

Christ Child Catholic Church
*Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the
Challenges of Loving Service*

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2020

1st reading, Acts 2:14, 36-41

Peter's Sermon:

Peter's conclusion about Jesus: **He is Lord** (God Himself) and **Christ** (Messiah, God's anointed one).

When faced with the truth about Christ and one's guilt before God, there can be only two responses: contempt leading to rejection or conviction leading to repentance. A positive response to the gospel is evidence of one's awareness of sin, need for mercy, and hope in Christ alone to save.

Repent derives from two Greek words meaning "to change one's mind or turn away from." More than just feeling bad, repentance requires a change of attitude toward God, sin, the world, and oneself—turning from trusting self to trusting Christ. Baptism is an outward demonstration of the inward reality of Jesus Christ in a person's life. It is not required for salvation but a requirement because of salvation. Indeed, the word translated for in the text is better rendered "because of."

Here is a foreshadowing of the spread of the gospel to the Gentile world. Peter would soon be called to reach beyond the boundaries of Judaism.

The early church turned its world upside-down for Christ.

2nd reading 1 Peter 2:20-25

Suffering wrongfully is commendable in God's eyes, but there is no reward (**credit**) for those who suffer because of their own wrongdoing. The Greek word for **endures** suggests withstanding an object down on a person. God gives His children this kind of fortitude.

Christ is the **example** for everything in life—including the reality of suffering and the Christian's response to it. He endured and did not retaliate verbally (**revile** or **threaten**) but did what was right and committed the results to the Lord, who **judges righteously**.

The **tree** was a synonym for the cross among first-century Jews. Thanks to Christ's submission and sacrifice, believers are redeemed, released from sin, restored to spiritual health, and returned to safety.

Gospel John 10:1-10

Jesus the True Shepherd

Referring to the Pharisees and other religious leaders, Jesus taught His followers what bad shepherding looked like. A **thief** by nature persists in a lifestyle of stealing for personal gain. A **robber** is violent in his actions (an insurgent or rebel). False shepherds steal the joy and security of God's people, and through their false teaching, drive others away from God.

His sheep are prone to wander, but Jesus the Shepherd leads, guides, and directs them, promising a way out of anxiety, despair, and indecision.

Jesus is the **door** for His sheep. The sheepfold was a round rock wall with an opening for the sheep to enter. The shepherd would herd his flock into that enclosed area and then lie in the entrance so the sheep could not get out, and nothing could get in.

Jesus is the way to the Father. In Jesus' explanation Jesus says, "**I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved...**" This statement is teaching exactly the same truths as other "**I AM**" statements, such as "I AM the way, the truth and the life."

But even in suffering and trials the Good Shepherd is with us. We gather together here because we believe Jesus is our only source of salvation, of safety, of life.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or appointment

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Call the office for an appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually by appointment

For Pregnancy Support

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

MASS INTENTIONS May 2 - 8

Saturday	+ Roy Bortolussi
Sunday	+ Leslie R. Olsen
Monday	Doctors and people of hospitals
Tuesday	+ Harold M. Hoyt
Wednesday	All the Sick
Thursday	Gail Hanley
Friday	+ Jovita Martin de Cabrera

Thank you for your Service! 24 March, 2020

Dear friends at Christ Child Catholic Church, We just received a package from you all here in Afghanistan. Thank you so much for your care and your support! Your encouragement goes a long way to helping us keep serving in the roles our country has called us!

May God bless you all as you serve and follow Him! Sincerely,

Michael Leskowat Chaplain, 329th CSSB

The good shepherd is committed, caring, and courageous.

Thank you very much

For your generosity of financial aid for Easter and sending your donations by mail or through the Bank.

They are helpful! Thank you very much and my admiration with love and prayers.

Fr. Eugenio

Brené Brown

"We will not go back to normal. **Normal never was.** Our pre-corona existence was not normal other than **we normalized greed**, inequity, exhaustion, depletion, extraction, disconnection, confusion, rage **hoarding**, hate and **lack**. We should not long to return, my friends. We are being given the opportunity to **stitch a new garment**.

One that fits all of humanity and nature!

"The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

***In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
beside restful water he leads me;
He refreshes my soul.***

He guides me in right paths for his name's sake.

***Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
With your rod and your staff***

That give me courage.

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;

You anoint my head with oil;

My cup overflows.

***Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;***

***And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
for years to come."***

PRAYER REQUESTS: CAN BE EMAILED TO

christchildchurchprayerline@gmail.com