



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 20 & 21, 2024

Good Shepherd Sunday

Pastor: Father Efoe "Emmanuel" Anani
249 Arnold Avenue
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parish@victoryedu.com

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

5th Sunday of Easter

1st Reading—Acts 9:26-31
2nd Reading—1 John 3:18-24
Gospel—John 15:1-8



Events - News - Information

Good Shepherd Sunday

Introduction: On the Fourth Sunday of Easter, called Good Shepherd Sunday, we continue to reflect on the meaning of the Resurrection. This is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Today, we celebrate the risen Lord as the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. The priest in charge of a parish is called pastor because "pastor" means shepherd. As shepherd, he leads, feeds, nurtures, comforts, corrects, and protects Christ's sheep, the people of the parish. The earliest Christians saw Jesus as the fulfillment of the ancient Jewish dream of a Good Shepherd. They also wished to include the Gentiles as part of God's flock. Scripture lessons: In today's first reading, Peter asserts unequivocally before the Jewish assembly that there is no salvation except through Christ, the Good Shepherd — the one whom the Jewish leaders have rejected and crucified and in whose name the apostles preach and heal. In the second reading, St. John tells us how Yahweh, the Good Shepherd of the Old Testament, expressed His love for us through His Son Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by making us His children. In today's Gospel Jesus introduces himself as the "Good Shepherd." Jesus claims that as Good Shepherd he knows his sheep and loves them so much he is ready to die for them. The Gospel text offers us both comfort — the Good Shepherd knows us, provides for us, and loves us — and a double challenge: to become good shepherds to those entrusted to our care and good sheep in our parish, the sheepfold of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

Life Messages

1) Let us become good shepherds: Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence Bishops, pastors, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials, bosses, and politicians are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time, talents, health, and wealth for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. Parents must be especially careful of their duties as shepherds, becoming role models for their children by leading exemplary lives.

2) Let us be good sheep in the fold of Jesus, our Good Shepherd: a) by hearing and following the voice of our shepherds through their homilies, Bible classes, counseling and advice; b) by taking the spiritual food given by our pastors through regular and active participation in the Holy Mass and by frequenting the sacraments, prayer services, renewal programs, and missions; c) by cooperating with our pastors, giving them positive suggestions for the welfare of the parish, encouraging them in their ministry by prayer and presence, by offering them praise and thanks for all they are doing for us, and occasionally by making constructive suggestions for changes; d) by cooperating as good stewards in the activities of various councils, ministries, and parish associations.

3) Let us pray that we may all both receive and accept God's offered vocations to the Priesthood, the diaconate and the consecrated life as well as to Marriage and the single state, so that we may have more holy and Spirit-filled shepherds to lead, feed, and protect a receptive Catholic community. Christ Jesus is the Priest in the full sense because He is the one mediator between God and humanity who offered Himself, a unique sacrifice, on the cross. The universal priesthood of all believers, the sharing of all the baptized in the priesthood of Christ, has received special emphasis since Vatican II. Those who are called to make a lifelong commitment to serve as ordained ministers share the ministerial priesthood of Jesus. On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations we are asked to encourage and pray for our young men to respond to God's call to serve His Church in the ministerial priesthood and for all of us that we may live out our vocations as He wills.

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

JOKE OF THE WEEK

James was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the priest was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. The priest grabbed James by the hand and pulled him aside. The priest said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

James replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, father."

Priest questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

James whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

Saint for the Week

St. Mark's Story—April 25

When Most of what we know about Mark comes directly from the New Testament. He is usually identified with the Mark of Acts 12:12. When Saint Peter escaped from prison, he went to the home of Mark's mother.

Paul and Barnabas took him along on the first missionary journey, but for some reason Mark returned alone to Jerusalem. It is evident, from Paul's refusal to let Mark accompany him on the second journey despite Barnabas's insistence, that Mark had displeased Paul. Because Paul later asks Mark to visit him in prison, we may assume the trouble did not last long.

The oldest and the shortest of the four Gospels, the Gospel of Mark emphasizes Jesus's rejection by humanity while being God's triumphant envoy. Probably written for gentile converts in Rome—after the death of Peter and Paul sometime between A.D. 60 and 70—Mark's Gospel is the gradual manifestation of a "scandal": a crucified Messiah.

Evidently a friend of Mark—calling him "my son"—Peter is only one of this Gospel's sources, others being the Church in Jerusalem (Jewish roots), and the Church at Antioch (largely Gentile).

Like another Gospel writer Luke, Mark was not one of the 12 apostles. We cannot be certain whether he knew Jesus personally. Some scholars feel that the evangelist is speaking of himself when describing the arrest of Jesus in Gethsemane: "Now a young man followed him wearing nothing but a linen cloth about his body. They seized him, but he left the cloth behind and ran off naked" (Mark 14:51-52).

Others hold Mark to be the first bishop of Alexandria, Egypt. Venice, famous for the Piazza San Marco, claims Mark as its patron saint; the large basilica there is believed to contain his remains.

A winged lion is Mark's symbol. The lion derives from Mark's description of John the Baptist as a "voice of one crying out in the desert" (Mark 1:3), which artists compared to a roaring lion. The wings come from the application of Ezekiel's vision of four winged creatures to the evangelists.



Taken from franciscanmedia.org



Next Coffee Sunday!!!



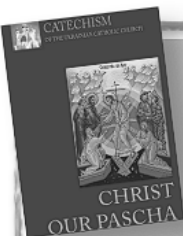
Stay after 10am mass today and join others in fellowship. Being a part of a parish is about getting to know the community. Say hi, eat some food and meet some people.

CWL Spring Bake Sale

The CWL will be holding a cookie bake sale this Sunday April 21, 2024 after the 9:30 mass. We will be selling all of your favourite cookies plus a few new ones. Price \$4.00/half dozen.

This will be our last cookie sale until the fall so last chance to get your favourites for a while.

Money raised will be for the needs of the parish.



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

The Visible and Invisible World

In Holy Scripture, angels manifest the presence of God in the world, announcing to human beings the will of God. Holy Scripture refers to some of them by name: Michael (see *Re* 12:7; *Jude* 1:9) Raphael (see *Tob* 12:15), Gabriel (see *Lk* 1:19,26). Angels assist human beings in their spiritual growth (see *Heb* 1:14). The Tradition of the Church teaches that God grants every human being a guardian angel: "You appointed angels as guardians." The unity of the visible and invisible creation – human beings and angels – becomes manifest in the Divine Liturgy, where the earthly expresses the heavenly, and humans serve together with angels: "Let us who mystically represent the Cherubim and sing the Thrice-holy hymn to the life giving Trinity..." And "Holy, holy, holy, Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." (#117)

