

# Saint Theresa of Lisieux Parish

1041 Lyons Avenue, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150-8241

Tel. (530) 544-3533 + Fax (530) 544-4662 +E-mail: [sttheresa@tahoecatholic.com](mailto:sttheresa@tahoecatholic.com)

Website: [www.tahoecatholic.com](http://www.tahoecatholic.com)

May 3, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



~ Masses are suspended temporarily.

All services will be STREAMED LIVE via our Facebook page. ~

<https://www.facebook.com/tahoecatholic/live> or [www.tahoecatholic.com](http://www.tahoecatholic.com)

## DAILY MASS IN ENGLISH

Monday-Friday 8am

## DAILY MASS IN SPANISH

Monday-Friday at 7pm

## SUNDAY MASS

10am in English and 12noon in Spanish

## VIRTUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday-Friday at 3pm

STEWARDSHIP IN OUR PARISH

April 26, 2020  
\$2020

## THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR 2020

<https://www.popesprayer.va/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/THE-HOLY-FATHERS-PRAYER-INTENTIONS-2020-ENG2.pdf>

### APRIL | Universal prayer intention - Freedom from Addiction

*We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.*

## THE GREATEST EVENT OF YOUR LIFE

### "You must reform and be baptized." —Acts 2:38

Peter, on whom "tongues as of fire" had just descended (see Acts 2:3), preached at the first Christian Pentecost. In the power of the Holy Spirit, Peter witnessed for the crucified and risen Christ. Peter invited the thousands of people who heard his message to receive the Holy Spirit by being baptized. "Those who accepted his message were baptized; some three thousand were added that day" (Acts 2:41).

Philip was sent by the Holy Spirit to proclaim Jesus to the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:29, 35). Then "Philip went down into the water with the eunuch and baptized him" (Acts 8:38).

Peter was sent by the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:19) to the home of the centurion, Cornelius. Peter proclaimed the forgiveness of sins through Jesus, the "Judge of the living and the dead" (Acts 10:42). Then "the Holy Spirit descended upon all" (Acts 10:44). "Peter put the question at that point: 'What can stop these people who have received the Holy Spirit, even as we have, from being baptized with water?' So he gave orders that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 10:46-48).

After the Lord freed Paul from prison through an earthquake, Paul and Silas prevented the Philippian jailer from committing suicide. Then they went to the jailer's home and "proceeded to announce the word of God to him and to everyone in his house. At that late hour of the night he took them in and...then he and his whole household were baptized" (Acts 16:32, 33).

We began the Easter season by renewing our baptismal promises. What difference has that renewal made in our lives? Baptism is the most important event of our lives. It is our entry in the life of Jesus. Live your Baptism fully.

*Prayer: Father, may I live the "radical newness" of my Baptism (Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People, Pope St. John Paul II, 10).*

*Promise: "I came that they might have life." —Jn 10:10*

*Praise: "He has been raised, exactly as He promised" (Mt 28:6).*

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-5-3-en>

## SEND-OFF

### "Then, after they had fasted and prayed, they imposed hands on them and sent them off." — Acts 13:3

When the early Church gathered for prayer, they did something before and something after. They fasted before praying. This freed them, "releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke" (Is 58:6).

They were free to hear the voice of God, pray the prayer of faith, go up prayer-mountain, and move the mountains of the evil one (Mt 17:20-21). After they prayed, it was not that the people just went off; rather, they were sent off (Acts 13:3).

The assembly at prayer should be a launching pad, shooting Spirit-filled, empowered, commissioned believers into the world. Propelled by the community's prayer and fasting, we rescue people from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light (Col 1:13) and attack the gates of hell that cannot prevail against us (Mt 16:18).

The Catholic Church has traditionally emphasized fasting, praying, and sending. Before receiving Holy Communion, we are to fast for at least an hour. I recommend we fast for a significantly longer period of time. After Holy Communion, we are sent out with the final blessing. This is what the word "Mass" means: "sent." Fasting, praying, and sending launched the first missionary journey, and will certainly begin the final one.

*Prayer: Father, during this Easter time, launch me into full-time missionary work.*

*Promise: "The Father Who sent Me has commanded Me what to say and how to speak." —Jn 12:49*

*Praise: Thomas' jail ministry grew out of prayer at his parish.*

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-5-6-en>

## CLUED IN TO THE SPIRIT

**"As I began to address them the Holy Spirit came upon them." —Acts 11:15**

Peter, a Christian and a Jew, took the unprecedented step of entering the house of a Gentile, Cornelius (Acts 10:25). Gentiles, that is, non-Jews, were excluded from the company of Jews. However, the Holy Spirit made it crystal-clear to Peter that he was to enter Cornelius' house (Acts 11:5ff; 11:12).

The Spirit hadn't yet instructed Peter what to say to the assembled Gentiles. So Peter "proceeded to address them" with a standard witness to the risen Lord (Acts 10:34ff). Then Peter brought up the subject of sin (Acts 10:43). Based on his previous preaching in Acts, it's quite possible that Peter's next words would have involved accountability for sin and the need for deep repentance. Theologically this makes good sense, but the Holy Spirit had a different subject in mind, for the Spirit took over from Peter. "Peter had not finished these words" about forgiveness of sins "when the Holy Spirit descended upon all who were listening to Peter's message" (Acts 10:44). Although Peter's Jewish Christian companions were surprised at this turn of events (Acts 10:45), Peter followed "the Spirit's lead" perfectly (Gal 5:25). Rather than trying to take the floor back from the Holy Spirit and finish his sermon, Peter "gave orders that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 10:48).

Let us hear the voice of Jesus (Jn 10:16) and thereby learn the voice of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit knows exactly what is the right word at the right time (see e.g. 1 Cor 2:10ff). Like Peter, let us "live by the Spirit" and "follow the Spirit's lead" (Gal 5:25).

*Prayer:* Father, I will serve You not by my own intelligence or wisdom, but by Your Spirit (Zec 4:6).

*Promise:* "I am the Good Shepherd. I know My sheep and My sheep know Me." —Jn 10:14

*Praise:* Mary and Louis have six children and are home-schooling them, teaching them the Catholic faith in love and truth.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-5-4-en>

## MIDDLE MANAGEMENT

**"My sheep hear My voice. I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life." —John 10:27-28**

been at work, and many things have already deeply influenced that person. We need to enter into that conversation and that life so as to fit into God's plan. Thus, Barnabas walked into Antioch and immediately picked up on what the Lord was doing. "On his arrival [Barnabas] rejoiced to see the evidence of God's favor. He encouraged them all to remain firm in their commitment to the Lord" (Acts 11:23). "Thereby large numbers were added to the Lord" (Acts 11:24).

Barnabas' key to success was his relationship with the Lord. When we live by faith the life in the Holy Spirit, we: hear God's voice (Jn 10:27),

- consistently are at the right place at the right time,
- treat people gently, thus neither breaking a bruised reed nor quenching a smoldering wick (Is 42:3),
- don't "put our feet into our mouths" so often,
- don't get in God's way,
- don't hurt people by trying to help them,
- don't fall into the trap of becoming co-dependent and enabling others to act irresponsibly, and
- are catalysts effecting the reception to a chain reaction of God's graces.

The Lord alone knows what He is getting us into. He will guide us to be, say, and do our part of His plan for us and others. Listen to Jesus. Live in Jesus. Then truly love others.

*Prayer:* Father, may I never be used by Satan. May I not recognize Satan's voice (Jn 10:5).

*Promise:* "No one shall snatch [My sheep] out of My hand." —Jn 10:28

*Praise:* Getting rid of his credit cards, Robert's faith in the providence of God then grew.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-5-5-en>

## A HEELING MASS?

**"He who partook of bread with Me has raised his heel against Me." —John 13:18**

In the time of Jesus, showing the bottom of your foot to someone was a sign of contempt toward them. Judas, in betraying Jesus, no longer considered Jesus his Master. Judas had committed to the service of new masters, the Sanhedrin. "No man can serve two masters. He will ... be attentive to one and despise the other" (Mt 6:24). Therefore, Judas despised Jesus. By eating the Last Supper with Jesus, Judas showed the greatest contempt for Him (Ps 41:10), even if he outwardly appeared sociable.

When you break bread with Jesus at Mass, are you coming to serve Jesus as your Master? Do you have His interests in mind? Are you listening for a message from Him? (Jn 13:16) Or do you come to Mass while serving someone else, such as yourself? If you are serving anyone else but Jesus, you'll eventually love them and despise Him (Mt 6:24). Others may see your Mass attendance as respectful, but that's not what Jesus sees. He may see the bottom of your foot raised against Him in contempt (Jn 13:18).

How do you spend your prime time? Your answer tells you what you serve. If the answer is not Jesus and His interests, repent now. Give up all that you have to gain Jesus as your Treasure and your Master (Mt 13:44). When you humble yourself and accept Jesus as your Master, Lord, and Savior, you paradoxically discover who you are (Mt 10:39). "Once you know all these things, blest will you be if you put them into practice" (Jn 13:17).

*Prayer:* Father, I will live no longer for myself but for Jesus (2 Cor 5:15). Help me to love Jesus in the Mass ever more deeply.

*Promise:* "Through all generations my mouth shall proclaim Your faithfulness." —Ps 89:2

*Praise:* Explaining the Eucharist to his children made Carl more in awe of Jesus' Real Presence in Holy Communion.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-5-7-en>

## THE UNTROUBLED ARE IN TROUBLE

**"Do not let your hearts be troubled." —John 14:1**

Shortly after Jesus commanded His apostles not to be troubled, He was in agony. He prayed so fervently that "His sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground" (Lk 22:44). To be untroubled does not mean not to be in trouble. Jesus was in trouble with the authorities because of His obedience to His Father. To be untroubled does not mean to be without fear or agony. Jesus' heart was broken. To be untroubled does mean to have faith in our heavenly Father and thereby to have a peace beyond understanding (Phil 4:7).

To be untroubled means to rest in living God's will. To be untroubled means to avoid letting our troubles pressure us into committing sin. Paradoxically, to be untroubled means to be in trouble with the world, for in doing God's will we oppose the ways of the world. To be untroubled can mean even to be persecuted with all the fear and distress that comes with persecution. In summary, to be untroubled means to have the faith to accept the grace to do God's will, resist the temptations to sin, get in trouble with the world, and even deserve persecution.

To be untroubled means to carry our daily crosses. "The message of the cross is complete absurdity to those who are headed for ruin, but to us who are experiencing salvation it is the power of God" (1 Cor 1:18).

*Prayer:* Father, make me a troublemaker by Your standards.

*Promise:* "God raised Him from the dead, and for many days thereafter Jesus appeared to those who had come up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem. These are His witnesses now before the people." —Acts 13:30-31

*Praise:* Joseph is learning to pray always. Every day he prays that he will be guided by the Holy Spirit.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2020-5-1-en>

## WHAT'S THE SMOKE FOR?

Dear Johan,

I saw a young woman with crosses as earrings and at least a dozen rosaries and several pectoral crosses around her neck. I was appalled. It seems to me that the cross is the most important symbol of Christianity. How dare she mock it so?

*Gentle reader,*

I must have seen the same woman recently, or else this has become an unhappy trend.

Your question reminds me of a scene that played out many years ago. My younger brother came home from university with a small silver crucifix dangling from his ear. Without saying a word, my mom walked over to him and took it (read: yanked it) out of his ear. To this day I am not sure what displeased my mom the most: the fact that he had his ear pierced or the fact that he wore a cross as an earring.

The cross is the most recognizable symbol of Christianity. However, as is the case with many things we now take for granted, it has not always been thus. It took a while before the cross and especially the crucifix or any other depictions of Christ, Mary, and the saints were accepted. Two factors were at play.

First, early Christians displayed a general timidity toward imagery at best and engaged in the occasional full-fledged period of iconoclasm at worst. It was not until the Second Council of Nicea (787) that matters were settled once and for all. After tumultuous debates, this council not only denounced iconoclasm but it also called for the depictions of Christ, Mary, and the saints with the admonition that when one adores an image one really adores the one represented by the image.

Second, the death of Jesus on the cross was neither expected by his followers nor was it readily embraced. Death by crucifixion was one of the worst condemnations. Roman citizens, for example, could not be punished by crucifixion. In a sense, the cross was experienced as a scandal and an embarrassment. So they concentrated on the resurrection, rather than on the death of Jesus.

Gradually the Christian community came to embrace the scandal of the cross as the mystery of salvation. And by the early third century the cross had become closely associated with Christianity. Clement of Alexandria (150–ca. 215) referred to the cross as τὸ κυριακὸν σημεῖον or the Lord's sign. And according to Tertullian (160–220) Christians are crucis religiosi or devotees of the cross.

Today the cross is ubiquitous and it is undoubtedly the most recognizable symbol in the entire world. We top our church steeples with crosses. We hang crosses in our homes, in our cars, and around our necks. We even tattoo crosses on our bodies. Most often this is done in good faith and in good taste. Sometimes it is done in a misguided attempt at unfortunate fashion. In some rare and regrettable instances the cross is intentionally desecrated.

Although I can understand why the sight of the young woman may have given you cause for concern, let's take consolation in the fact that by the cross we have been saved and nothing can take that away, not even ill-advised use or malicious abuse.

© 2015 Order of Saint Benedict, Collegeville, Minnesota. Excerpted from *What's the Smoke For? And Other Burning Questions about the Liturgy* by Johan van Parys © 2014 Order of Saint Benedict, published by Liturgical Press, [www.litpress.org](http://www.litpress.org). Used by permission.



## ARE YOU FORMED?

Free! Sign up on your computer and/or download the app. Go to [FORMED.ORG](http://FORMED.ORG)

Use this Parish code: **QKK7X3** (All capital) or URL: [sainttheresasouthlaketahoe.formed.org](http://sainttheresasouthlaketahoe.formed.org) FORMED is a subscription service offering access to thousands of studies, films, audios, and ebooks. Discover great digital media from over 40 of the best Catholic content producers including the Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, the USCCB, Catholic Answers, EWTN, St. Paul Center, Marian Press, Sophia Press, Knights of Columbus, FOCUS, and many more. Through its online platform and free mobile apps for iOS and Android, FORMED has helped individuals and communities know, love, and share their Catholic faith. Enjoy!

## SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

May 3

Call Philip the gospel's "Answer Man." "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Nathaniel asked Philip, who had proclaimed Jesus "the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets" (John 1:45). Jesus asked Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" (John 6:5). Greeks brought Philip their request: "We would like to see Jesus" (John 12:21). Philip's answer to each question: bring people to Jesus! At the Last Supper, finally, Philip had a request of his own: "Show us the Father!" (John 14:8). Jesus had three last questions for Philip: "You still don't know me? How can you ask that? Don't you believe?" And an answer: "I am in the Father and the Father is in me" (John 14:10). Today's James is not John's brother, Zebedee's son, but, tradition says, author of the New Testament Letter of James, who died praying for his murderers in Jesus' words: "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." Few historical details for either saint, but lessons aplenty: Bring every question we have and everybody we meet to Jesus; be, as James' letter challenges, "doers of the word and not hearers only" (James 1:22).

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### IN NEED OF A SHEPHERD

For a while it was very fashionable to own pigs as pets. The publicity surrounding these creatures informed us that they were—contrary to their popular image—very clean animals, and also quite smart. Sad to say, sheep will most likely never enjoy this sort of domestic vogue. They are neither clean nor smart and are largely defenseless when left on their own, even in large numbers. The biblical image of us as the flock of sheep is not a particularly flattering one. Sheep without a shepherd are truly sad, because they most likely will perish either from their inability to fend for themselves or from their lack of defenses against predators. Placing ourselves in the heart of this unflattering image can reinforce our faith. Until we come to a profound realization of how much we need a shepherd, we cannot appreciate how deeply blessed we are to have been given a Shepherd, one who laid down his life for us and was raised to life eternal in the Spirit, so he might guide us and we might follow him in faith forever.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

# Parroquia Santa Teresita del Niño Jesús

1041 Lyons Avenue | South Lake Tahoe | CA 96150-8241

Tel. (530) 544-3533 + Fax (530) 544-4662 +E-mail:

sttheresa@tahoecatholic.com

Website: www.tahoecatholic.com

3 DE MAYO DE 2020 | CUARTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA



~ Las Misas están suspendidas temporalmente. Sin embargo, todos los servicios se están transmitiendo EN VIVO a través de nuestra página de Facebook. ~

<https://www.facebook.com/tahoecatholic/live> o  
[www.tahoecatholic.com](http://www.tahoecatholic.com)

## MISA DIARIA EN INGLÉS:

Lunes a viernes de 8 a.m.

## MISA DIARIA EN ESPAÑOL:

De lunes a viernes a las 7 p.m.

## MISAS DOMINICALES:

10am en inglés y 12 mediodía en español

## ADORACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA VIRTUAL:

De martes a viernes a las 3 p.m.

¡GRACIAS POR  
SU GENEROSIDAD!

26 de abril  
\$2,020.00

## CAMINANDO POR TERRITORIO DESCONOCIDO

**"El Señor es mi pastor, nada me puede faltar" (Salmos 23:1).**

Pocos de nosotros hemos pastoreado, esquilado, o sacrificado una oveja. Así que no tenemos la experiencia para entender la imagen del Buen Pastor. Sin embargo, muchas personas se sienten fascinadas con esta imagen. Tal vez sepan instintivamente la necesidad profunda y convincente de la persona de ser pastoreada.

Una de las principales tareas de un pastor es guiar a las ovejas. Si estamos en el camino a la vida eterna, estamos en un camino áspero y estrecho (Mt 7:14). Estamos viajando a través de territorio desconocido ocupado por una "generación perversa" (Hch 2:40), una verdadera "cultura de muerte". Mientras caminamos a través de "oscuras quebradas" (Sal 23:4), sufrimos injustamente insultos y persecuciones (ver 1 Pe 2:21, 23). Estamos en peligro de ser robados, sacrificados y destruidos (Jn 10:10).

Es como si estuviéramos caminando a través de un campo minado. Nuestro próximo paso puede detonar una explosión en nuestras familias, matrimonios, trabajo, salud, etc. No podemos ver las minas debajo de la superficie. Necesitamos orientación desesperadamente. Necesitamos un pastor; y que sea bueno. Jesús dice: "Yo soy el Buen Pastor. El Buen Pastor da Su vida por las ovejas" (Jn 10:11).

**Oración:** *Jesús, mi Buen Pastor, que pueda oír Tu voz y seguirte a Ti (Jn 10:3).*

**Promesa:** *"Gracias a sus llagas, ustedes fueron curados" (1 Pe 2:24).*

**Alabanza:** *Gloria a Ti, Buen Pastor. Confiamos, adoramos, glorificamos, y te veneramos, nuestro Salvador y Dios*

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-5-7-es>

## MURIÓ POR NOSOTROS

**"Yo soy el Buen Pastor. El Buen Pastor da Su vida por las ovejas" (Juan 10:11).**

Jesús, el Buen Pastor, vino para que nosotros tengamos vida, "en abundancia" (ver Jn 10:10).

Paradójicamente, esa vida es conferida mediante la muerte (ver Jn 12:24). Para dar vida a sus ovejas, Jesús el buen Pastor, dio su vida por las ovejas (Jn 10:11, 15, 17). "No hay amor más grande que dar la vida por los amigos" (Jn 15:13). "Difícilmente se encuentra alguien que dé su vida por un hombre justo; tal vez alguno sea capaz de morir por un bienhechor. Pero la prueba de que Dios nos ama es que Cristo murió por nosotros cuando todavía éramos pecadores" (Rom 5:7-8).

Nosotros los que somos beneficiarios de su "muerte", no podemos dejar de hacernos la siguiente pregunta: "¿Con qué pagaré al Señor todo el bien que me hizo?" (Sal 116:12) "Y Él murió por todos, a fin de que los que viven no vivan más para sí mismos, sino para Aquel que murió y resucitó por ellos" (2 Co 5:15). Entrega tu vida por amor a Jesús crucificado y resucitado.

**Oración:** *Jesús, diste Tu vida por mí. Yo doy mi vida por Ti.*

**Promesa:** *"Apenas comencé a hablar, el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre ellos, como lo hizo al principio sobre nosotros" (Hch 11:15).*

**Alabanza:** *Norma tenía miedo de preguntar a Ron, su marido, que se hiciera católico. Su sacerdote, el padre Ralph, simplemente le preguntó a Ron si quería incorporarse a la Iglesia. Ron respondió que había estado deseando unirse. Ron creció en su fe y recibía a Jesús en la Eucaristía diaria durante muchos años.*

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-5-8-es>



## SER MÁS DE LO QUE PUEDES

"Y volvieron a preguntarle: ¿Qué signos haces para que veamos y creamos en Ti? ¿Qué obra realizas?" (Juan 6:30).

Le preguntaron a Jesús: "¿Qué obra realizas?" (Jn 6:30). Jesús les contestó no diciéndoles lo que Él hacía, sino quien era Él. Jesús les respondió: "Yo soy el Pan de Vida" (Jn 6:35). La vida en Cristo no es principalmente lo que hacemos, sino lo que somos en Jesús.

Esteban fue un trabajador muy exitoso. Se hizo cargo de un puesto administrativo plagado de dificultades y manejó con éxito el problema (ver Hch 6:1ss). Incluso él estaba dotado en la predicación y en la evangelización. Sin embargo, Esteban no se ocupó principalmente de continuar su buen trabajo. Su prioridad era ser un discípulo del Señor, incluso si eso significaba que su trabajo en la tierra tenía que terminar cuando Esteban se convirtió en el primer mártir cristiano.

Cuando hacemos hincapié en que somos más de lo que hacemos, no hacemos nuestro trabajo menos importante, sino lo más importante. La obra que expresa lo que somos en Cristo es la obra más importante en el mundo. Cuando nos centramos en ser hijos de Dios, somos entonces trabajadores de Dios en un sentido impresionante.

Que en este tiempo de Pascua, nuestro trabajo pueda surgir de la muerte del orgullo, el egoísmo y la codicia. Que podamos trabajar a causa de lo que somos en Cristo resucitado.

*Oración:* Padre, enséñame a ser lo que quieres que yo sea. Que mi hacer siempre pueda venir de mi ser en Ti.

*Promesa:* "El que viene a Mí jamás tendrá hambre; el que cree en Mí jamás tendrá sed" (Jn 6:35).

*Alabanza:* San Atanasio defendió la divinidad de Cristo, a pesar de estar en el exilio durante diecisiete años.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-5-2-es>

## MOTIVO DE ALEGRÍA (1 PEDRO 1:6)

**"Cuando llegó y vio la gracia que Dios les había concedido, él se alegró mucho y exhortaba a todos a permanecer fieles al Señor con un corazón firme" (Hechos 11:23).**

Me acaban de entregar varias cartas de lectores de Un Pan, Un Cuerpo (UPUC). Cada carta ha sido un estímulo que llega de esos lectores fieles que utilizan UPUC en su tiempo de oración, y todos y cada uno expresa su agradecimiento, aliento y amor. Estos lectores son como Bernabé, ofreciendo estímulo para que permanezcamos firmes en nuestro compromiso para producir UPUC (ver Hch 11:23).

Estas cartas nos dan gran alegría al "ver la gracia que Dios nos ha concedido" (Hch 11:23). Muchos de los que leen UPUC se han comprometido a diario para la oración y la lectura de la Escritura. Ahora asisten a misa con tanta frecuencia como sea posible y cuando no pueden, la siguen en la televisión o la radio. Ahora alegremente difunden la palabra de Dios y son testigos de Jesús desde el abundante amor de sus corazones (Lc 6:45). Un escritor exclama: "Me encanta difundir la Palabra cada vez que tengo la oportunidad".

Damos gracias a Dios por ustedes (1 Tes 1:2; Col 1:3; Fil 1:3) y nos alegramos de vuestra fecundidad para el Señor. Con amor, les "rogamos y les exhortamos en el Señor Jesús...que hagan mayores progresos todavía" (1 Tes 4:1). Ustedes están haciendo grandes cosas; con Jesús se pueden hacer cosas más grandes que nunca antes (Jn 14:12). Continúen "fieles y firmes" en vuestro amor y fecundidad por Jesús (ver Lc 3:8).

*Oración:* Padre, gracias por los testigos con que nos ha rodeado (Heb 12:1). "Qué alegría más grande nos da el amor de los santos" (Sal 16:3).

*Promesa:* "Mis ovejas escuchan Mi voz, yo las conozco y ellas Me siguen" (Jn 10:27-28).

*Alabanza:* Pedro ha estado estudiando las escrituras a diario por más de treinta años. Él da clases semanales de la Biblia usando distintos foros

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-5-3-es>

## LA MISIÓN DE AMOR

"Que Dios nos bendiga, y lo teman todos los confines de la tierra" (Salmos 67:8).

Si no creemos en Jesús, permanecemos en las tinieblas (Jn 12:46). Si no aceptamos las palabras de Jesús, ya estamos bajo juicio, y nos privamos de la vida eterna (Jn 12:47). Si no entregamos nuestras vidas a Jesús, seguimos estando "muertos por culpa de nuestros pecados y ofensas" (Ef 2:1). Sin Jesús, no hay esperanza (ver Ef 2:12).

Entonces, oremos porque "la palabra del Señor" continúe "difundiéndose incesantemente" (Hch 12:24). Oremos y ayunemos juntos siendo cada uno testigo y misionero de Jesús (ver Hch 13:2-3). Oremos para que el Espíritu Santo hable a nuestra comunidad local para elegir misioneros que lleven el evangelio de Jesús a todas las naciones (ver Hch 13:2). Y apoyemos a estos misioneros con oración diaria, servicio incesante y entrega sacrificial.

Porque amamos a Jesús y a las personas, porque la vida sin Jesús es un anticipo del infierno, y porque la vida en Jesús es una muestra del cielo, todos nosotros debemos ser misioneros y cada Iglesia debe ser evangelizadora, el último mandamiento de Jesús antes de Su Asunción fue: "vayan, y hagan que todos los pueblos sean Mis discípulos" (Mt 28:19). Con amor, vayan y hagan discípulos.

**Oración:** Señor, "para que en la tierra se reconozca su dominio, y su victoria entre las naciones" (Sal 67:3).

**Promesa:** "Yo soy la luz, y he venido al mundo para que todo el que crea en Mí no permanezca en las tinieblas" (Jn 12:46).

**Alabanza:** San Damián amó y fue amado por los no amados y exiliados leprosos en una colonia remota en Hawái.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/series/obob/obob-2017-5-10-es>

## LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Hch 11:1-18; Sal 42 (41):2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18

Martes: Hch 11:19-26; Sal 87 (86):1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Miércoles: Hch 12:24 — 13:5a; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

Jueves: Hch 13:1-25; Sal 89 (88):2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

Viernes: Hch 13:26-33; Sal 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Sábado: Hch 13:44-52; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Domingo: Hch 6:1-7; Sal 33 (32):1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pe 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12