



Living with Our Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

e live with a maze of instincts—some from the dark side and some from the light. In her book *Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson describes how cultures tend to consign certain individuals to the bottom of the social ladder. She specifically compares the caste system in India with how the Nazis sought to suppress and eliminate Jews and with the way blacks were oppressed by slavery and even in our own time. She describes the instinct in every society to relegate others to a lower class, always seeking to ensure that we are not at the bottom. This instinct can come from the dark side of people.

There is also an instinct for goodness to others, an instinct of light—to recognize everyone as brothers and sisters. As Saint John notes, "we are God's children now"

(1 John 3:2). It is the voice of the Shepherd instilled in the human spirit that calls us into one fold, the voice of God urging us to healing goodness.

It is the dark side that nurtures white supremacy. It is the light that enables us to see beyond the color of our skin. It is the dark side that excludes those who seem different. It is the light that welcomes and offers hospitality. It is the dark side that succumbs to fear. It is the light of God's love that confronts the wolves of hate and urges us to follow. There is always tension between darkness and light.

Reflect-

How does the voice of the Good Shepherd call you to reject the dark and embrace the light?

Saint Francis Village Catholic Chapel

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REFLECTIONS

A Litany for Faithful Christians

WE ADORE YOU, O LORD:

- True God and true man, truly present in the Eucharist
- Our Savior, God with us, faithful and rich in mercy
- King and Lord of creation and of history
- · Conqueror of sin and death
- Friend of humankind, Risen One, Living One who sits at the right hand of the Father.

WE BELIEVE IN YOU, O LORD:

- Only begotten Son of the Father, descended from heaven for our salvation
- Heavenly physician, who bows down over our misery
- Lamb who was slain, who offer yourself to rescue us from evil
- Good Shepherd, who give your life for the flock which you love
- Living bread and medicine for immortality who give us eternal life

DELIVER US, O LORD:

- From the power of Satan and the seductions of the world
- From the pride and presumption of being able to do anything without you
- From the deceptions of fear and anxiety
- From unbelief and desperation
- From hardness of heart and the incapacity to love

SAVE US, O LORD:

- From every evil that afflicts humanity
- From hunger, famine and egoism
- From illnesses, epidemics and fear of our brothers and sisters
- From being deceived, from false information and the manipulation of others

GRANT US YOUR SPIRIT, O LORD:

- In the hour of trial and from confusion
- In temptation and in our battle against sin and evil
- In the search for what is truly good
- In the decision to remain in you and in your friendship

OPEN US TO HOPE, O LORD:

- Should hatred close our hearts
- Should sin oppress us
- Should sorrow visit us
- Should the fear of death overwhelm us

From Father Ken



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We have arrived at the Fourth Week in Easter: The half-way mark in our Easter Season Journey. Easter is considered the most important Season and Feast in the Christian Calendar. The Easter Season is 50 continuous days from Easter Sunday ~ seven full weeks after Easter Sunday.

Some cultures delight in wishing people they come in contact with "Happy Easter" thoughout the entire Easter Season. Saint John Chrysostom proclaimed in his famous Easter Homily: Christ has destroyed death - now is the feast of Faith.

On Tuesday April 23rd at 7:00PM, you are invited to assist the Knights of Columbus with our monthly preparation of 500 sandwiches for the Presbyterian Night Shelter.

We close our annual enrollment for the Gregorian Masses at the end of this month. If you would like 30 consecutive Masses prayed for you at death, consider enrolling in our Gregorian Mass Ministry. This practice was instituted by Pope Gregory the Great who was Pope from 590 to 604. Pope Gregory the Great had 30 consecutive Masses celebrated for the soul of Justus, a monk who died in St. Andrew's Convent in Rome. At the end of the 30th Mass, the deceased Justus appeared to a fellow monk and announced that he had been delivered from the flames of Purgatory at the conclusion of the 30th Mass celebrated for him. The annual donation of \$60.00 or four payments of \$15.00 can be made at the Chapel Office. The donation also can be placed in an envelope designating that it is for Gregorian Masses with a notation of the person for whom the Masses are to be said. Recently we scheduled 30 consecutive Masses for Helen Wolfe who was enrolled in the Gregorian Mass Ministry.

Thursday April 25th at 9:00AM, we celebrate the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist. He is believed to be the "John Mark" referred to in the Acts of the Apostles. St. Mark lived in Alexandria for many years and died a martyr's death while being drug through the streets of that City. Throughout the ordeal, St. Mark never ceased praising God and thanking Him for his sufferings.

In closing, I came across a study revealing that those who believe in Jesus as truly present in the Eucharist do not leave the Catholic Church. Matthew Kelly, founder of Dynamic Catholic Institute, said: We must trust, surrender, believe, and receive in order to be bold Catholics who are people of the Eucharist.

May Christ's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

God Give You Peace, Mike Pierson



Celebrate the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist Thursday April 25th at 9AM Mass

Mass Intentions

IVIASS IIILEITLIONS	
April 21, 2024	Intention of all SFV Catholic Chapel Parishioners
April 22, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Camille Pierce
	By Bill & Judy Die
April 23, 2024	Fr. Bob Strittmatter
April 24, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Carlos Ayala
	By Gloria Gonzales
April 25, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Mable Groh
	By Jim Groh
April 26, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Ross Martinez
	By Howard Herring
April 27, 2024	Repose of the Soul of Diana Guiterrez
	5:00 PM Vigil Mass)

Dear Padre,

My son was raised Catholic and still claims he is Catholic, but he and his wife go to a Protestant church. How should I deal with my frustration?

Many parents and grandparents today share your frustration. They raised their children Catholic, maybe even sent them to Catholic schools, but the children have grown up and chosen not to continue to be faithful Catholics. A recent survey showed that nine out of ten people say they believe in God, but often they are not committed to a single religion or house of worship. About



half of the people questioned attend religious services less than once a month, or never. The loyalty to one Church that was evident in our own lives, or in our parents' and grandparents' lives, is lacking in today's people under age fifty-five.

What can one do about this situation? Certainly pray for your children and continue to give a good example through your own loyalty to the Catholic Church and attendance at Sunday Mass. Invite your son and his wife to attend with you when they visit. As your children age, they may become more interested in your family's history and traditions, and the religion of their childhood may again appear attractive. Try to be patient and continue to pray that your children will return to the Church of their roots.

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY

April 22 Easter Weekday Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10

TUESDAY

April 23 Easter Weekday Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY

April 24 Easter Weekday Acts 12:24-13:5a Jn 12:44-50

THURSDAY

April 25 St. Mark, Evangelist 1 Pt 5:5b-14 Mk 16:15-20

FRIDAY

April 26 Easter Weekday Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6

SATURDAY

April 27 Easter Weekday Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14

SUNDAY

April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 9:26-31 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone.... He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God....The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 25, 2021

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