

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

MAY 3, 2009

—1 John 3:1

SAVED BY THE ONE WHO WAS REJECTED

Some city teenagers often scorn and reject farm kids. Yet it's not exaggeration to say that humanity owes its life to farmers who care for the world's crops and livestock. This week's scriptures remind us that Jesus was as rejected as a shepherd, a farm boy, yet we owe our very lives to him.

In this Sunday's readings from the Acts of the Apostles Peter tells the people that salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the one who was rejected. In John's letter we hear that we have become God's beloved children through Jesus, whom the world did not know. Lastly, in the Gospel Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who "lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). Will you join Jesus in laying down your life for God's beloved flock?

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BUY FLOWERS FOR YOUR MOM... HELP THE POOR

Honor your mother, grandmother, stepmother, or someone who's been like a mother to you with a beautiful rose and at the same time assist our St. Vincent de Paul mission to the needy by supporting our annual rose sale this coming Sunday, Mothers' Day. Roses will be sold after all of the Masses **next Sunday, (Mother's Day)** May 10th.

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a liturgy committee meeting on **Monday, May 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory.** We will review the Easter Season liturgies and plan our Pentecost liturgy.

COMUNIDAD MEETING

Comunidad will meet this Tuesday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fr. Gerald Meisel Parish Hall. Comunidad will celebrate *Cinco de Mayo* with the traditional reenactment of the Battle of Pueblo followed by a Mexican theme potluck and several rousing rounds of Lotteria. Please bring a dish to share. Also bring any items you would like to *regift* as fabulous Lotteria prizes. All are welcome.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER READINGS

The readings for next Sunday are listed below along with questions for your quiet reflection throughout this week.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:26-31

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:18-24

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

What good fruit do I observe in my life as a result of my relationship with Jesus? What dead wood can be pruned to make it more productive? How does the fruit in my life make a difference to those who are hungry for love, peace and justice?

RETREAT ON MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND

MATER DOLOROSA PASSIONIST RETREAT CENTER

700 NO SUNNYSIDE AVENUE, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024

Treat yourself, or ask a loved one to sponsor you, for a weekend away from your everyday life. Mater Dolorosa is hosting a retreat on Mother's Day Weekend (May 8-10.) Join other women in prayer, conferences, liturgies and silence—the theme is "*The Communion of Saints — Our Everyday Heroes.*" Retreat begins Friday evening and ends Sunday morning at 11 a.m. leaving you the rest of the day to be with your family. Call Deacon Brian Clement at 626.355.7188 to register.

REMINDER TO LITURGICAL MINISTERS...

Please send in your non-availability dates for June, July & August by Mon. May 25th. — csaiza@stmatthewlb.org.

RCIA

(RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS)

Calling all non-Catholic adults who are interested in learning more about the Catholic church and calling all baptized Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation! You are invited to join our Sunday classes held immediately after the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Please call Sister Sharon for more information 562.439.0931 x 5.

INFORMATION NIGHT AT ST. ANTHONY HIGH SCHOOL

Families interested in learning more about the advantages of Catholic college preparatory high school experience for upcoming high school students are invited to attend a Public Information Night on Wednesday evening, May 6th in St. Anthony High School's Library Learning Center. The high school's incoming freshman class is near capacity, but St. Anthony is hosting this question/answer session starting at 6:30 p.m. for families who want to tour the campus and speak directly with current students, parents, faculty and staff. Location: 620 Olive Avenue, entrance at 6th & Olive Avenue. For more information call Admission office at 562.435.4496 ext 1214.

REMEMBERING ST. MATTHEW'S IN YOUR PLANS

These are hard times for everyone, including our parish. Right now you may not be able to give as much as you would like, but please consider making St. Matthew's Church the beneficiary of your IRA. If your IRA or Roth IRA is inherited by individuals there will be taxes to pay, but St. Matthew's could receive your IRA tax-free.