



To Be or Not to Be...Spiritual

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Just as we may hear the voice of our mother echoing in our head long after she has passed away, in much the same way do we who gather week after week as people of faith begin to hear the words and wisdom of the Lord Jesus. It is how he shepherds us, and how we follow him—by hearing and then living his word.

There are some who say they are not religious, but they are spiritual. Ultimately, to be spiritual is to have a core set of values by which one lives. One's core values can take many shapes. For us, who call ourselves disciples of Jesus, to be spiritual is to take on the values and wisdom of Jesus—to allow his way to take root in the core of who we are. It means living by the wisdom of his word. Being spiritual includes *honesty, gentleness, patience, joy, civility, simple living, mercy, compassion, peace, reverence and awe, obedience, justice, courage, balance in life, humility, chastity, kindness, generosity, lightheartedness, care for the common good, prayerfulness, and respect for all of creation as holy.*

Spirituality is about absorbing the lifestyle of Jesus, about his word echoing in our lives, something that takes a lifetime. Religion, specifically our Catholic faith, is the practice of that spirituality in the company of others who are also trying to put those values into practice. Such practice, including weekly Mass and participation in the sacramental life of the Church, is necessary for the faithful followers of Jesus. ●

Reflect

**Which qualities of a spiritual person do I have?
What do I need to work on?**

**[Jesus said,] “My sheep
hear my voice; I know
them, and they follow me.”**

JOHN 10:27



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REFLECTIONS

This weekend we celebrate Mother's Day, a secular holiday but one which resonates at the very heart of our Christian faith. On this day we give thanks for the gift of our mothers, and indeed for all women who have played a role in our lives and our formation as individuals but especially in our formation as Christians.

Along with our fathers, our mothers were "the first and the best teachers in the ways of faith," as our Baptismal liturgy emphasizes. It is through the love, mercy, caring and compassion shown by our mothers that we first learn what it is to be human and to live as faithful Christian disciples.

Although my own Mother has gone to be with the Lord, she remains a significant influence in my life. In times of need, I recall her words of wisdom. In times of challenge, I remember her compassion and caring. In times of joy and success, I remember her companionship. Now, as one of the saints in glory, I continually ask her to present my needs and intentions before the Lord. I remember her loving presence and

give thanks to God that I was blessed through the gift of my Mother.

Today as we celebrate our mothers, and indeed all women who have been important in our lives, may we do so with a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving. And perhaps more importantly, may we do so in imitation of the faith and charity we received first from and through them. After all, imitation is the most sublime form of flattery. What a continuing remembrance to our mothers that we would choose to live as they taught us.

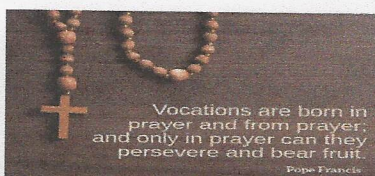
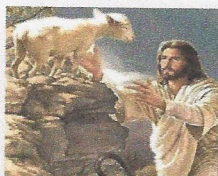
From Father Ken



The mother is the first teacher of the child. The message she gives that child, that child gives to the world.

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. We are remembering that no one can separate us from Jesus. He is our Shepherd, and shepherds protect and care for their sheep. In this same way Jesus protects and cares for us too. On this day we also recall that this is a day of prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood, permanent Diaconate, and consecrated religious life.



In a special way today we remember our Mothers who gave us life and assisted us throughout our lives.

For all deceased Mothers let us pray for their souls, and ask them to pray for us.



The Knights of Columbus will be praying a Patriotic Rosary at Saint Bartholomew's Catholic Church (3601 Altamesa Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76133) on Saturday May 17th at 2:00 PM. All are invited.

There will be no Mass at the Chapel of Wednesday May 14th and Thursday May 15th. All Priests from the Diocese of Fort Worth will be attending Bishop Olson's Assembly of Priests in Denton.



On Saturday May 17th and Sunday May 18th, we will have a special presentation by a Catholic Priest from Cross Catholic Outreach. He will share their message and inspire us with the works of mercy that are done throughout the world by Cross Catholic Ministries.

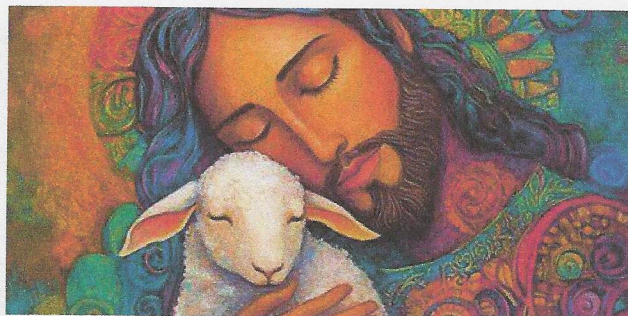


During May the Rosary is prayed in the Chapel at 4:30 PM on Saturdays and 9:30 AM on Sundays prior to Mass. Please join us.

In closing this week's updates and reflections I found the following quote from Pope Francis delivered in 2020 with these thoughts on Good Shepherd Sunday: ***The voice of the Good Shepherd corrects us with great patience, but always encourages us, consoles us: it nourishes us in hope. In our noisy and distracted age it can be easy to miss the Shepherd's voice to tune it out, to stop listening.*** This week's readings call us to pay attention to the voice of God. It affirms, uplifts, inspires, and nourishes our hope.

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

*God Give You Peace.
Mike Pierson*



We are his people, the sheep of his flock. Psalm 100:3

Mass Intentions

May 11, 2025	SFV Catholic Chapel Community
May 12, 2025	Repose of the Souls of Cleo Major, Joan Grgona, Stevie Maynard, Victoria Stanford, Jeanne Russo, Alice Mair, & Mark Keating By SFV Board of Directors
May 13, 2025	Father Bob Strittmatter
May 14, 2025	No Mass
May 15, 2025	No Mass
May 16, 2025	Repose of the Soul of Jennifer Kemp By Tom & Ruth Kemp
May 17, 2025	SFV Catholic Chapel Community (5:00 PM Vigil Mass) Cross Catholic Outreach Presentation

Dear Padre,

When is it OK to medicate for pain? If my relative is in hospice, should I permit the use of drugs that hasten his or her death?

When someone we love is dying, we do not want him or her to be in pain. It is only natural to want to ease or end all suffering. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* offers these guidelines: “The use of painkillers to alleviate the sufferings of the dying, even at the risk of shortening their days, can be morally in conformity with human dignity if death is not willed as either an end or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable” (CCC 2279). In other words, it is permissible to medicate for pain, but you must not use narcotics as an end or means to hasten someone’s death—only to alleviate pain and minimize a person’s suffering. To give medication to cause death rather than merely to relieve pain is not allowed.

It is important to have a discussion about the types of treatment a person would want when they are dying. It is also important to have a discussion with your pastor or another priest or chaplain—someone who can help you discern whether the action, the intention, and the circumstances are consistent with Church teaching. Many times, one is forced to make very difficult decisions about medical care, and it is always good to have someone we trust who can help us make the best choice. ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Matthias, Apostle	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1–18	Acts 11:19–26	Acts 1:15–17, 20–26	Acts 13:13–25	Acts 13:26–33	Acts 13:44–52	Acts 14:21–27
Jn 10:1–10	Jn 10:22–30	Jn 15:9–17	Jn 13:16–20	Jn 14:1–6	Jn 14:7–14	Rv 21:1–5a
						Jn 13:31–33a, 34–35

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

What do those who follow Christ do?... They go to seek those who are lost (cf. Lk 15:4), they take an interest in those who are far away, take to heart the situation of those who suffer, know how to weep with those who weep, they reach out their hands to their neighbors, carrying them on their shoulders.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 8, 2022