

A Reflection from Fr. Joseph

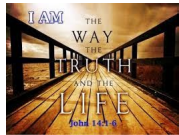


Today's gospel is a favorite passage of scripture. It presents us with an attractive image of Jesus as a way to heaven, of Jesus going ahead of us to prepare a place for us in his father's house. It is comforting to know that our belief in Jesus, as the way the truth and the life, is our means to eternal life. But today's gospel asks more of us than simply believing in Jesus. Jesus asks us not simply to believe in His name but to do His works. He says, "Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do." So, belief is not sufficient, it must be accompanied by the works that Christ calls us to do.

Now, this is not to say that the works that we do, in any way, earn heaven or our relationship with God. Such gifts are always God's grace. But since such gifts have been given to us, it is imperative for us to live in such a way that our work shows God's love for us and our commitment to God. Believing is essential, but we must also work in such a way that we manifest God's goodness.

The place to produce results is where we live and work. If our faith does not make some impact on the ordinary things we do, day in and day out, it is doubtful whether that faith is real. This is certainly the testimony of the scriptures. The great figures of the scriptures often encounter God in the midst of their work. Moses was a shepherd, and while tending the sheep he encountered God in the burning bush. When Jesus was born, the shepherds received the message of the angel while they were tending their sheep. The first apostles were fishermen and at their jobs when Christ came to call them. Matthew had a government job and met Christ while he was collecting taxes. Martha and Mary came to know and love Christ while working in their home.

We should expect to encounter God amid our work, and we should work in such a way that it is obvious to others that we are followers of Christ. After all, if we appear the same as everyone else in our day-to-day activities, if our faith does not somehow set us apart, it is questionable how real our faith is. Those who follow Christ are also willing to give witness to their faith. They are willing to let others know that they are Catholic, that they believe in Christ, and that they value that belief. So, wherever we work, whether it is in an office, whether our work now is going to school, whether our work is caring for a home or driving a truck or working on an assembly line or in a bank, whatever job we have, we need to work in such a way that it manifests that we are followers of Jesus.



Jesus is the way the truth and the life. Our believing in him leads us to eternal joy. But faith is not sufficient in itself. It must be lived out in a way that it reflects God's love in our lives. Those who are willing to live their lives with integrity, with compassion, and a willingness to witness identify themselves as true followers of Jesus. What will you do this week to make it clear to others that you are a believer? What will you do this week so that others might see God's love in the work that you do?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

- Mon. May 8th** - Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26
- Tue. May. 9th** - Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a
- Wed. May. 10th** - Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8
- Thurs. May. 11th** - Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11
- Fri. May 12th** - Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17
- Sat. May 13th** - Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21
- Sun. May 14th** - 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION LITURGY

Our prayers are with the students of St. Jude School, PREP and El Shaddai, who will be receiving their First Holy Communion this Sunday, at 2 pm.

Please Note: No cameras or videos are to be used in the church during the ceremony.



C.W.L. NEWS

Friendship Day: *this Sunday after the 9 and 11 am Masses at the entrance of the church. Please join us!*

ALTAR SERVERS




- Wed. May 10th - 7 :30 PM** - Volunteers
- Sat. May. 13th - 5:00 PM** - A & A Taban, J.Tuguinay.
- Sun. May 14th - 9AM** - Anna & Vincent Collins, Sara & Jessica Yip. **11 AM** - J.Roque, J.Lanuza, M & T Nguyen, W.Pham. **5 PM** - A.Paredes, N.Nunez, A.Velasquez, A.Bartolay, L.Soliman.

IN MEMORIAM

+ *Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of the following long time parishioners who passed away and whose funeral will be held this week in our church:*
Mr. Carlo Palermo: *Funeral Mass this Tuesday at 7 pm.*
Mrs. Lina Merlo: *Funeral Mass Friday, May 12th at 11 am. May they rest in peace!*

KNIGHTLY NEWS

OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL BE SELLING FLOWERS NEXT SUNDAY, AFTER ALL THE MASSES, FOR MOTHER'S DAY.



Permanent Diaconate Program
Now accepting applications

CONTACT DEACONS@RCAV.ORG

SCHOOL NEWS

- **Crowning of Mary:** Will take place this coming Wednesday at our school Mass. Please join us!
- **Walkathon:** will be held on Friday, May 12th. All students will be dismissed at 12 noon.
- **Yearbooks:** Last chance to order your year books. The deadline to order is May 15th!
- **School Tours:** Our Gr. 7 Student Ambassadors will be available to provide tours of our school to prospective families. If you know of someone who might be interested in attending St. Jude School, I encourage you to tell them to sign up for a tour. Any interested family can email registrar@stjude.ca to schedule a tour.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Up-Coming Events

Stewardship Reflection

"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." 1 Peter 2:7

Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called "charisms" and they are used to build God's kingdom on earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may be unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember - no gift is too small or insignificant in God's salvation plan.

- Copyright © 2023 Archdiocese of St. Louis

National Family and Life Week, May 7-14

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops invite the faithful to celebrate the joy and beauty of family and life by seeking new, creative ways to live out this call daily. The theme of this year's National Family and Life Week is *"Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another"* (John 13:34). Learn more at ccb.ca

March for Life Victoria

Join thousands from across Canada who are passionate about promoting life from conception to its natural end. Participants will gather in prayer and listen to a number of speakers who actively advance life issues at the B.C. Legislature, in an effort to lobby the pro-life movement across the province. On Thursday, May 11, in Victoria, B.C. Pick-up and drop-off by bus and ferry is available at several locations throughout the Archdiocese. Learn more at m4lvictoria.ca

Marriage Anniversary Mass

"Love isn't easy. No. But the most beautiful thing that a man and a woman can give each other is true love, for a lifetime."
- Pope Francis

On Sunday, May 14, Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB will honour couples celebrating Milestone Marriage Anniversaries: The Marriage Anniversary Mass will be at St. Francis Xavier Church in Vancouver at 1:30 p.m.

Disalced Carmelite Secular Order Information Meeting

Do you have a desire to grow in holiness by way of Carmelite spirituality? This event will help you follow the example and teachings of St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux and many other Carmelite saints. On Saturday, May 13, at 10:30 a.m. at Guardian Angels Parish in Vancouver. This information meeting is organized by the Disalced Secular Carmelites of St. Teresa of Jesus Community. No registration necessary. beholdvancouver.org/events

Fifth Ordinandi Dinner

The Vocations and Seminarians Office of the Archdiocese of Vancouver cordially invites you to the Fifth Ordinandi Dinner featuring Deacon Patrick Le and Deacon Medard Kamanzi. Join Archbishop Miller and members of the Catholic faithful on Wed., June 21 at the Italian Cultural Centre in Vancouver. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Dinner begins promptly at 6:00 p.m. Seating is limited. Tickets are available for purchase at: secure.rcav.org/ordina...