



St. Svithun menighet

SØNDAGSBLAD

3. MAI 2020: 4. SØNDAG I PÅSKETIDEN



Pavens bønneintensjoner for MAI 2020

For diakoner. Vi ber om at diakonene, som er trofaste i sin tjeneste for Ordet og for de fattige, må være et styrkende symbol for verdenskirken.

Messer i St. Svithun:

Messe på norsk kl. 11.00 Link: <https://youtu.be/1KFSpMJRSKI>

Vietnamesisk kl. 15.00

Linket til direktestrømmen på menighetens Facebook-side. Dersom du ikke har Facebook kan du likevel gå inn på: www.facebook.com/Svithun, og finne direktestrømmen.

SØNDAG 03.05.2020 kl 1100

4. søndag i påsken

Respons: LH 102 «Herren skal være deres
hyrde og føre dem til livets kilde»

Messe: LH 7

Hymner i messen fra «Lov Herren»:

748, 241, 31, 786, 457, 547

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A : GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Traditionally, the Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and is both an opportunity to reflect on how the Lord truly is our Shepherd but also an invitation to give witness in our daily lives to the attributes of the Good Shepherd by guiding and inspiring others, by building fellowship with others and especially by caring for others especially those who are most vulnerable.

There is a lovely story about a famous actor that illustrates how important it is for us to know Jesus - the Good Shepherd - if we are to give witness to the Good Shepherd. On one occasion a famous actor was invited back to his old school to give the address at the annual prizegiving celebration. When the time came for him to give his address he went to the podium, opened the Bible and read Psalm 23 – The Lord is My Shepherd.

He read it perfectly. The intonation was perfect and the emphasis was perfect so much so that when he finished he received a standing ovation. When everyone had settled down he then invited his former English and Drama teacher – the man who had inspired him to become an actor - to come to the podium and read the same psalm. The man was now in his late seventies; his voice was not as strong as it once had been and the emphasis and the intonation were not perfect. When he finished he didn't receive a standing ovation but there wasn't a dry eye in the audience.

The actor then returned to the podium and said to the audience "Ladies and gentlemen, the difference between us is that whilst I reached your minds he has reached your hearts and the reason for that is that while I know the psalm he knows the Shepherd". "While I know the Psalm he knows the Shepherd".

The image of a 'shepherd' as it applies to God and to human leaders has its foundation in the O.T. Ezekiel in Chapter 34 addresses the neglect and abuse of the people by their rulers who have failed in their role of leadership and 'preyed' on their flock. In the N.T. Jesus describes himself as the 'Good Shepherd' who will gather, heal and sustain the scattered (and suffering) flock.

In today's Gospel passage John draws a sharp contrast between the love and care Jesus has for his disciples and the lack of care the Pharisees show for their people.

Jesus tells a parable about entering the sheepfold through the gate but his listeners do not understand. He then tells them that 'I am the gate of the sheepfold' and reminds them that He has come 'so that they may have life and have it to the full'.

The sheepfold is a place of protection for the sheep at night. When nightfall comes they must enter through the gate in order to be safe.

Through this powerful pastoral image John reminds us that Jesus is 'the gate' through which all of us must pass in order to find, experience and sustain life in its full sense.

Whenever Jesus uses the phrase 'I Am' (eg "I am the Good Shepherd", "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life", "I am the Vine", "I am the Light of the World") he is saying something very important about who He is and how it is through our personal relationship with Him that we receive and experience that new life which enables us to believe in Him, to follow Him and give witness to Him.

It is the Risen Lord living within us and among us who leads who leads us to believe in Him; it is the Risen Lord living within us and among us who truly unites us so we can follow Him and it is the Risen Lord living within us and among us who strengthens and cares for us so that we can give witness to Him.

During these difficult times we can draw great strength and courage from this reassuring image that Jesus – the Good Shepherd – is always with us.

The Corona virus has affected our families, our parishes our neighbourhoods, our cities and every part of our lives.

Many people are grieving the loss of a loved one, others are recovering after serious illness, others struggling financially and many others (especially healthcare workers) are simply exhausted after weeks working on the front line combating the effects of the virus.

We can, therefore, with great confidence pray to the Lord for renewed strength and renewed hope as we pray today's responsorial psalm: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff with these you give me comfort."

In conclusion, if you look closely at any photograph of Pope Francis one of the things you will notice is the distinctiveness of the pectoral cross he uses. Engraved in the centre of the cross is a figure of a shepherd who seems to be doing three things – leading and guiding the flock from the front but also uniting the flock which has gathered around him and finally and most importantly holding an injured sheep over his shoulders.

For me it is beautiful summary of the leadership and witness that Pope Francis has given us in recent years but especially in recent weeks.

Let us pray that inspired and strengthened by the knowledge and experience of the Risen Lord's personal love and care for each one of us we too as His followers and as His Church will be able, like Paul in the first reading and Peter in the second reading, to lead and inspire others, unite others and care for others during these challenging times.



Oppdatering fra Caritas Stavanger

Norskkursene som vanligvis foregår i regi av Caritas Stavanger, som alle andre aktiviteter i menigheten, har dessverre ikke vært mulig å gjennomføre de siste ukene grunnet koronasituasjonen. Det er derfor gledelig å kunne meddele av vi fra mandag 27.april har hatt muligheten til å tilby norskkurs digitalt for deltakerne våre.

Med streng overholdelse av smittevernregler, som 2 meters avstand, har styret i Caritas Stavanger også avholdt et styremøte. Det var hyggelig å treffes, og få muligheten til å diskutere hvordan vi kan yte karitativt arbeid i denne situasjonen.

Caritas Stavanger har blant annet fått midler til et koronaprojekt. I den forbindelse ønsker Caritas Stavanger å opprette en «telefonvenn» linje. Det vil være mulig å ringe kun for samtale, men også dersom man ønsker spesifikk informasjon om koronasituasjonen i Norge eller trenger hjelp grunnet koronasituasjonen. I løpet av mai vil derfor Caritas Stavanger kontakte mange av dere på vegne av menigheten gjennom dette prosjektet, som et ledd i det pastorale arbeidet i denne vanskelige tiden.

Vi venter fortsatt på tildelingen av midler, og det vil derfor komme mer informasjon om dette prosjektet i neste søndagsblad, men vi gleder oss til å ha kontakt med dere igjen!



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Menighetskontoret har åpningstid
mandag-fredag kl 9-15.

Følg oss på nett og sosiale medier:

stavanger.katolsk.no

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