

April 10, 2016

# Third Sunday of Easter



"Follow me."  
Jn 21:19

## Follow Me

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks Peter three times, *Do you love me?* Each time Peter responds that he does love Jesus. After each profession of love Jesus instructs Peter to take care of Jesus' flock. Peter is to feed and tend to the sheep of Jesus. The sheep will continue to belong to Jesus and not to Peter. Finally, Jesus says to Peter, *Follow me.* Jesus made it clear to Peter that service of his disciples must be rooted in love of Jesus. Love is the basis for Peter's ministry to leadership and must be the basis for all of us who minister to others in the name of Jesus.

## MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, April 16

4:30 p.m. Eugene A. Patalik, Sr.

Sunday, April 17

8:00 a.m. Welfare of All Parishioners

## Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Easter.* Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52

**Responsorial Psalm:** 100

**Second Reading:** Revelation 7:9, 14b-17

**Gospel:** John 10:27-30

*No Bible Study Wednesday, April 13*

*C.C.D. Wednesday, April 13*

Congratulation and God's blessings to **Mandi Danielle & Matthew Scott Prichard** who were recently united in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony here at St. Mary's.



## 2016 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2016 Assessment .....	\$7,618.00
Contributions So Far .....	\$ 360.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed .....	\$7,258.00

We thank the following for kicking off our D.S.A. Appeal:

*Pat Masek  
Stazy Hajek  
Leona Herzik  
Rosemary & Arthur Klekar*

Consider at making a contribution.

## Restoring Maticka Praha



### Church Restoration Fund Donations

We thank the following for their recent donations:

*Jeannie & Dennis Brown, Houston, TX - \$250  
Lillie & Frank Branecky, Flatonia, TX - \$1,000*

To make a donation to the project contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674 or send an email to [st\\_joe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:st_joe@sbcglobal.net).



## VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.

### Remember to pray for the following requests:

<i>Our Grandchildren</i>	<i>Emily Beck</i>
<i>Eva Lazarich R.I.P.</i>	<i>James Huling</i>
<i>Margaret Mary Allen</i>	<i>Annie Witcher</i>
<i>My Return to Church</i>	<i>My New House</i>
<i>Brenda &amp; Alton Meyer</i>	<i>Eugene Patalik</i>
<i>Employment for My Husband</i>	<i>Albert E. Kapust</i>
<i>Martinez / Palacio Families</i>	<i>Peace in Family</i>
<i>Peggy Warnke, Bill Warnke</i>	<i>Health of My Sister</i>
<i>Lawrence &amp; Cerny Family</i>	
<i>All My Family, All My Kids Drinking Problem</i>	
<i>Thanksgiving for Many Blessings, Good Health, ...</i>	
<i>Healing of Kuya Jun, Good Health of Olarze Family, &amp; Peace ...</i>	

## Additional Easter Flower Fund Donations

In Memory of Dyrel Holmes

## REFLECTION



### *Do You Love Me?*

In this beautiful resurrection appearance story, the Risen Jesus teaches us some lessons about the universal nature of our following of Jesus; the necessity of forgiveness and rehabilitation and the ultimate cost of following Jesus.

Through the telling of the story of the great catch of fish we learn about the universal nature of the Church's charge and that the Church's mission is an extension of the Risen Lord's victory and power. By Jesus' coming at dawn, he is shown to be the light that dispels darkness and brings new hope. Even though the disciples were veteran fishermen they caught nothing without Jesus. With Jesus their mission would be successful. Their success was described in terms of the mysterious number of fish they caught – 153. This affirms that all peoples of the earth are welcome into the net of salvation and are drawn unto the boat of Peter.

The three questions asked of Peter by Jesus and Peter's answers have been called Peter's rehabilitation. Jesus' forgiveness of his triple denial of Jesus had the power to lift the burden of guilt and sorrow he must have felt. It gave Peter the humility to repent and the courage to begin again. He was reissued the challenge: *Follow me*. Peter's example continues to challenge the quality of our own discipleship. Jesus is saying the same thing to us:

*Do you love me? Tend my sheep. Feed my sheep.  
Follow me.*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



April 10 – Rory Lesikar  
April 12 – Alexis Berckenhoff  
– Barry Jackson  
– Donald Jasek  
April 15 – Stazy Hajek

## Reflection on the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* Issued by Pope Francis

This Jubilee Year of Mercy offers a fitting context to receive this document through the lens of God's mercy, "the beating heart of the Gospel" meant for every person and family.

**Goodness of Marriage and the Family:** The Holy Father has reminded us that the task of the family is entrusted "to a man, a woman and their children, so that they may become a communion of persons in the image of the union of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit". "Every family should look to the icon of the Holy Family of Nazareth". He also reaffirms that it is in the nature of true love to be "definitive" and lasting. The family is also "the primary setting for socialization, since it is where we first learn to relate to others, to listen and share, to be patient and show respect, to help one another and live as one". Christian marriage "enliven[s] society".

**On the Vocation to Love:** *Amoris Laetitia* offers a profound reflection on love in marriage and the family. It calls married couples to grow in real friendship together and to see conjugal love, "after the love that unites us to God," as "the greatest form of friendship". The Holy Father encourages all marriages and families to never stop striving to grow in love. "This is a never-ending vocation...".

**Pastoral Care of the Family:** "Today, more important than the pastoral care of failures is the pastoral effort to strengthen marriages and thus to prevent their breakdown". The vast majority of families see husbands and wives living out their marriages and being good parents; they are holding up the future of our society. At the same time the Holy Father calls for great tenderness and compassion towards those in "irregular" situations. "In no way must the Church desist from proposing the full ideal of marriage, God's plan in all its grandeur".

**Accompaniment:** The call to accompany and to be close to families will surely be an abiding hallmark of this document. As he has stressed since the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis wants a Church with open doors, of welcome and accompaniment, "in a context of pastoral discernment filled with merciful love, which is ever ready to understand, forgive, accompany, hope, and above all integrate". He meditates in *Amoris Laetitia* on the Church's calling to imitate Christ's tenderness and sensitivity in order to communicate God's love to particular people.

**Marriage Preparation:** Pope Francis calls the Church to increase her efforts to prepare men and women well for the vocation of marriage. In the U.S., our dioceses have really been making great strides in this area. We have more work to do, but we are thankful for all those who have developed various programs that do just what the pope is recommending in this exhortation: preparation that offers the Gospel message, opening hearts to God's grace with joy and enthusiasm, and a combination of catechesis with the practical skills necessary.

*(to be continued)*