



Who Are The Shepherds Following As They Lead?

Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.

May 3, 2020 - 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14,36-41 & John 10:1-10 with 1Peter 2:20-25

“I am the gate!” Stay with the parable. Listen to the word “shepherd.” Jesus just confronting the Pharisees for being blind. Now He is teaching those who can “see” where they are leading others. The message is clear. Shepherds need to see threat.

Peter explains how the leaders organized the death of Jesus. When the people realized they were misled, they asked “What can we do?” “Repent and be baptized” and “receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” and be saved from this corrupt generation.

The second reading is meant for the Confirmed, for us who are called to be who follow the Shepherds of shepherds. Our voice is known by how we respond to insults and suffer patiently letting the One Who chose us to be the judge.

What is the healing of the “spiritual pandemic?” By His wounds we are healed. We went astray and now we return to the shepherd. This is all pure grace from God. We are responding to being healed. And nothing shall we want, as the chosen to be sent.

This is the month of May. We are half way from celebrating the Resurrection to celebrating the Descent of the Holy Spirit through Mary on the first Apostles, the first shepherds. We are half way to celebrate our birthday as a Church – sent on mission.

I invite us to learn the lesson of the virus and not forget the vaccine we seek. We will always live with the potential of catching the virus. With proper care and receiving the vaccine, we will be well and live joyfully surrounded by the virus but not catch it.

We are chosen to be shepherds as we follow the Shepherd. We are anointed with the oil of consecration and confirmed. We have sanctifying grace. We are sent to lead others to the “Way to Freedom”. We will be treated like our Shepherd. Get ready.

The pandemic of 1869 – we forgot. The Spanish Flu – we went on to the roaring 20s. The polio virus hit soon after World War II – most can’t remember the crippling disease. The financial crisis of 2008 – the Coronavirus. May shepherds lead to the Common Good for all God’s people. May we be healers of the wounds of division.

Response to Coronavirus

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, all public Masses in the Archdiocese of Detroit, as well as in-person faith formation programs and other parish events and meetings, are suspended indefinitely.

If you have a private need, such as to arrange for a baptism, marriage, anointing of the sick, funeral or individual confession, please contact the Parish Office.

The “live” Parish Calendar, along with other information, are available on the parish website at [sppccdetroit.org](https://www.sppccdetroit.org).

Let’s continue to pray for one another!

Virtual Mass

While you are unable to attend Mass in person, you can benefit by participating in Masses offered on TV or online. Check your TV listing for Masses offered on CTND, or go to <https://www.aod.org/livemasses>, or go to our website at [sppccdetroit.org](https://www.sppccdetroit.org).

Father John celebrates Eucharist each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. from the chapel of St. Paul’s Retreat Center via Zoom Video Conference. To join in the celebration, go to the parish website.

If you have any questions, call Ed Shea at (248) 633-4476.

Zoom MiniSeries: Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World

This 7-part mini-series continues via Zoom conferencing on Thursdays. Two time slots are available, 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The links to join will be on our parish website.

Take part in the mini-series to learn how the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, along with our Gifts of the Holy Spirit can be strengthened to bring Eucharistic healing into the communities to change the world.

Our Mission Statement

Having reflected on the “four faces of our parish,” **St. Peter Claver Catholic Community**, chosen by the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, and under the guidance of Mary, resolves that: 1) we will provide more opportunities for deepening prayer life and faith life for youth, young adults, and adults; 2) we will initiate efforts to reach out and re-connect with those individuals and families who have disconnected from the Church; 3) we will collaborate with other faith communities and organizations within our parish to offer ecumenical events/activities (e.g., neighborhood clean-ups, prayer meetings, health fairs); and, 4) we will utilize resources within our parish community to advocate for education and to promote social justice issues.

A Verse a Day For You to Pray

Today: Acts 2:38: Peter said to the crowd, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Monday: John 10:7,9: Jesus said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture."

Tuesday: John 10:27-30: Jesus said to the Jews, "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Wednesday: John 12:44-45: Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in the one who sent me, and whoever sees me sees the one who sent me."

Thursday: John 13:16-17: When Jesus had washed the disciples' feet, he said to them: "Amen, amen, I say to you, no slave is greater than his master nor any messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it."

Friday: John 14:5-6: Thomas said to Jesus, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Saturday: John 14:12-14: Jesus said to the disciples, "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father. And whatever you ask in my name, I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it."

Note: All verses are taken from the Mass readings for the day.

Ministers Schedule

May 10, 2020

No Mass Scheduled Due to Coronavirus.
Check your television listings for Masses on EWTN or CTND, or go to our website at spcccdetroit.org.

Meetings/Events This Week

Monday	6:30 pm	Mission Commission via Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
	5:00 pm	Leaders On Mission via Zoom Video Conference
Wednesday	1:00 pm	Lectio Divina via Zoom Video Conference
Thursday	1:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
	7:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
Saturday	10:00 am	Mission Discernment Team via Zoom Video Conference
Sunday	10:30 am	Mass via Zoom Video Conference

Collection Results

During these difficult times, we rely on your support. Weekly donations can be sent to the Parish Office. Or this is an excellent time to consider online giving. It's convenient, secure, and totally in your control!



Give Online at spcccdetroit.org

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Aills, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren & Marcella Bridges, Donald & Barbara Carter, Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Endlein, Ara Grier, Sandra Griffin, Karen Hickman, Myrtis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Augusta Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Charles Nelson, Joan S. Noland, Nancy Oberhausen, Grady & Celestine Parker, Fred & Villa Ray, Romaine Redd, Flossie Ryles, Jeanne Schuldt, Irene Scott, Gussie Seay, Augusta Starks, Mary Tyler, Christine Versele, Helen Wajda, Anna Washington, Lillie Washington, Wayne Weamer, Carmel Weems, Leonard & Ona Wilson

Please Pray for Them as They Pray for Us!!

Also, Please Remember in Prayer:

Olivia Boulden, Christopher Durant, Rochelle Evans, Jesse Feagin, Kiara Harris, Marley Jonah, Mary Caroline Jonah, Johnetta Mutes, Elke Rittenhouse, Elaine Ryles, Charles Tilghman, Jon Viado, Vickee Viado, Constance Washington-Daniel, Larry Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

St. Peter Claver Catholic Community

Parish Office: 13305 Grove St., Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 342-5292

Church: Marygrove College - Sacred Heart Chapel
8425 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48221

email: parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org

website: www.spcccdetroit.org

Mass: Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Church
(Check the bulletin for holy days and special services)

Reconciliation: Before Mass or By Appointment

**Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday,
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Reverend John Phelps, C.Ss.R., Pastor

Edward Shea, Administrative Manager/Bulletin Editor
Cell: (248) 633-4476

Jennie Sinatra, Formation Director

Stephanie Flounory, Youth & Young Adult Minister

Mary Chavez-Thedford, Administrative Assistant

Ronald Galletero, Facilities Manager

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair