

This Week's Message**What Are We To Do?**

Easter's empty tomb is a call to conversion.

By this tomb, we should know for certain that God has made Jesus both Lord and Messiah, as Peter preaches in today's First Reading.

He is the "Lord," the divine Son that David foresaw at God's right hand (see Psalms 110:1,3; 132:10-11; Acts 2:34). And He is the Messiah that God had promised to shepherd the scattered flock of the house of Israel (see Ezekiel 34:11-14, 23; 37:24).

As we hear in today's Gospel, Jesus is that Good Shepherd, sent to a people who were like sheep without a shepherd (see Mark 6:34; Numbers 27:16-17). He calls not only to the children of Israel, but to all those far off from Him - to whomever the Lord wishes to hear His voice.

The call of the Good Shepherd leads to the restful waters of Baptism, to the anointing oil of Confirmation, and to the table and overflowing cup of the Eucharist, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Again on this Sunday in Easter, we hear His voice calling us His own. He should awaken in us the response of those who heard Peter's preaching. "What are we to do?" they cried.

We have been baptized. But each of us goes astray like sheep, as we hear in today's Epistle. We still need daily to repent, to seek forgiveness of our sins, to separate ourselves further from this corrupt generation.

We are called to follow in the footsteps of the Shepherd of our souls. By His suffering He bore our sins in His body to free us from sin. But His suffering is also an example for us. From Him we should learn patience in our afflictions, to hand ourselves over to the will of God.

Jesus has gone ahead, driven us through the dark valley of evil and death. His Cross has become the narrow gate through which we must pass to reach His empty tomb - the verdant pastures of life abundant.

May 13, 2017 Our Lady of Fatima

The Blessed Virgin Mary is venerated under this title following apparitions to three shepherd children in Portugal in 1917. The message of Fatima includes a call to conversion of heart, repentance from sin and a dedication to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Fatima Prayer: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen. "

Little souls" is a term of endearment among Portuguese Catholics for the souls in Purgatory, equivalent to the phrase in English "poor souls."

Stewardship Thought

Whatever time we have is a gift from God and we are asked to use it wisely, to serve God and others.

***Announcements***

1. Congratulations to all the First Communicants and we continuously pray for their spiritual growth. Congratulations, also, to their parents for their support to their children. We request their parents to bring their children to the Masses especially during this summer vacation.
2. Confirmation date is Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 7:00pm. It is our Parish Family Celebration. All of the parishioners are asked to participate in the Mass and pray for the Confirmandi.
3. We have the Confession and Practice to all the Confirmation Students on May 20, 2017 at 9:30am. All the Candidates must be present, on-time with their Sponsor.
4. All Catholic young men ages 15-19 are invited to take part in Quo Vadis Days Camp which is to be held from June 12-16, 2017 at Belmont Abbey College in Belmont. The purpose of the Camp is to help you to know Jesus more deeply and help you to discern your vocation in life. Those who are interested please attend, and for further information please read the bulletin.
5. The foundation stone for our National Cathedral was placed by Cardinal Gibbons in 1920. A second collection on Mother's Day, May 14, 2017 will be taken for the completion of the Trinity Dome at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. This has been approved by the U.S. Catholic Bishops. Please use an envelope from the back of the Church and write "Trinity Dome" on the envelope. More about the Dome project: www.trinitydome.org
6. A Catholic High School Education can be financially possible for anyone! Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School has a Trust and is awarding assistance to those who desire a Catholic High School education. Call The Bishop McGuinness Office of Admissions, Kim Knox, 336-564-1011 or kknox@bmhs.us.

Mass Intentions

05/06	Saturday	5:00pm	For the People
05/07	Sunday	9:30am	For the People
		12:30pm	Spanish For the People
		3:00pm	For the People
05/08	Monday	No Mass	
05/09	Tuesday	7:00am	Mildred Medina req by George & Nancy Lautz
05/10	Wednesday	6:45pm	For the People
05/11	Thursday	7:00am	Bill Winfield + req by Dr. John McKinney
05/12	Friday	7:00pm	For the People
05/13	Saturday	5:00pm	For the People

Scripture Readings This Week

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-6/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
 Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4/Jn 10:11-18
 Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-7/Jn 10:22-30
 Weds: Acts 12:24--13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/ Jn 12:44-50
 Thurs: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27/Jn 13:16-20
 Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-11ab/Jn 14:1-6
 Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 14:7-14
 Next Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

Help for Your Marriage

Find out more: www.retrouvaille.org

Parish News***First Holy Communion***

Congratulations to all those receiving the Holy Eucharist for the first time at this weekend's Masses. May you stay close to God throughout your lives and always make room in your hearts for Jesus.

May Crowning

Please be aware that the May Crowning will take place BEFORE the 9:30am Mass this Sunday, May 7th

In Our Prayers

Lord, hold our troops, and all those far from home, in your loving hands. And for: Gladys Ozor, Hector Sanchez, Maria Selam, Dulce Moreno, Charles Keefe, Fern Trottier, Jose Guzman, James & Willy Lilly, Felicia Murphy, Linda Styron, Marianne Smith, Dan Lynk, Therese Frenz-Rice, Fr. Martin Carter, Charles Ramsey, Jorge Lagueruel.

Wednesday Evening Novena***Our Lady of Perpetual Help***

Each Wednesday evening at 6:30pm, Followed by Mass at 6:45. Join us to pray for the needs of our hurting world.

Interested in the Catholic Faith?

Contact Dr. John McKinney (336-886-3086 or Docluv2run@hotmail.com) for information on RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults).

Protecting God's Children—June 10th, 9am-12pm

All parishioners who participate in ministries for children are required by the Diocese to attend a Protecting God's Children abuse awareness workshop. All, especially all volunteers and all the Faith Formation teachers and coordinators, are requested to participate in the workshop. The workshop is free.

Second Collection

The foundation stone for our National Cathedral was placed by Cardinal Gibbons in 1920. A Mother's Day, May 14, 2017 collection for the completion of the Trinity Dome at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. has been approved by the U.S. Catholic Bishops. Please use an envelope from the back of the Church if you would like to make a donation. More about the Dome project: www.trinitydome.org

Diocesan Support Appeal

Thank you to all those who have pledged toward our **DSA assessment of \$13,197.00**. No donation is too small to help us reach our goal. Thank you & God bless you. The pledges paid \$5,356., total balance to be paid \$7,841. Number of donors 41. Please continue to pledge for DSA. Use the pledge envelopes and drop it in the collection or return it to the church office or visit charlottediocese.org/dsa to make a gift online. Thank you!

The DSA funds the annual budgets of our diocesan ministries that provide for the educational, vocational, multicultural, housing, and Catholic Charities outreach to the people of our diocese. *Thank you so much for your support the DSA in our parish. Thousands of people will be helped as a result!*

***Parish & Community News******Attention: All Catholic Young Men 15-19***

You are invited to attend the fifth annual Quo Vadis Days camp to spend time with other young men your age looking at the Lord's call in your life while having fun. QVD will be held from **June 12-16, 2017** at Belmont Abbey College in Belmont. The cost of the camp is \$150. If interested, visit our website: www.charlottediocese.org/vocations/quo-vadis-days or contact Fr. Jason Barone at jkbarone@charlottediocese.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"...I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." Lead your married lives "more abundantly" by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends are June 23-25, in Chapel Hill, NC and July 7-9, in Greenville, SC. Early sign-up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <https://NCMarriageDiscovery.org> or contact us at applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org or 704-315-2144.

Coaching Positions

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Kernersville is looking for the following paid coaching and athletic staff positions for the 2017-2018 school year: Head Varsity Football Coach/Asst. A.D. (full-time), Athletic Assistant (part-time hourly weekday evenings), Asst. Football Coaches, Asst. Volleyball Coach, Head Golf Coach, Head JV Girls' Basketball Coach. If interested, please contact Jeff Stoller at jstoller@bmhs.us.

Program Director Position

MiraVia is seeking a Program Manager for our college-based maternity residence located at Belmont Abbey College. This position is available immediately Full job description at: mira-via.org/who-we-are-2/job-openings. If interested in applying, contact and send your resume to Debbie Capen at debbiecapien@mira-via.org.

Fatima Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage to Fatima Journey to experience our Lady's Miraculous and Healing Presence in Fatima and Lourdes with Fr. Adrian Porras, Pastor of St. Barnabas Catholic Church (Arden, NC). This pilgrimage will take place on November 6-15, 2017. We will not only visit Fatima and Lourdes, but will also visit Salamanca and Avila in Spain. Places associated with the likes of St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross and St. Ignatius of Loyola, such as The Cathedral of Burgos, will also be part of this journey. Also, this pilgrimage will be at a RELAXED PACE for people who walk with canes, wheelchairs, or slow walkers. If interested, please contact Select International Tours at 800-842-4842 or Kristine@selectintl.com. Full information at www.selectinternationaltours.com.

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**Happy Birthday
Fr. Pragasam!**

We wish Fr. Pragasam a very Happy Birthday on May 6th!