



Jesus Is the Good Shepherd

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Unconventions

Conventions – and traditions - exist everywhere. These include methods and rituals in mathematics, medicine, politics. Faith also. For example, customary and known are the symbols and words used for Christmas, Lent, and Easter.

And, we are often very comfortable speaking about these formal rituals. Sometimes, we are more comfortable speaking about these than we are speaking of the faith which animates them.

Decades of personal religious experience enable us to speak in conventional – and convincing ways – about the faith we have experienced and known.

And, centuries of religious experience enabled the Jewish people to ask our Lord Jesus about the tradition he had been following or not following in his ministry. There were questions about fasting, about the resurrection of the dead, about the Sabbath and others.

Questions come from both religious and secular leaders.

The leaders of Judaism challenge Jesus with, “If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” (John 10:24) And, the leaders of Rome – via Pontius Pilate – ask, “are you the King of the Jews?” (John 18:33)

Authentic – but unexpected – are his responses of which tell of both the existing (conventional) and the new covenant. The new covenant is in his body and blood. And, Jesus refers to a kingdom not of this world.

The convention-leaders in Jerusalem (who want to know his religion) and in Rome (who want to know his politics) remain confused. It will take some time for them to understand the Gospel and its new conventions and relationships.

We ourselves have our own Catholic traditions of music, architecture, and the overall quality of the celebration. We review them, rate them. Thumbs up? Thumbs down? Should I go back next Sunday?

To be a Catholic and Christian means to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. While our faith also invites us to common practice and worship, our faith journey is always about seeking God’s presence rather than imposing it with our own actions or words

By moving away from conventional conversations about religion, we seek an unconventional conversion. God is not a set of laws or conventions, but rather a person.

A person who lived, died and rose from the dead. And, conversion is not only for the one about to be baptized. Conversion is a daily experience for every Christian.

As Paul writes, we are to pray unceasingly. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

We are called to bring the ordinary struggles of our daily life and to bring them to prayer. This moves us away from the conventional and to the personal.

Our worship here is not a “convention” that enables us to depart from our “regular life” but rather a continuity so that we can bring our struggles to Jesus and to the cross and to pray for new life and resurrection.

As St. Francis de Sales wrote:

“Take care, then, never to speak of God or those things which concern him in a merely formal, conventional manner; but with [personal] earnestness and devotion, avoiding the affected way in which some professionally religious people are perpetually interlarding their conversation with pious words and sayings, after a most unseasonable and unthinking manner. Too often they imagine that they are themselves as pious as their words, which is probably not the case.” (Francis De Sales, *Introduction to the Devout Life*, p. 148 or Part 3 (Counsels Concerning the Practice of Virtue), chapter 26 (Of Conversation/How to Speak of God))

In Christ’s Peace,
Father Jim Ferry



For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2018

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection: May 4-5*	\$ 4611
Deficit:	\$ 2189

*** Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit**

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY 18 MAY

8:30 am Anna Andreas
5:30 pm Carmaleta Ann Harris

SUNDAY 19 MAY

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am Mary & Thomas Foley
11:30 am Richard Iannacone

MONDAY 20 MAY

8:30 am Benjamin Volpe

TUESDAY 21 MAY

8:30 am Toni Evette Orcinoli

WEDNESDAY 22 MAY

8:30 am Anna Frazzano

THURSDAY 23 MAY

8:30 am Glennon J. Huck

FRIDAY 24 MAY

8:30 am Gozie & Patricia Onochie
Special Intentions

SATURDAY 25 MAY

8:30 am Virgin Lourdes
5:30 pm Christian Okeke

SUNDAY 26 MAY

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am Grace Gaston Sabal
11:30 am Vilma Kahn



SUNDAY 19 MAY

10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY 23 MAY

10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for June 2nd bulletin email: lourdesbulletin@aol.com.

6:00 pm Choir Practice

SUNDAY 26 MAY

9:30 am



10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal



Anointing of the Sick

- ◆ **Anointing of the Sick:** It is offered to all those who are seriously sick to help heal them not only of their physical sickness but also of the things that hurt them "on the inside" when they suffer.
- ◆ The sacrament helps sick people to find God even in their suffering. It helps them use their suffering to enter more deeply into Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection. It also helps people who are seriously ill to grow spiritually through their illness. It helps give them courage and hope.

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Vincent Aiello, Sean Bailey,
Josefina Balerdi, Suzane Ball,

Kazimiera Borchet, Darlene Cangialosi,
Teresa Carbin, Josephine Ciullo, Tom Collinson,
Jeannie Cox, Ramona De Castro, Peggy Dolan,
Pierre Ferrus, Catherine Gascoyne, Al Gebhardt,
Judy Givas, Gary Grasso, Alberta Greco, Michael
Harris, Marissa and Richard Hedstrom, Jovann
Henry, Yann Henry, Glenn Holland, Prepty Joint,
Bruce Kiefer, Tim Klein, James Leung, Rose
Mateus, Marion McConville, Mary McGuinness,
Stephanie Montano, Noreen Meyers, Liam
Morley, Florence Olabiyi, William Ollenschleger,
Otilia Ortega, Idelourdes Petion, Patrick Pierre,
Mark Quarno, Thelma Ramaglia, Amy Ricciardi,
Mary Lou Ruppel, Marie Salvatoriello, Vincent
Santucci, Jr., Heather Scoffone, Patricia Seib,
Natalie Sims, Jimmy Tiernan, Robin Tobia,
Harry Vendemia, Annalisa Verdi, Ann Whelan,
Michael Whelan, George Zachos.

If you wish to have a loved one prayed for,
please call the rectory at 973.325.0110.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS— SUNDAY 26 MAY

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30 pm	Joe Riopel	Judith Albore Frank Refinski Eileen Reilly	Francesca Appolon David Broking Jordan Broking
7:30 am	MaryEllen Chandler	Bless Bernardo Mary Cassels Patricia Saway	Tim Brennan
9:30 am Choir	Kathy Petrillo	Annette Chiaramonte JoAnne Chiaramonte Joseph Petrillo Myrna Regino	Seamus Murphy Volunteer
11:30 am	Julie Nzegwu	Virginia Dimapilis Carmelita Dizon Wendy Sheyka	Ikenna Odoemene Leslie Odoemene
11:30 am	Children's Liturgy -	Rachelle Brown	

Around the Parish & Community

PIPE DREAM ➔

Church Organ

Raffle Winner
ANNOUNCED!

Congratulations

to our May 4 \$500 winner:

ANTHONY C. FUSCO

PRAYERS FOR OUR PRE-CANA COUPLES



On **Saturday, JUNE 1, 2019**, the Pre-Cana team jointly sponsored by St. Joseph's and Our Lady of Lourdes Parishes will be hosting 22 engaged

couples for an all-day, Pre-Cana marriage preparation session at Our Lady of Lourdes. Slips with the names of the couples are in baskets at the doors of the church. We ask you to take home the names of one or more couples and pray for them leading up to their Pre-Cana in two weeks.



FOOD FOR THE NEEDY

May 25-26 is our monthly food collection for St. John's Church, Newark. Please bring non-perishable food and place it in the bins in the Church lobbies.

Thank you.

OUR TRICKY TRAY RESULTS ARE IN -

"Another Great Year"

**A BIG
THANK
YOU**

To Eileen Reilly, Marge Christiano, Ann Pflug, their hardworking committee members, our wrappers and all who volunteered to make a great Tricky Tray this year. 275 gathered in the School Cafeteria on April 26th to join in the fun of winning more than 330 gift baskets.

A special thank you also to all of our prize & monetary donors and to all who attended to make our evening a huge success.

On May 16th, at the Town Hall Parish Council Meeting, The Rosary Altar Society's President was pleased to present Fr. Jim with their check for the proceeds of the event in the amount of **\$14,559.82** and requested that the monies be restricted for church capital expenditures for the parish.

May Our Lady of Lourdes continue to watch over and pray for us. God Bless.
Carol Ann Ford, President
Rosary Altar Society

Mary, the Mother of Compassion



Mary has a special love and sensitivity for all of God's children. This was manifested on many occasions but was most pronounced at the wedding feast of Cana in which she interceded for the bride and groom when the supply of wine was depleted at their celebration. We can imitate sensitivity to the needs of others by donating any unwanted clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, and books (no reference books) to Catholic Charities. The donation bin is located in the Church's vicinity.

Thank you.

Archdiocese -



Partial Tuition Scholarship for African American Students

All students of African descent about to graduate from high school who are headed to college or technical/trade school may apply for a grant/gift from the "Bishop Joseph Francis" Scholarship Fund of the Archdiocese of Newark. There is a link to the scholarship application on the LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG home page—or call our rectory office and we can give you the instructions.