remind us that the purpose of the suffering, death, and Resurrection of Jesus was to save us from our sins.

Life Messages

1) **We need to relive the "Upper Room Experience" in the Holy Mass:** The same Jesus who, in the Upper Room, prepared his disciples for their preaching and witnessing mission, is present with us in the Eucharistic celebration. He invites us to share in the "Liturgy of the Word" and in "The Liturgy of Eucharist." In the first part of the Mass, Jesus speaks to us through the "Word of God." In the second part, He becomes our spiritual food and drink. Thus, today's Gospel scene is repeated every Sunday on our parish altars. Like the early disciples, we come together to repent of our sins, express our thanks for the blessings we have received, listen to God's words and offer ourselves to God on the altar along with our gifts of bread and wine. We also share in the spiritual food Jesus supplies, and we are sent to share his message with the entire world.

2) **Jesus needs us as witnesses to continue his mission.** "Witnessing to Jesus" means testifying by our holy, loving lives that the power of the Risen Jesus has touched us and transformed us in the most remarkable way imaginable. Witnessing to Jesus also means letting Jesus speak through us to other people. Jesus needs Spirit-filled followers to be his eyes, ears, hands and feet so that we may bear witness to his love, mercy and forgiveness by exercising these gifts in our compassionate loving service of all our brothers and sisters. The Church desperately needs dedicated witnesses: priests, deacons, Brothers, Sisters, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses old folks, young folks – all of us. The essence of bearing witness is to testify by our lives that the power of the risen Jesus has touched and transformed us. In other words, Jesus is to speak to other people through us. In Calcutta, a dying old woman with her head in the lap of St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa), looked at her for a long time, and, in a feeble voice, asked: "Are you the God Jesus who loves the poor and the sick?"

3) **Our daily lives need to become the means of experiencing and sharing the risen Lord with others.** Just as the disciples experienced their risen Lord in their community, let us learn to recognize the presence of Jesus in our own homes, social service centers, nursing facilities, workplaces, hospitals, and schools. These are also the places where we have the opportunity to convey our peace and joy to others.

Continued on the other side ...

Law vs Mercy

In Reader's Digest, Jim Williams of Montana, writes: "I was driving too fast late one night when I saw the flashing lights of a police car in my rearview mirror. As I pulled over and rolled down my window of my station wagon, I tried to dream up an excuse for my haste. But when the patrolman reached the car, he said nothing. Instead, he merely shined his flashlight in my face, then on my seven-month-old in his car seat, then on our three other children, who were asleep, and lastly on the two dogs in the very back of the car. Returning the beam of light to my face, he then uttered the only words of the encounter. 'Son,' he said, 'you can't afford a ticket. Slow down.' And with that, he returned to his car and drove away."

— Sometimes mercy triumphs over law. So it is for sinners who call out to Jesus.

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

Saint for the Week

Saint Martin 1st's Story—April 13

When Martin I became pope in 649, Constantinople was the capital of the Byzantine empire and the patriarch of Constantinople was the most influential Church leader in the eastern Christian world. The struggles that existed within the Church at that time were magnified by the close cooperation of emperor and patriarch.

A teaching, strongly supported in the East, held that Christ had no human will. Twice, emperors had officially favored this position: Heraclius by publishing a formula of faith, and Constans II by silencing the issue of one or two wills in Christ.

Shortly after assuming the office of the papacy—which he did without first being confirmed by the emperor—Martin held a council at the Lateran in which the imperial documents were censured, and in which the patriarch of Constantinople and two of his predecessors were condemned. In response, Constans II first tried to turn bishops and people against the pope.

Failing in this and in an attempt to kill the pope, the emperor sent troops to Rome to seize Martin and to bring him back to Constantinople. Already in poor health, Martin offered no resistance, returned with Calliopas, the exarch of Constantinople, and was then submitted to various imprisonments, tortures, and hardships. Although condemned to death and with some of the imposed torture already carried out, Martin was saved from execution by the pleas of a repentant Paul, patriarch of Constantinople, who was himself gravely ill.

Tortures and cruel treatment having taken their toll, Martin died shortly thereafter. He is the last of the early popes to be venerated as a martyr.

Reflection

The real significance of the word martyr comes not from the dying but from the witnessing, which the word means in its derivation. People who are willing to give up everything, their most precious possessions, their very lives, put a supreme value on the cause or belief for which they sacrifice. Martyrdom, dying for the faith, is an incidental extreme to which some have had to go to manifest their belief in Christ. A living faith, a life that exemplifies Christ's teaching throughout, and that in spite of difficulties, is required of all Christians. Martin refused to cut corners as a way of easing his lot, to make some accommodations with the civil rulers.

Taken from franciscanmedia.org



Next Coffee Sunday!!!



Coffee Sunday team will be having a Coffee Sunday, this April 21st. Come and join us for Friendship and Fellowship gathering. Donation of food and money are welcome. Hope to see you all.



Life Messages Continued ...

4) **We need to become agents with Jesus in the establishing of the Kingdom in our world:** Jesus wants us to be a community which shares and in which everything is shared; a community which knows how to recognize Jesus in the poor, the marginalized, and the sick; a community that brings healing into people's lives; and a community of peacemakers and not makers of division or conflict.

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

