

GOD IS LOVE, and He has revealed that love in sending His only Son to be a sacrificial offering for our sins. The story of Abraham offering his son Isaac, is an act of obedience to God's will. And therefore, God promised Abraham the children of Israel, a source of blessing for all nations.

This promise to Abraham finds its fulfilment when God pours out His Spirit upon the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, as they listen to the word of Peter's preaching in today's first reading. God blessed them with the same Spirit he poured on the devout Jews. In His love, God reveals that His salvation embraces the house of Israel and peoples of all nations. Not by circumcision or blood relation to Abraham, but by faith in the Word of Christ, sealed in the Sacrament of Baptism, people are to be made children of Abraham, heirs to God's covenants of promise.

As Peter raises up Cornelius and his family to God, the Church continues to lift all people to Christ, the only one, whose name leads to salvation. In the Church, each of us has been begotten by the love of God. But the Scriptures today reveal that this divine gift brings with it a command and a sacred obligation. We are to love one another as we have been loved by God. Are we then, ready to lay down our lives in giving ourselves to others—that they too might find friendship with Christ, and new life through Him?

Fr. Michael Jeeva Antony



Flowers for *Mother's Day Weekend*

MAY CROWNING

Parishioners are asked to bring flowers for the May crowning of our Blessed Mother after all Masses next weekend!



DIOS ES AMOR, y él ha revelado ese amor, al mandar a su único Hijo para ser ofrenda de sacrificio por nuestros pecados. La historia de Abraham ofreciendo a Isaac, es un acto de obediencia a la voluntad de Dios. Por lo tanto, Dios prometió a Abraham los hijos de Israel, una fuente de bendiciones para todas las naciones.

Esta promesa hecha a Abraham fue cumplida cuando Dios derrama su Espíritu sobre los gentiles, los no-israelitas, así como escuchaban la palabra de la predicación de Pedro en la primera lectura de hoy. Dios los bendijo con el mismo Espíritu que el derramo sobre los devotos judíos. En su amor, Dios revela que su salvación abraza a la casa de Israel y pueblos de todas las naciones. No por la circuncisión o relación de sangre con Abraham, sino por la fe en la Palabra de Cristo, sellada en el Sacramento del Bautismo, las personas deben ser hijos de Abraham, herederos de los convenios de la promesa de Dios.

Como Pedro levanta a Cornelio y a su familia hacia Dios, la Iglesia continua levantando a todas las personas hacia Cristo, el único, el cual su nombre lleva a la salvación. En la Iglesia, cada uno de nosotros ha sido engendrado por el amor de Dios. Pero las escrituras hoy revelan que este don divino contrae el mandamiento y una sagrada obligación. Estamos para amarnos el uno al otro, así como Dios nos ha amado. Entonces, ¿estamos listos para reclinar nuestras vidas en darnos a otros – para que ellos también puedan encontrar amistad con Cristo, y vida nueva mediante El?

THEOLOGY ON TAP THIS WEEK! All Catholics, ages 21-39, are invited this Thursday, **May 10th**, to the “2nd Thursday Theology on Tap”, at the K of C Hall (1144 Charnelton St). Tom Mulhern, Director of Catholic Community Services of Lane County, is our guest speaker. For info contact: eugeneyoungadults@gmail.com or 541-270-9329 or [facebook.com/EugeneCYA](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneCYA).



ST. MARK & ST. PETER CHURCHES ARE:

Seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant for their SPARK Ministries Program. This program is a combined Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Program for both parishes. For details, go to:

saintmarkeugene.org/employment

Cena Especial para el Día de las Madres
Mother's Day Dinner

MAY 12TH (SATURDAY) 2:00—6:00PM

~ TICKETS ON SALE AFTER WEEKEND MASSES ~



FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

DO CATHOLICS PREACH THE GOSPEL?

St. Mark begins his account of our Lord's life: "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ" (Mk 1:1). "Gospel" literally means "good news". The first four books of the New Testament are called gospels because they announce the "good news of great joy" (Lk 2:10) — the coming of a Savior, God himself in the flesh.

Some Christians claim that the Catholic Church doesn't really "preach the gospel", because they believe that salvation by "faith alone" is the substance of the gospel. But what exactly is the substance of this "good news" that must be preached?

St. Peter's first sermon, which is preached on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:22-40), summarizes Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven. Then he instructs his listeners to: "Repent, and be baptized ... for the forgiveness of your sins" (Acts 2:38).

In this address, the notion of salvation by "faith alone" does not appear at all. Instead, the gospel preached is the proclamation of who Jesus is and what he has done. Salvation (including God's forgiveness of sins) comes to the hearers through their response of repentance, baptism, and a subsequent life of obedience to God. When St. Paul preaches the gospel, he makes the same kind of proclamation, and calls for the same kind of response (Acts 13:16-41; 1 Cor 15:1-11).

According to Scripture, then, the gospel is what the Catholic Church has always preached, i.e. a proclamation of the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, and subsequently our response of repentance, baptism, and a life of obedience to God.

In fact, every Mass is an instance of preaching the gospel. A passage from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, is always read publicly at every Mass, so that we can hear and respond to God's good news. In addition, at every Mass, the fruits of Christ's work are re-presented to us in the Eucharist, to help us live lives pleasing to God.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible

Mt 9:35 · Mk 14:9; 16:15 · Lk 9:6 · Acts 2:42-47; 8:25; 14:7,21; 15:7; 16:10; 20:7,24 · Rom 15:16,19,20,29 · 1 Cor 9:11-18; 10:16-17 · Gal 1:6-11 · 1 Thes 2:2-9 · 1 Pt 4:6,17 ·

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