st mary's catholic charch greenville, south carolina



fourth suppay of easter 21 april 2024

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 33.5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth, alleluia; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia, alleluia.

Entrance Hymn

The Day of Resurrection



- 1. The day of res ur rec tion! Earth, spread the news a-broad;
- 2. Our hearts be free from e vil that we may see a right
- 3. His love is ev er last ing; His mer cies nev er cease;
- 4. Now let the heav'ns be joy ful, and earth her song be gin;



- 1. The Pas chal feast of glad ness, the Pas-chal feast of God.
- 2. The Sav ior res ur rect ed in His e ter nal light,
- 3. The res ur rect ed Sav ior, will all our joys in crease.
- 4. The whole world keep high tri umph and all that is there in;



- 1. From death to life e ter nal, from earth to heav-en's height
- 2. And hear his mes-sage plain ly, de liv-ered calm and clear:
- 3. He'll keep us in His fa vor, sup ply ing ho ly grace,
- 4. Let all things in cre a tion their notes of glad-ness blend,



- 1. Our Sav ior Christ has brought us, the glo rious Lord of Light.
- 2. "Re-joice with me in tri-umph, be glad and do not fear."
- 3. To all His pil grim peo ple who seek His heav'n-ly place.
- 4. For Christ the Lord is ris en, our joy that has no end.

Text: 76 76 D; vss. 1, 2, 4, St. John of Damascus, 8th cent.; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Vs. 3 © 1972, John Dunn. All rights reserved. Music: Gesangbuch der Herzogl, Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784, alt.; adapt. fr. Würth's Katholisches Gesanbuvh, 1863



Penitential Act

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

All strike their breast, saying:

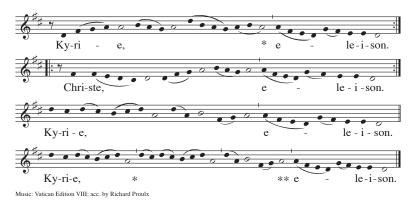
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

People Amen.

Kyrie







♣ Liturgy of the Word ❖

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 4.8-12

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said: "Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is *the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone*. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**





The stone re-ject-ed by the build-ers has be-come the cor-ner-stone.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever.

Second Reading

1 John 3.1-2

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Acclamation



I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. *Response*.

Gospel John 10.11-18

Deacon: The Lord be with you. **People: And with your spirit.**

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily



Profession of Faith (spoken slowly and reverently)

The Apostles' Creed is the baptismal profession of faith of the Holy Roman Church, which is used in the administration of Baptism and at the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter. For this reason, we use this text throughout Lent and Eastertide to profess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Bow profoundly during these two lines:

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Bidding Prayers

The Collection

The offering is for the support of the parish and the Bishop's Annual Appeal. You may donate online using the link below:

Please Click Here to Make a Donation to Saint Mary's Church



Offertory Antiphon

Psalm 63.2, 5

O God, my God, to you do I watch at break of day, and in your name I will lift up my hands, alleluia.

Offertory Hymn

Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word



Offertory Anthem

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

JS Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright; drawn by thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned, striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying 'round Thy throne.



Priest Pray, brethren,

that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

People May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands

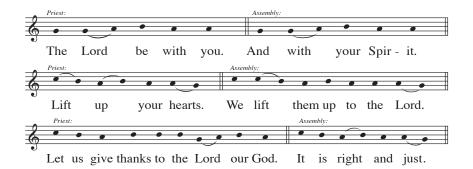
for the praise and glory of his name,

for our good

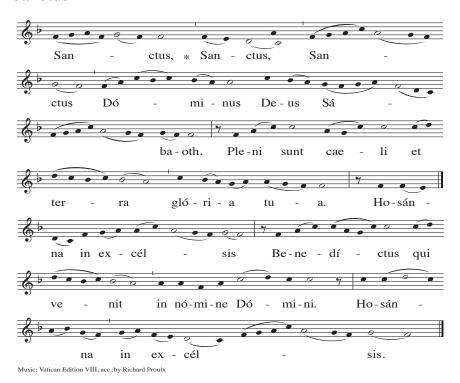
and the good of all his holy Church.

Eucharistic Prayer

Preface Dialogue



Sanctus



Communion Rite

Priest At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

People Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

Priest Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,

graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Priest Lord Jesus Christ,

who said to your Apostles:

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,

look not on our sins,

but on the faith of your Church,

and graciously grant her peace and unity

in accordance with y our will.

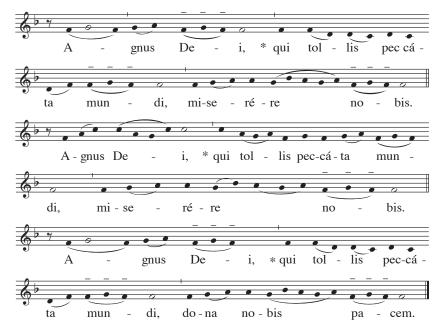
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

People Amen.

Priest The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People And with your spirit.

Agnus Dei



Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx



Priest Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, I love you above all things.
How I long to receive you with my brothers
and sisters at the table you have prepared.
But since I cannot at this moment receive you in
the holy sacrament of your Body and Blood,
I ask you to feed me with the manna of your Holy Spirit
and nourish me with your holy presence.
I unite myself completely to you;
never permit me to be separated from your love.
Amen.

Communion Motets

Psalm 139 Tune: Peter Joseph

LORD, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You trace my journeys and my resting places and are acquainted with all my ways. Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether. You press upon me behind and before me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it. Where can I go then from your Spirit? where can I flee from your presence? If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will thank you because I am marvelously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well. My body was not hidden from vou, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them. How deep I find your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours. Oh, that you would slay the wicked, O God! You that thirst for blood, depart from me. They speak despitefully against you; your enemies take your Name in vain. Do I not hate those, O LORD, who hate you? and do I not loathe those who rise up against you? I hate them with a perfect hatred; they have become my own enemies. Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts. Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting.





- 5. You spread a table in my sight; Your saving grace bestowing; And O what transport of delight From your pure chalice flowing!
- 6. And so through all the length of days
 Your goodness fails me never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
 Within your house for ever.

Text: Psalm (22)23; Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, alt. Tune: ST. COLUMBA, 8 7 8 7; Gaelic; Harm. by A. Gregory Murray, OSB, b.1905, ©



Priest The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

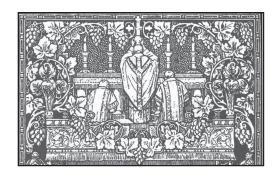
Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

Deacon Go in peace. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

During Mass at St Mary's, the priest and people face the same direction at the altar, a custom that was once universal in the Catholic Church but is now rare in the celebration of the modern liturgy. For an explanation of this practice, please visit our parish website, smcgvl.org, and look in the section called *Parish Links* for the essay entitled *Facing East to Pray*.



Page one: Anonymous.

Page five: Fra Angelico. St Peter Preaching in the Presence of St Mark. (c. 1433).

Page ten: Stained Glass Inc, Panel 2744, digitally edited. (20th century).

Page fourteen: Central cemetery of Kufstein, Austria. (19th century).

Page fifteen: Church of Saint Pothinus, Lyon, France. (19th century).

2003, ABC Music Co. All rights reserved OneLicense.net License #1-701853

from the office of readings for the fourth sunday of easter

I am the good shepherd. I know my own — by which I mean, I love them — and my own know me. In plain words: those who love me are willing to follow me, for anyone who does not love the truth has not yet come to know it.

My dear brethren, you have heard the test we pastors have to undergo. Turn now to consider how these words of our Lord imply a test for yourselves also. Ask yourselves whether you belong to his flock, whether you know him, whether the light of his truth shines in your minds. I assure you that it is not by faith that you will come to know him, but by love; not by mere conviction, but by action. John the evangelist is my authority for this statement. He tells us that anyone who claims to know God without keeping his commandments is a liar.

Consequently, the Lord immediately adds: As the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. Clearly he means that laying down his life for his sheep gives evidence of his knowledge of the Father and the Father's knowledge of him. In other words, by the love with which he dies for his sheep he shows how greatly he loves his Father.

Again he says: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them; they follow me, and I give them eternal life. Shortly before this he had declared: If anyone enters the sheepfold through me he shall be saved; he shall go freely in and out and shall find good pasture. He will enter into a life of faith; from faith he will go out to vision, from belief to contemplation, and will graze in the good pastures of everlasting life.

So our Lord's sheep will finally reach their grazing ground where all who follow him in simplicity of heart will feed on the green pastures of eternity. These pastures are the spiritual joys of heaven. There the elect look upon the face of God with unclouded vision and feast at the banquet of life for ever more.

Beloved brothers, let us set out for these pastures where we shall keep joyful festival with so many of our fellow citizens. May the thought of their happiness urge us on! Let us stir up our hearts, rekindle our faith, and long eagerly for what heaven has in store for us. To love thus is to be already on our way. No matter what obstacles we encounter, we must not allow them to turn us aside from the joy of that heavenly feast. Anyone who is determined to reach his destination is not deterred by the roughness of the road that leads to it. Nor must we allow the charm of success to seduce us, or we shall be like a foolish traveler who is so distracted by the pleasant meadows through which he is passing that he forgets where he is going.

- From a homily on the Gospels by Saint Gregory the Great, pope (b. 540; d. 12 March 604)

from the pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday because of the Scripture readings and Mass prayers appointed for this day in the sacred liturgy. Today's Communion Antiphon, for example, proclaims that "The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia." The Latin word for shepherd is *pastor*, and this reveals why the Church asks us to pray for more priests on Good Shepherd Sunday. The call to the priesthood comes from God, and the Lord has promised always to provide shepherds for his people. Through the Prophet Jeremiah, the Lord promised Israel: "I will give you shepherds after my own heart." (Jeremiah 3.15) But he also asks us to seek the gift of pastors in prayer: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9.37-38)

In Africa, in South America, and in Oceania, the number of young men offering themselves for priestly formation is on the rise, in some cases a dramatic rise. As you know already, however, this is not the case in Europe and in North America - the "developed" world - and the disparity points to one of the chief difficulties for the young men among us who are being called today: sometimes the call is not heard because of the noise in which we live. This cultural noise takes many shapes (e.g. desire for a lucrative career, fear of loneliness, the presence of so many options that making any choice is difficult, etc), but whatever the source of the noise, if the man being called never hears the call, we may assume he'll never find his place and purpose in life.

The priesthood is not a life for extraordinary men; it is an ordinary Christian way of life for ordinary Christian men. But the key to hearing and answering the call is that the man must understand what it means to be a disciple of the Lord Jesus. The radical thing is not forsaking marriage and giving one's life to the Church; the radical thing is being baptized and giving one's life to Jesus Christ, knowing that this means following him in the Way of the Cross. When young men grow up in a vibrant Christian community in which the truth of the Catholic faith is a cause for rejoicing and the beauty of the sacred liturgy is lived day in and day out as the source and summit of the Christian life, then those who are being called will have no difficulty hearing the summons of the Savior to serve his flock as priests, as shepherds, as pastors.

Finally, for a man to know that he is called to the priesthood it is not necessary to search the heavens for mysterious signs of some inscrutable divine plan. There are really only three basic questions to be answered: 1) Do I want to be a priest? 2) Am I willing to sacrifice what must be sacrificed to be a priest? and 3) Do I have all the gifts of nature and grace needed to be a priest? Only the man can answer the first two questions, and only the Church can answer the third.