

*Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds
Cantad a Yahveh un cántico nuevo, porque ha hecho maravillas
Psalm/Salmo 98:1*



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | SEXTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA

St. Anthony of Padua Church

5770 N. MAROA AVENUE, FRESNO, CA 93704
559-439-0124 | WWW.STANTHONYFRESNO.ORG

MAY
5
2024

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STAFF
(559) 439-0124

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 439-0124, ext. 104
fatherrob@stanthonyfresno.org

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Parochial Vicar

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High School Sacraments – LIFETEEN

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Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

(closed 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. for lunch)

BULLETIN/WEBPAGE

Bulletin Editor: bulletin@stanthonyfresno.org

Bulletin inserts are due 4 weeks
 prior to publication.

Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua

The Catholic Christian community of St. Anthony of Padua welcomes all to our celebrations of God's love. Through prayer, education, sacraments, caring and stewardship, we strive to serve the needs of God's people and to gain a richer understanding of the Gospel message of love. We invite you to become a part of our "Parish Life."

Your talents are welcome!

Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Wenzinger, Pastor

Please register at www.stanthonyfresno.org.

Thanks for joining us!

TODAY'S READINGS CAN BE FOUND IN THE GREEN HYMNAL #914

Mass Intentions

5

SUNDAY – 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Mario & Teri Loera by their family

9:30 a.m. † Hedwig & Richard Eisert by Maria Murray

11:00 a.m. † Anne Nist by her family

1:00 p.m. † Teresa Rodriguez Espinoza su Familia Caballero

6:00 p.m. † Dayle Schmeiderer by Rod & Catherine Christensen

6

MONDAY

NO MASS

7

TUESDAY

6:45 a.m. † Jean Posson

8:00 a.m. † Rosa Maria Moya by her family

8

WEDNESDAY

6:45 a.m. † Manuel G. Nuñez by Sara Nuñez

8:00 a.m. † Peter Mendez by Sandra Mendez

9

THURSDAY

6:45 a.m. † Leonard Baptista

8:00 a.m. Intentions (B-Day) of Myah Garcia by Rosalinda Garcia

10

FRIDAY

6:45 a.m. † Robert Olson

8:00 a.m. † John Messina by Marianne Messina

11

SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. All Mothers, Living & Deceased

5:30 p.m. Todas Las Madres, Vivas y Fallecidas

12

SUNDAY – ASCENSION

8:00 a.m. All Mothers, Living & Deceased

9:30 a.m. All Mothers, Living & Deceased

11:00 a.m. All Mothers, Living & Deceased

1:00 p.m. Todas Las Madres, Vivas y Fallecidas

6:00 p.m. Pro Populo (For the intentions of the parish community)



**SILVER ANGELS
MINISTRY**
CINCO DE MAYO LUNCHEON
Wednesday, May 8, 2024
11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
St. Agnes Mission Church Social Hall,
111 W. Birch Steet, Pinedale

St. Anthony and St. Agnes parishioners (50+) are welcome to join us for our monthly luncheon. This month, we will feature food from Antonio's Mexican Restaurant. We will also honor Mothers at this luncheon. Perhaps consider taking mom to this luncheon. Come join us for fun and a good meal! Cost: \$17.00 per person.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall
(includes dinner).



PARISH BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Night Co-Ed Bible Study

Next Session is May 8, 6:30 p.m. in Room 22
Sami/Dina Shwiyhat and Eliseo/Nivia Cuellar will lead men, women, and couples through the 10-week series: *Jesus: The Way, the Truth and the Life*. Please watch the bulletin for class dates.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

10:00 a.m. in Room 21
We have begun a new study, using the *Mary's Mantle Consecration: A Spiritual Retreat for Heaven's Help* book which is available on Amazon or at www.queenofpeacemedia.com/marys-mantle for those who wish to order a copy.



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday (Vigil Mass)

4:00 p.m. – English
5:30 p.m. – Español

Sunday

8:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m.; 11:00 a.m. – English
1:00 p.m. – Español
6:00 p.m. – English

Livestream Mass Schedule

9:30 a.m. – English Mass
1:00 p.m. – Misa Español

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday-Thursday (OLG Chapel)

6:45 a.m. – Daily Mass
8:00 a.m. – Chapel open until 11:00 a.m.

Friday (OLG Chapel)

6:45 a.m. – Daily Mass
8:15 a.m. – Followed by Adoration

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday

9:00-11:00 a.m. – Guadalupe Chapel

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday

6:00 p.m. – Chapel Confessionals

Saturday

10:00 a.m. – Chapel Confessionals



JUEVES – ESTUDIO DE LA BIBLIA

7:00 p.m. en el salón #22
Acompáñenos para reflexionar en las lecturas de la biblia y el Evangelio Dominical. "Tu Palabra es una lámpara a mis pies, es una luz en mi sendero." Salmo 119

Monthly Memorial Mass

Saturday, May 18 – 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

At our Memorial Mass this month, we will remember those who celebrated their funeral Mass here at St. Anthony of Padua or at St. Agnes Mission Church in May 2023. They are Elvira Razo-Alvarez, Mariano Armendarez Ramirez, Vivian Avants, Peter Cottrell Morris, Daniel Libres Sarabosing, Estrellita Graciosa Sarabosing, Elba Edwards, Valentina Padua Tacata, and Teresa Mary Darby. We will light a candle for each person and invite the family to take it home at the end of Mass as a Memorial of their loved one.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES TRUCK

SATURDAY, MAY 25/SUNDAY, MAY 26

Knights of Columbus volunteers will be available to accept your nonmonetary donations of nonperishable food, clothing, household goods and more after each of the weekend Masses. Together we make a difference.



Grupo de Oración

**JUEVES – GRUPO DE ORACIÓN
ENCUENTRO CON DIOS.**

Te invitamos al grupo de oración todos los jueves desde las 6:30 p.m. empezando con El Rosario, en la Iglesia de Santa Inés "Ven y llénate del Señor." 111 W Birch Street, Fresno, CA 93650

For more information on parish groups, call the Ministry Office at 439-0124, ext. 106.

Year of Parish Revival

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

We invite you to pray the Revival prayer in silence after Mass in your pew.

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, nor adore, nor hope, nor love You. Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference by which He is offended. And, through the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of sinners. Amen

¡Oh, mi Dios, yo creo en Ti! ¡Te adoro! ¡Confío en Ti y tu amor! ¡Te pido perdón por los que no creen, no te adoran, no confían en Ti y no te aman! ¡Oh, Santísima Trinidad, Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo, os adoro profundamente! Os ofrezco el preciosísimo Cuerpo, la preciosísima Sangre, El Alma y Divinidad de Cristo Jesús, presente en todos los tabernáculos del mundo, en reparación de todos los ultrajes, sacrilegios y la indiferencia con que es ofendido, y por los méritos infinitos del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús y del Inmaculado Corazón de María, os ruego por la conversión de los pecadores. Amén

STEWARDSHIP – MANAGING GOD’S GIFTS TO US

Sharing the Gifts We Have Been Given!

April 14, 2024	\$22,314.00
Last year’s Plate Income	\$23,908.00
Difference	\$1,594.00
Year-to-Date Plate Collection • <i>Colectas Del Año Hasta La Fecha</i>	
July 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	\$914,803.37
July 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023	\$751,409.74
Difference	\$163,393.63

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY GRACIAS POR SU CONTINUA GENEROSIDAD



GIVE ONLINE – Easy, Safe, and Convenient: When you give to God, you discover that God gives to you. You can also drop your envelope in the mail slot located in the door on the south side of the Parish Office.



SECOND COLLECTION

for Parish Improvements

SEGUNDA COLECCIÓN para mejoras parroquiales

The following couples will marry in the coming weeks:

John Korafus & Madison Mora
Jesus & Alejandra Servin
Brandon Cruz & Nicole Rosenhagen

If you know of any canonical reason for them not to be married, please contact the Parish Office.



ST. AGNES MISSION CHURCH

111 W. Birch Street, Pinedale, CA 93650
(559) 439-2100

Sunday 9:00 a.m. English – Mass Intention: Pro Populo (For the intentions of the parish community)

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Español – Misa Intencion: Pro Populo (Por las intenciones de la comunidad parroquial)

For the following Sacraments, please contact St. Anthony of Padua: Anointing of the Sick • Baptisms • Confession • Funerals • Weddings

Please mail any correspondence, contributions, Mass intentions to: St. Anthony of Padua – 5770 N. Maroa Avenue, Fresno, CA 93704

Sacraments & Pastoral Support..... Chris Shiveley (559) 439-0124, ext. 103
cshiveley@stanthonyfresno.org

Director of Religious Education..... Phyllis Carmona

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN	
April 14, 2024	\$1,483.75
2023-2024 YTD Total	\$66,357.91
WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY! GRACIAS POR SU CONTINUA GENEROSIDAD	

“Christ has made my soul beautiful with jewels of grace and virtue. I belong to Him Whom the Angels serve.” – St. Agnes



ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO - VISALIA

2024 Priest Ordination – Saturday, May 25 at St. Charles Borromeo

There will be no Confessions at St. Anthony of Padua on Saturday, May 25.

Please continue to pray for Deacon Herman (Hermenejildo Cabrera) and his classmates as they prepare for this joyous occasion and the beginning of their priestly ministry.



**Defending the
Dignity of
Human Life**

Mother's Day Corsage Sale

The Knights of Columbus Council 6092 will be at the St. Anthony Pavilion after the Masses on **Sunday, May 12th** beginning at 8:00 a.m. until all 200 corsages are sold.

Please support life; mothers, babies and the vulnerable through the efforts of Right to Life of Central California.



\$10

Parish Ministry Guide –

Christ said, "I have come to serve, not to be served."

The prayers during the Mass invite us to offer our prayers and gifts to the Lord. Liturgical Ministry calls the faithful to be part of the Mass. We all feel unworthy to serve, just as Christ's disciples, who were fishermen before Christ called them.

Is Christ calling you?

ALTAR SERVER

We invite parents of youth (4th grade and up, who have received their First Holy Communion) to prayerfully consider the unique opportunity for your child to grow closer to Our Lord and His Church as an Altar Server. You can register online at stanthonyfresno.org/ministries/, then click on Altar Servers or call the Parish Office at 439-0124 for more details.



SERVIDOR DE ALTAR

Invitamos a los padres de los jóvenes (de 4º grado en adelante, que hayan recibido su Primera Comunión) a considerar en oración la oportunidad única de que su hijo crezca más cerca de Nuestro Señor y de Su Iglesia como Monaguillo. Usted puede registrarse en línea en stanthonyfresno.org/ministries/, luego haga clic en Altar Servers o llame a la oficina de la parroquia en 439-0124 para más detalles.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Considered the unique honor to offer the "Body of Christ" to the faith community. Ministers are commissioned by our pastor to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. Candidates should be 18 years of age and be in full communion with the church (all sacraments).



MINISTROS DE LA EUCARISTÍA

Se considera el honor único de ofrecer el "Cuerpo de Cristo" a la comunidad de fe. Los ministros son comisionados por nuestro párroco para asistir en la distribución de la Sagrada Comunión en la Misa. Los candidatos deben tener 18 años de edad y estar en plena comunión con la iglesia (todos los sacramentos).

LECTORS

Do you remember the joy of reading to your children before bed? If so, chances are you're a Lector candidate. Persons, 5th grade and older, who have made their First Holy Communion with good reading skills can serve as a Lector at Mass.



LECTORES

¿Recuerda la alegría de leer a sus hijos antes de dormir? Si es así, lo más probable es que usted sea un candidato a Lector. Las personas, de 5º grado en adelante, que han hecho su Primera Comunión con buenas habilidades de lectura pueden servir como Lector en la Misa.

Interested Lector and Eucharistic Minister candidates should contact Martha in the Parish Office at 439-0124, ext. 114 or by email. *Los candidatos Ministerio Eucarístico y lectores interesados deben contactar a Martha en la oficina parroquial al 439-0124, ext. 114 o por correo electrónico.*

USHER & GREETER MINISTRY

Are you the type to get to church early? Why not join the Usher Ministry and greet your fellow parishioners as they enter the church? Ushers assist with the collection and act as Eucharistic Guards during Communion. Join the team and serve when you can. Call the Parish Office at 439-0124, ext. 106 for more details or complete the Volunteer Registration at www.stanthonyfresno.org/ministries.



MINISTERIO DE UJIERES Y SALUDADORES

¿Eres de los que llegan temprano a la iglesia? ¿Por qué no te unes al Ministerio de Ujieres y saludas a tus feligreses cuando entran en la iglesia? Los ujieres ayudan con la colecta y actúan como guardias eucarísticos durante la comunión. Únase al equipo y sirva cuando pueda. Llame a la oficina parroquial al 439-0124, ext. 106 para obtener más detalles o complete el registro de voluntarios en www.stanthonyfresno.org/ministries.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Are you a Eucharistic Minister who is being called to serve the members of our parish who are unable to come to Mass on Sunday due to illness or other limitation? We are looking for Eucharistic Ministers who are willing to take Holy Communion after Mass to the members of the parish who are Homebound. If you are interested, please contact the Office of Ministry at 439-0124, ext. 106.



MINISTERIO DE LOS CONFINADOS EN CASA

¿Es usted un Ministro Eucarístico que está siendo llamado a servir a los miembros de nuestra parroquia que no pueden asistir a Misa el domingo debido a una enfermedad u otra limitación? Estamos buscando un Ministro Eucarístico que esté dispuesto a llevar la Sagrada Comunión después de la Misa a los miembros de la parroquia que están en sus hogares. Si está interesado, comuníquese con la Oficina del Ministerio al 439-0124, ext. 106.

We Need You...

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Faith Formation & Sacrament

Preparation for Grades K through 6th

FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST COMMUNION & SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Classes are in session, Sundays at 3:00 p.m.

Additionally, Second Year students and parent(s) attend one Thursday per month at 6:30 p.m.

Registrations available on our website: stanthonyfresno.org

For more information or to volunteer in children's ministry, contact Mary Briseno at (559) 439-0124 ext. 113 or by email: mbriseno@stanthonyfresno.org

EDGE

2023-2024 for Grades 6th through 8th

Director, Sharon Christison, ext. 117, schristison@stanthonyfresno.org

Catholic Youth Ministry Sessions are Tuesday Evenings in Room 22 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Register at www.stanthonyfresno.org. Click on Faith Formation tab and scroll down to click one of the EDGE options.

EDGE is a Catholic youth group that is designed to meet the educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of young adolescents. As young adolescents, they are trying to figure out who they are and what they believe. Youth can prepare for sacraments of Baptism and First Communion while attending Edge.



LIFETEEN High School Youth Ministry

2023-2024 for Grades 9 through 12

Director, Sharon Christison, ext. 117, schristison@stanthonyfresno.org

LifeTeen is a movement within the Roman Catholic Church. LifeTeen leads teenagers and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. We create a dynamic space where the youth can develop friendships with their peers, learn more about their faith, and encounter Jesus in the Sacraments.



First Year Confirmation:

Confirmation is a two-year program for High School students who are sophomores and older. Confirmation candidates usually meet Sunday evenings with our Life Teen Youth Group. Meetings would consist of attending the Life Teen 6:00 p.m. Mass and then the Life Night until 8:30 p.m.

Second Year Confirmation:

Confirmation 2 is open to juniors and seniors who have completed their first year of preparation. Second-year sessions are on Sunday evenings. LifeTeen Life Nights began in September for all high school teens. Invite a friend and grow together.

RCIA: RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS
Tuesdays: 6:30-8:00 p.m. St. Anthony Conference Room (aka Donut Room)

Director, Martha Danks-Ferguson

439-0124, ext. 114; mdanksferg@stanthonyfresno.org

See our website to register: www.stanthonyfresno.org

Click on *Faith Formation* or scroll down to the RCIA icon.

We welcome adults seeking any of the Sacraments of Initiation:

Baptism, Confirmation or Eucharist

New folks are welcome to join us any time during the year.

If you have any questions, please contact Martha by phone or email.

GIFT EDUCACION RELIGIOSA

Formación de Fe y Preparación Sacramental para niños del Kinder – 6to grados

PRIMERA RECONCILIACION, PRIMERA COMUNION, Y SACRAMENTOS DE INICIACION

Las Clases son los domingos a 3:00 p.m. Adicional, en el Segundo Año escolar los estudiantes y sus padres asisten a un jueves por mes a las 6:30 p.m.

Inscripciones disponibles en nuestra página web: stanthonyfresno.org

Para mas información o para ser voluntario en el ministerio de niños, comuníquese con Mary Briseno al (559) 439-0124 ext. 113 o por email: mbriseno@stanthonyfresno.org



CONFIRMACIÓN

EN ESPAÑOL

Para Jóvenes Bilingües en High School



¡INSCRIPCIONES!

Las inscripciones para la confirmación en español ya están abiertas. Visite nuestra pagina de web a stanthonyfresno.org o escanee el QR Code al lado para registrarse.

LAS CLASES COMENZARON EN EL MES DE AGOSTO, 2023.

Para más información comuníquese con el Diacono Edgar al 439-0124, ext. 111 o ebriseno@stanthonyfresno.org.



SACRAMENTOS PARA ADULTOS

Adultos mayores de 18 años interesados en los Sacramentos de Primera Comunión, Confirmación o Bautismo hablar con Hermana Edith, ext. 122 o sisteredith@stanthonyfresno.org.

LECTIONARY STUDY – (Rowdies' – Women's Bible Study) with Martha – Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. We will delve into the readings for the upcoming weekend and prepare our hearts to receive the Good News anew.

RESPONSE

Reflection on John 15:9-17

The primary biblical movement is: God initiates, we respond. This truth will keep us from falling into the trap of believing that God is something/someone with whom we obtain a relationship through our search, our effort. Or falling into the subtle error that God is an object of our thoughts/ideas, rather than recognizing that we are an idea in the mind and heart of God.

The amazing truth that God chose us ("It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you"), and that we are God's friends (and not slaves), gives us a dignity to celebrate! That dignity and worth is pure gift – God's initiative, God's work, and not ours. When we accept this gift, when we embrace our friendship with God, the only proper response is to "make a return." That is, to give witness with our lives to this friendship with God through self-sacrificing love of others. In this way, we keep God's command, to "love one another."

~ Fr. Jay

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
1 Jn 4:7-10
Jn 15:9-17

Monday, May 6, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 16:11-15
Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b
Jn 15:26–16:4a

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 16:22-34
Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8
Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 17:15, 22–18:1
Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14
Jn 16:12-15

Thursday, May 9, 2024

Easter Weekday (Ascension of the Lord, observed on May 12)
Acts 18:1-8
Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
Jn 16:16-20

Friday, May 10, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 18:9-18
Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Jn 16:20-23

Saturday, May 11, 2024

Easter Weekday
Acts 18:23-28
Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10
Jn 16:23b-28

Access Daily Readings from
the New American Bible,
Revised Edition (NABRE) online at
<https://bible.usccb.org>



SAINT DAMIEN DE VEUSTER OF MOLOKA'I

Saint of the Day: May 10

Patron Saint of: Leprosy

When Joseph de Veuster was born in Tremelo, Belgium, in 1840, few people in Europe had any firsthand knowledge of leprosy, Hansen's disease. By the time he died at the age of 49, people all over the world knew about this disease because of him. They knew that human compassion could soften the ravages of this disease.

Forced to quit school at age 13 to work on the family farm, Joseph entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary six years later, taking the name of a fourth-century physician and martyr. When his brother Pamphile, a priest in the same congregation, fell ill and was unable to go to the Hawaiian Islands as assigned, Damien quickly volunteered in his place. In May 1864, two months after arriving in his new mission, Damien was ordained a priest in Honolulu and assigned to the island of Hawaii.

In 1873, he went to the Hawaiian government's leper colony on the island of Moloka'i, set up seven years earlier. Part of a team of four chaplains taking that assignment for three months each year, Damien soon volunteered to remain permanently, caring for the people's physical, medical, and spiritual needs. In time, he became their most effective advocate to obtain promised government support. Soon the settlement had new houses and a new church, school and orphanage. Morale improved considerably. A few years later, he succeeded in getting the Franciscan Sisters of Syracuse, led by Mother Marianne Cope, to help staff this colony in Kalaupapa.

Damien contracted Hansen's disease and died of its complications. As requested, he was buried in Kalaupapa, but in 1936 the Belgian government succeeded in having his body moved to Belgium. Part of Damien's body was returned to his beloved Hawaiian brothers and sisters after his beatification in 1995. Damien was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009.

Read the full article: "Saint Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i" *Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, franciscanmedia.org/saint-damien-de-veuster-of-molokai/* (Accessed April 22, 2024).

ESCRITURA SEMANAL

Domingo, 5 de mayo de 2024

Sexto domingo de Pascua
Hch 10, 25-26. 34-35. 44-48
Sal 98,1.2-3.3-4
1 Jn 4,7-10
Jn 15, 9-17

Lunes, 6 de mayo de 2024

Semana Santa
Hch 16, 11-15
Sal 149,1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a y 9b
Jn 15,26-16,4a

Martes, 7 de mayo de 2024

Semana Santa
Hch 16, 22-34
Sal 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8
Jn 16, 5-11

Miércoles, 8 de mayo de 2024

Semana Santa
Hch 17,15.22-18,1
Sal 148, 1-2, 11-12, 13, 14
Jn 16, 12-15

Jueves, 9 de mayo de 2024

Semana Santa (Ascensión del Señor, observada el 12 de mayo)
Hch 18,1-8
Sal 98,1.2-3ab.3cd-4
Jn 16,16-20

Viernes, 10 de mayo de 2024

Semana Santa
Hch 18,9-18
Sal 47, 2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Jn 16, 20-23

Sábado, 11 de mayo de 2024

Semana Santa
Hch 18,23-28
Sal 47, 2-3. 8-9. 10
Jn 16,23b-28

Acceda a las lecturas diarias de la Nueva Biblia Americana, Edición Revisada (NABRE) en línea en <https://bible.usccb.org>

RESPONSE

Reflection on John 15:9-17

El principal movimiento bíblico es: Dios inicia, nosotros respondemos. Esta verdad nos impedirá caer en la trampa de creer que Dios es algo/alguien con quien obtenemos una relación mediante nuestra búsqueda, nuestro esfuerzo. O caer en el sutil error de que Dios es un objeto de nuestros pensamientos/ideas, en lugar de reconocer que somos una idea en la mente y el corazón de Dios.

La asombrosa verdad de que Dios nos eligió ("No fuisteis vosotros quienes me elegisteis a mí, sino yo quien os elegí a vosotros"), y de que somos amigos de Dios (y no esclavos), ¡nos da una dignidad que celebrar! Esa dignidad y ese valor son puro don: iniciativa de Dios, obra de Dios, y no nuestra. Cuando aceptamos este don, cuando abrazamos nuestra amistad con Dios, la única respuesta adecuada es "devolver." Es decir, dar testimonio con nuestras vidas de esta amistad con Dios a través del amor abnegado a los demás. De este modo, cumplimos el mandamiento de Dios: "Amaos los unos a los otros."

~ P. Jay

SAN DAMIÁN DE VEUSTER Y DAMIÁN DE MOLOKA'I

Santo del día: 10 de mayo

Patrón de: Lepra

Cuando Joseph de Veuster nació en Tremelo, Bélgica, en 1840, pocas personas en Europa conocían de primera mano la lepra, la enfermedad de Hansen. Cuando murió, a la edad de 49 años, todo el mundo conocía esta enfermedad gracias a él. Sabían que la compasión humana podía suavizar los estragos de esta enfermedad.

Obligado a dejar la escuela a los 13 años para trabajar en la granja familiar, José ingresó en la Congregación de los Sagrados Corazones de Jesús y María seis años más tarde, tomando el nombre de un médico y mártir del siglo IV. Cuando su hermano Pánfilo, sacerdote de la misma congregación, cayó enfermo y no pudo ir a las islas Hawai como estaba asignado, Damián se ofreció rápidamente en su lugar. En mayo de 1864, dos meses después de llegar a su nueva misión, Damián fue ordenado sacerdote en Honolulu y destinado a la isla de Hawai.

En 1873, fue a la colonia de leproso del gobierno hawaiano en la isla de Moloka'i, creada siete años antes. Formaba parte de un equipo de cuatro capellanes que realizaban esa misión durante tres meses al año, pero pronto se ofreció voluntario para quedarse permanentemente, atendiendo las necesidades físicas, médicas y espirituales de la gente. Con el tiempo, se convirtió en su defensor más eficaz para obtener la ayuda gubernamental prometida.

Pronto el asentamiento tuvo casas nuevas, una iglesia, una escuela y un orfanato. La moral mejoró considerablemente. Unos años más tarde, consiguió que las Hermanas Franciscanas de Siracusa, dirigidas por la Madre Marianne Cope, ayudaran a dotar de personal a esta colonia de Kalaupapa.

Damián contrajo la enfermedad de Hansen y murió de sus complicaciones. Como había solicitado, fue enterrado en Kalaupapa, pero en 1936 el gobierno belga consiguió que su cuerpo fuera trasladado a Bélgica. Parte del cuerpo de Damián fue devuelto a sus queridos hermanos y hermanas hawaianos tras su beatificación en 1995. Damián fue canonizado por el Papa Benedicto XVI el 11 de octubre de 2009.

Lea el artículo completo en inglés: "Saint Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, franciscanmedia.org/saint-damien-de-veuster-of-molokai/ (consultado el 22 de abril de 2024).





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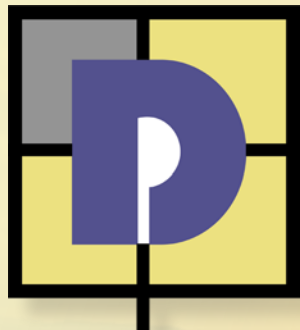
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