

# St. Joseph Church Dover, Ohio 44622

## The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 25 and 26, 2015

25 y 26 de Abril del 2015

### Mass Intentions



**Monday, April 27**

No Mass

Readings: 279: Acts 11:1-8/Ps 42/Jn 10:1-10

**Tuesday, April 28**

**6:00 p.m.** Marion Warner

Readings: 280: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87/Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday, April 29**

**8:15 a.m.** James Clark

**9:00 a.m.** Rosary

Readings: 281: Acts 12:24-13:5a/Ps 67/Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday, April 30**

**8:15 a.m.** Lorraine Kneubuehl

**9:00 a.m.** Adoration of the Eucharist

Reading: 282: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89/Jn 13:16-20

**Friday, May 1 (School Mass)**

**8:15 a.m.** Pauline Gombos

Readings: 283: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2/ Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday, May 2 (First Holy Eucharist)**

**The Vigil of Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**4:00 p.m.** Bud and Dave Ball

**Sunday, May 3**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**8:30 a.m.** Domenic Biancamano

**11:00 a.m.** Herb Wadsworth

**1:30 p.m.** The People of the Parish

**(Mass in Spanish)**

Readings: 53: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22/1 Jn 3:18-24/  
Jn 15:1-8

### Ministry Schedules

May 2 and 3, 2015



**4:00 p.m. Mass**

**First Holy Eucharist**

**Volunteers Needed**

Please call the Parish Office  
if you would like to participate.

**8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Lectors:** Lyle Tope - 1st Reading,

Jeannine Kennedy - 2nd Reading

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Monica Boring,

Sharon Kuczirka, John Kuczirka,

Lynn Ballantyne, Mary Burnham, Jack Dooling,

Matt Ritzert, Subs Needed

**Hospitality:** Joan Wenzel and Pastoral Council

**Servers:** Alyssa Blickensderfer, Justin Peters,

Nathan Peters (Alt: Joseph House)

**11:00 a.m. Mass**

**Lectors:** Ron Onslow - 1st Reading,

Ron Onslow - 2nd Reading

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jodi Bambeck,

Marlon Nowak, Stacy Savage, Amy Hostetler,

Vicki Wilhelm, Becky Nylund, Dave Nylund

**Hospitality:** Pastoral Council

**Servers:** Jay O'Donnell, Paul O'Donnell,

David Finnell (Alt: Kylie Schilling)

### Offertory for Sunday, April 18 and 19, 2015

Loose	\$ 1,705.00
Adult (envelopes 278)	\$ 10,408.00
Online Giving	\$ 265.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,378.00</b>
Contributions needed each week	\$ 12,192.00

### Other Funds:

Capital Improvement	\$ 358.50
Youth Ministry	\$ 240.00
Poor Fund	\$ 27.00
Lighting Project Contributions	\$ 507.00

**Your contributions make the mission of St. Joseph Parish possible and keep our parish financially sound. Thank you for your generosity.**

**Mass Intentions:** Please be reminded that any parishioner is welcome to request that Masses be celebrated for deceased or living loved ones. To schedule a Mass Intention, please call the Parish Office.

**Prayer Chain:** To place your request on the prayer chain, please call the Parish Office or Charlene Herzig at 330-343-1063.

**Just a reminder...First Holy Communion** for our Second Grade students will be on Saturday, May 2nd. If this is the Mass you normally attend, you may want to arrive early due to parking.

## Spiritual Notes:

Like Jesus did, His disciples faced rejection and persecution for their beliefs. But also like Jesus, Luke tells us that they were "filled with the Holy Spirit," who assisted them in their trials. Standing before the religious authorities of Jerusalem, they are challenged for their behavior. In their defense, Peter replies that the good works they perform are done "in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead." The apostles' example is offered to encourage Luke's community and us, as well. We are called to stand firm in our faith even in the face of opposition. In First John, we are reminded of our identity as "the children of God." Because of the incarnation, we share in God's life. But, we are told, this is just the beginning: "what we shall be has not yet been revealed;" created in the image of God and called to share in divine life, we will one day "be like Him." In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us, "I am the good shepherd." Most of us in the United States today have never encountered a shepherd, but the image was common enough to Jesus's audience. He draws a distinction between a shepherd who owns the sheep and a "hired man, whose sheep are not his own;" the man who "works for pay...has no concern for the sheep" when his own safety is at stake. Jesus goes on to speak of "other sheep that do not belong to this fold," who must also be cared for and "will hear my voice." The good shepherd cares for his sheep and ultimately will bring them all together, so that "there will be one flock, one shepherd." God's desire is to gather us all together. We are called to love all "the sheep," even those of another flock, for God already loves them.

For reflection: Do I consciously perform good deeds with an awareness that I am doing them through the grace of God? Am I comfortable with the idea of "other sheep" also belonging to God's flock?

## In Our Parish



The RSVP postcards for Tony Davis' priestly ordination and First Mass are in the Vestibule of the Church.

All the information is on the card. Please take one and fill it out if you are planning on attending any or all of these events. They can be mailed as a postcard to the already printed address on the cards. **Please return no later than May 1st.**

**Are you interested in doing the announcements before Mass?** We are looking for volunteers who would like to be scheduled to do the announcements before the weekend Masses. If you would like to join this new ministry, please contact the Parish Office.

## Save the Date!

**All current high school seniors and families!** There will be a Mass to celebrate the graduation of our high school seniors on Sunday, May 24th, at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow in the Family Life Center. More information to follow! Please plan to attend!

**Confirmation Candidates:** It's time for your interview with Father Jimmy. Please call Brenda in the Parish Office to set up an appointment.

## Stand and Be Counted

**Are you a registered parishioner?** Do we have your current phone number? Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be a part of the Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish. We are often asked to provide affidavits for Baptism and Confirmation sponsors. We can only do this if a person is a registered and active member of the parish. If you want to register, there are forms in the Vestibule, simply fill one out and drop it in the collection basket or stop in the Parish Office during the week or Sunday after the Masses and request a form.

## Upcoming Liturgies in the Spiritual Life of Saint Joseph Parish

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday, Confession times are 3:15 to 3:45 p.m.; on Sunday mornings from 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and from 10:15 a.m. until 10:45 a.m.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Following the 4:00 p.m. Mass the first weekend of each month, following the 8:30 a.m. Mass the second weekend of each month, and following the 11:00 a.m. Mass the 3rd weekend of each month.

**Adoration of the Eucharist:** The Eucharist will all be exposed for Adoration every Thursday morning after Mass until 9:30 a.m.

**Rosary:** Each Wednesday Morning after the 8:15 a.m. Mass, join us as we pray the Rosary.

## Upcoming Meetings in the Life of the Parish

**Secular Franciscans** invite everyone wishing to attend the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. for Morning Prayer and Eucharistic Prayer followed by coffee and donuts.

**Men's Bible Study Group:** Saturday Mornings, at 7:00 a.m., in the Family Life Center. For more information, please call 330-343-8008.

**Heart of Mary Bible Study:** Come and join us the first and third Fridays of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Fund-raising Committee:** Wednesday, April 29, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the Family Life Center - Bodner Room

**Family Life Committee:** Monday, May 4, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the Family Life Center - Meeting Room A.

**L.C.B.A.:** Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at 1:00 p.m., in the Family Life Center - Downstairs.

**Knights of Columbus:** Thursday, May 7, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the Family Life Center - Meeting Rooms B/C.

## St. Joseph Soup Kitchen Everyone is welcome!!

The intention for the Soup Kitchen is to serve God's children in need: the poor in spirit, as well as the needy. **If you or anyone else you know lives alone and would like a hot meal to share with others, please feel free to come and have a meal with us.**

Below you will find the upcoming schedule.

**Teams, if you need assistance, please contact Andrea Settimio or the Parish Office.**

April 29, 2015 - Team P (Vicki Wilhelm)

May 6, 2015 - Team A (Mike Com)

May 13, 2015 - Team B (Sue Capozella)

May 20, 2015 - Team D (Lisa Weigand)

May 27, 2015 - Team C (Knights of Columbus)

**Thank you for your support and prayers. We ask that you continue to keep all our volunteers in your prayers.**



## Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School



With the TCC boys basketball team appearance at the State Final Four in the record books; it seems appropriate to recognize with appreciation, the many special blessings that were visited upon the TCC community during this singular experience.

Clearly, our players and their coaches are to be congratulated on a stunning season. School spirit was at an all-time high, as evidenced by an inspiring student cheering section. They were led by the cheerleaders and boosted by the rousing encouragement of parents, staff, Booster Club and Saints Club, alumni, and friends of TCC.

The entire Tuscarawas County Catholic Community championed the cause. Such support was echoed by the administration, staff, parents, and students from our Catholic elementary schools, as well as from the Catholic Churches in the county, their pastors and parishioners. We at TCC feel incredibly blessed by this tremendous sense of community and advocacy!

On behalf of the TCC Community, thank you!

Scott Power

Principal

TCC High School



## Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School



**Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School is now accepting registrations for our preschool and pre-Kindergarten program.** TCCES offers a safe and friendly environment where your child can learn and grow intellectually, socially, and spiritually. We also offer a convenient childcare program before and after class time. For more information, please call 330-343-9134.

### You CAN afford a Catholic Education

Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School participates in the Ohio EdChoice Scholarship Program. Families who meet income guidelines and have children entering Kindergarten, First Grade, or Second Grade are eligible for the scholarships that pay the full cost of tuition. For example, a family of four with a gross annual income of \$48,000.00 or less is eligible for the EdChoice Scholarship. For more information, please call the School Office.

## Youth Ministry News



**Jr.High Youth Group**  
Sunday, 2:00-4:00 p.m.,  
in the Family Life Center.

**High School Youth Group**  
Sunday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.,  
in the Family Life Center

### Other Information To Note:

**If you know of a friend or family member who is in the hospital, for surgery or due to illness, please call the Parish Office and give them the information, and someone will visit them as soon as possible.**

**Please Note:** If you would like to present the gifts at the Offertory, please contact the Ushers before Mass.

**Low-Gluten Hosts:** If you are a person who needs to receive a **low-gluten host** because of wheat allergies or celiac disease, please call the Parish Office.

### **Can you help with transportation to Mass?**

We often get calls from parishioners in both Dover and New Philadelphia, who need help getting to Mass. If you are able to help, please call the Parish Office.

**Bulletin Deadline:** The bulletin deadline is Monday at 3:00 p.m. Please include your contact information with phone number and email address. Bulletin notices may be in writing, faxed to 330-602-7488, dropped off, or emailed to [stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com).

**Bulletin Boards:** It is the policy of the parish that all items to be placed on the bulletin board be approved. Please bring any item you wish to be considered, to the Parish Office for approval before placing them on the Bulletin Boards or in the brochure racks. Thank you!

### Crafty Ladies

Crafty Ladies meet the first and third Tuesdays, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Come share your talents with the group. Join us and have fun! For more information, call Charlene Herzig at 330-343-1063 or Mary Pusateri at 330-364-2775.

**Motorcoach trip to The Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, Ohio.** Tuesday, May 12, 2015. The cost is \$25.00 per person, which includes transportation only. Meals are on your own. Departure will be at 7:00 a.m., from the Wal-Mart parking lot in New Philadelphia. The expected return time to New Philadelphia is 6:15 p.m. For reservations or more information, please call Clare at 330-859-2766.

### **Masses and Healing Services for Persons with Cancer:**

Two special Masses and healing services are planned for persons afflicted with cancer. The first will take place on Friday, May 1st, at 7:00 p.m., at Our Lady of Consolation National Shrine and Basilica in Carey, Ohio. For more information, visit [www.olcshrine.com](http://www.olcshrine.com) or call 419-396-7107. The second will be celebrated on the Feast of Saint Peregrine (*patron saint of persons with cancer*) on Monday, May 4th, at 6:30 p.m., at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 East Broad Street, Columbus. The Mass will be celebrated by Cathedral Rector Father Michael Lumpe, cancer survivor. Following Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and there will be special prayers for healing and veneration of a relic of the True Cross; the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will also be available. All are welcome, especially cancer patients, health care professionals and caregivers, cancer survivors, family and friends. For more information, visit [www.saintjosephcathedral.org](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.org), or call the Cathedral at 614-224-1295.

### **A special thank-you from the Blue Stars of Tuscarawas County,**

for your donations of travel-size shampoos, body wash, lotion, chapstick, disposable razors, sunscreen, baby wipes, deodorant, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash and shaving cream. They were able to send 97 care packages to service personnel who are actively serving our country! Blue Stars of T-County is a local chapter of Blue Star Mothers of America, a national organization of mothers of past or present military members. May we never forget!

### St. Joseph Calvary Cemetery

**If you are interested in purchasing lots, or if you have questions regarding rules and regulations, please call Don in the Parish Office and he will be happy to assist you.**

## Courage/Encourage:

Courage offers spiritual support for Catholic men and women with same sex attractions and is endorsed by the Pontifical Council for the Family. Courage was founded in 1980 by Cardinal Cook to help Catholics with same sex attractions live chaste lives in accordance with the Roman Catholic Church's teachings. EnCourage is the affiliate support group for family members, spouses, and friends of men and women with same sex attractions. For confidential inquiries, please contact Father Pat Toner at 614-296-7404. For more information, contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 614-241-2560 or visit [www.couragerc.net](http://www.couragerc.net).

## **Become a "Living Reminder of God's**

**Presence":** That's what Father Henri Nouwen called husbands and wives. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend will help your marriage become such a reflection of the divine. The next weekend is July 31 to August 2. For more information or to register, call 614-834-6880.



### **Please help us to update our records.**

More and more parishioners have begun to eliminate their landlines, and use only cell phones. If you fall into this category, please contact the Parish Office with your correct information. You may fill out this slip and drop it in the collection basket, or email any changes to [stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com). Thank you!!

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Immigration Reform and Unaccompanied**

**Minors.** Due to the humanitarian crisis of unaccompanied migrant children crossing the U.S. border, it appears comprehensive immigration reform may be put on hold again. However, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops still encourages advocacy on this issue. For more information, please refer to [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org) for updates.



[masstimes.org](http://masstimes.org)  
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL

When traveling, and you need to know where the closest Catholic Church and the times for their Masses are, please check out [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org).

**Save the Date!**  
July 17th, 18th, and 19th  
More information to follow!!



THE  
CATHOLIC  
FOUNDATION

### **Leave a Legacy of Love and Faith**

Your last will and testament can leave a legacy of your faith by helping to pass it on to others. When drafting your will, after taking care of your family, please consider naming St. Joseph Parish or the Diocese of Columbus as a recipient of your estate. For more information, contact James Anzelmo at the Catholic Foundation at 1-866-298-8893 or [JAnzelmo@catholic-foundation.org](mailto:JAnzelmo@catholic-foundation.org).

For more information, the latest news, bulletins, ministry schedules, Father Jimmy's homilies, and more, please visit our website at

[www.stjosephdover.org](http://www.stjosephdover.org)

other useful and educational websites

[www.colsdioc.org](http://www.colsdioc.org)

[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

[www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org)

[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org)

[www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)



**Online Giving.** If you manage your bills online, we're sure you'll like giving to your Church online.

It's safe and secure, and you decide exactly when your gift is made and where it goes. Please visit [www.stjosephdover.org](http://www.stjosephdover.org) to get started. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call the Parish Office.

## **OUR ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK IS**

**Krocker's  
Bar & Grill**

236 N. Tusc. Dover  
Open Daily -  
11:00 a.m.

**343-4610**

Please patronize our advertisers. They make our bulletin possible. Thank You! This bulletin is furnished to the parish without charge. The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs, with which the Church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank-you for their kind generosity.

# FAQs: Religious Liberty and Marriage



## *Marriage & religious liberty stand - or fall - together*

### **What is religious liberty?**

Religious liberty is “the right to live in the truth of one’s faith and in conformity with one’s transcendent dignity as a person” (*Centesimus Annus*, no. 47). “Nobody may be forced to act against his convictions, nor is anyone to be restrained from acting in accordance with his conscience in religious matters in private or in public, alone or in association with others, within due limits” (*Catechism*, no. 2106, quoting *Dignitatis Humanae*, no. 2). Religious liberty is so important that John Paul II called it the “source and synthesis” of rights considered basic to every human person (*Centesimus Annus*, no. 47).

### **How are marriage and religious liberty connected?**

Marriage (the union of one man and one woman as husband and wife) and religious liberty are two distinct goods that are also related to each other. The protection of each good follows from the duty to protect the inviolable dignity of the human person. But even more directly, the legal protection of marriage as the union of one man and one woman also protects the religious freedom of those who adhere to that vision of marriage.

### **How could changing the legal definition of marriage have any effect on religious liberty?**

Changing the legal term “marriage” is not one change in the law, but rather amounts to thousands of changes

at once. The term “marriage” can be found in family law, employment law, trusts and estates, healthcare law, tax law, property law, and many others. These laws affect and pervasively regulate religious institutions, such as churches, religiously-affiliated schools, hospitals, and families. When Church and State agree on what the legal term “marriage” means (the union of one man and one woman), there is harmony between the law and religious institutions. When Church and State disagree on what the term “marriage” means (e.g., if the State redefines marriage in order to recognize so-called same-sex “marriage”), conflict results on a massive scale between the law and religious institutions and families, as the State will apply various sanctions against the Church for its refusal to comply with the State’s definition. Religious liberty is then threatened.

### **But would ministers really be forced to officiate at the “wedding” of two persons of the same-sex?**

This question is a red herring. In other words, it is a false caricature of the real concerns about religious liberty, and is actually used to distract from the real concerns. It is unlikely in the extreme that the State will force ministers and churches to officiate same-sex “marriage” ceremonies, although it is easily foreseeable that many church ministers and communities could be sued in court over this question. There are, however, other more probable and pervasive concerns.

# FAQs: Religious Liberty and Marriage

## What's the real threat to religious liberty posed by same-sex "marriage"?

The legal redefinition of marriage can threaten the religious liberty of religious institutions and individuals in potentially numerous ways, involving various forms of government sanction, ranging from court orders compelling action against conscience, to awards of money damages and other financial penalties, to marginalization in public life:

⇒ **Compelled Association:** the government forces religious institutions to retain as leaders, employees, or members those who obtain legalized same-sex "marriage"; or obligates wedding-related businesses to provide services for same-sex "couples."

⇒ **Compelled Provision of Special Benefits:** the government forces religious institutions to extend any special benefit they afford to actual marriage to same-sex "marriage" as well.

⇒ **Punishment for Speech:** preaching, political action, or conversation reflecting moral opposition to same-sex "marriage" represents actionable "harassment" or "discrimination," or forbidden "hate speech."

⇒ **Exclusion from Accreditation and Licensure:** those who adhere to the definition of marriage are excluded from participation in highly regulated professions and quasi-governmental functions, as licenses are revoked and religious institutions lose accredited status.

⇒ **Exclusion from Government Funding, Religious Accommodations, and Other Benefits:** those who adhere to the definition of marriage are excluded from receiving government grants and contracts to provide secular social services, and from various tax exemptions.

## Have any of these threats come to pass?

Yes. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following: the extension of married student housing to same-sex "married" couples (a Catholic college in MA); the extension of spousal employment benefits to same-sex "domestic partners" (Catholic Charities in Portland, ME); the loss of funding and licenses to provide adoptions for refusal to place with same-sex couples (Catholic Charities in Massachusetts, DC, and Illinois); the imposition of tax penalties for preaching about marriage amendments (Montana); and the loss of state tax exempt status for a religiously-affiliated camp (New Jersey). These threats have been manifest in other countries as well, often to an even more persistent and invasive extent.

## Doesn't a religious exemption protect institutions and individuals if they believe that marriage can only be between a man and a woman?

Sometimes. A religious exemption may provide protections, but so far those protections have been drawn very narrowly and fail to cover known risks. More broadly, because "marriage" so pervades the law, it is difficult to foresee all circumstances where religious freedom conflicts may arise. But even further, no religious exemption—no matter how broadly worded—can justify a supportive or neutral position on the redefinition of marriage (see *Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, "Some Considerations Concerning the Response to Legislative Proposals on the Non-Discrimination of Homosexual Persons,"* 1992, no. 16). Such "redefinition" is always fundamentally unjust, and indeed, religious exemptions may even facilitate the passage of such unjust laws. *Protecting marriage protects religious liberty; the two are inseparable.*



**MARRIAGE**  
Unique for a Reason

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**On religious freedom:** visit *Fortnight for Freedom* at [www.fortnight4freedom.org](http://www.fortnight4freedom.org)

**On marriage:** visit *Marriage: Unique for a Reason* at [www.marriageuniqueforareason.org](http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org)

Content from <http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/religious-liberty-faq/>



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# Iglesia San José

## Ministerios Hispanos

### Cuarto Domingo de Pascua

25 y 26 de Abril del 2015

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## Ministerios Hispanos



### Calendario Litúrgico:

#### Misas en Español

Domingo, 26 de Abril 1:30 p.m.

#### Misas en Inglés

Sabados 4:00 p.m.

Domingos 8:30 a.m. y 11:00 a.m.

#### Confesiones

Antes d misa de español de 12:45 p.m. a 1:15 p.m.

**Grupo "Corazón de María":** Todas las mujeres están invitadas a participar cada viernes, de 11:00 a.m. a 2:00 p.m., en este grupo para Oración, Evangelización, clases de Inglés, labores del hogar y consejos prácticos para la vida.

El "**Grupo de hombres**" se reúne todos los viernes en Family Life 7:30 p.m. (en el edificio nuevo en frente de la Iglesia San José).



### Invitación al coro "Guadalupe"

Están cordialmente invitados a practicar en el coro, todos los viernes a las 2:00 p.m. Si tiene preguntas llame a Carmen al tel: 330-432-0811 ó a la oficina al 330-364-6661.

**Clase de Bautismo:** La próxima clase será en el Centro Familiar San José al 330 364 6661 o a los Ministerios Hispanos al 330 432 0811.

**Capilla de la Virgen de Guadalupe.** Todos somos bienvenidos a venerar en la Capilla de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Podemos encender una vela que permanece prendida por tres días, con una donación de \$ 3.00. (2 velas por \$6.00, etc.). **Por favor usar sólo las velas de la Capilla.**

## Notas Espirituales:

Al igual que hizo Jesús, sus discípulos se enfrentaron al rechazo y persecución por sus creencias. Pero también como Jesús, Lucas nos dice que estaban "llenos del Espíritu Santo," que les han ayudado en sus pruebas, de pie ante las autoridades religiosas de Jerusalén, que se enfrentan al reto de su comportamiento. En su defensa Pedro responde que las buenas obras que realizan se hacen "en el nombre de Jesucristo el Nazareno a quien ustedes crucificaron, a quien nosotros crucificamos ya quien Dios resucitó de entre los muertos." El ejemplo de los apóstoles se ofrece para fomentar la comunidad de San Lucas y nosotros también. Estamos llamados a permanecer firmes en nuestra fe, incluso en frente a la oposición. En Primera de Juan nos recuerda nuestra identidad como "los hijos de Dios." Debido a la encarnación, que compartimos en la vida de Dios. Pero, se nos dice, esto es sólo el principio: "lo que seremos aún no ha sido revelado;" creado en la imagen de Dios y llamados a compartir la vida divina, que algún día "seremos semejantes a él."

En el evangelio de hoy, Jesús nos dice: "Yo soy el buen pastor. La mayoría de nosotros en los Estados Unidos hoy en día nunca se han encontrado con un pastor, pero la imagen era bastante común para el pueblo de Jesús. Él hace una distinción entre un pastor que pertenecen a las ovejas y un "jornalero, ... cuyas ovejas que no son las suyas;" el hombre que "trabaja para la paga ... no se preocupa por las ovejas," cuando su propia seguridad está en juego Jesús habla de "otra oveja que no pertenezca a este redil," que también hay que cuidar "oirán mi voz." El buen pastor cuida de todas sus ovejas y finalmente traerá a todos juntos para que "habrá un solo rebaño, un solo pastor."

El deseo de Dios es reunir a todos nosotros. Estamos llamados a amar a todas "las ovejas," incluso los de otro rebaño, porque Dios ya les ama.

**Para reflexionar:** ¿Tengo conscientemente realizar buenas acciones con la conciencia de que lo estoy haciendo a través de la gracia de Dios? Me siento cómodo con la idea de "otras ovejas" también perteneciente al rebaño de Dios?