



ARCHDIOCESE OF PALO – CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
Module 46 (July 18, 2021) 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cycle B
Jesus: A Caring Shepherd - A Caring Leader
Mark 6:30-34



INTRODUCTION

Talk about the life of the people in this “new normal” when covid-19 pandemic is still on the rise, How are the lives of the family, especially the poor affected? What do you hope for our people or what is your dream for our nation? If Jesus were with us at this time, what do you think would he do?



OPENING PRAYER

Any song to the Holy Spirit or any similar prayer

Father, thank you for your promise that where two or three are gathered you are there in the midst.
 Lord we welcome Your presence amongst us today and celebrate the gift of life that you have poured upon each of us.
 We ask that You open our ears so that we may hear your voice.
 Open our minds so that we may receive Your eternal wisdom.
 Open our spirits so that we may know Your leading and guidance.
 And open our hearts to your love.
 We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ.
 Glory Be
<https://www.living-prayers.com/events/prayer>



PHASE ONE
REMEMBER THE STORY OF JESUS

Enthroned the Bible on a table with lighted candle)

A moment of prayerful silence
We will not be able to understand the Word of God unless God himself opens our hearts. Let us now welcome Jesus as he speaks to us through his Word

Alleluia, Alleluia

Namamati han akong tingog an akon mga karnero; nakilala ako ha ira ngan nsasunod hira ha akon. Alleluia, Alleluia (My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” People were coming and going in great numbers,



and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place.

People saw them leaving and many came to know about it. They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them.

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

1.2 Brief Guided silent Meditation / Personal Prayer

What image or picture of Jesus do you imagine from the gospel story you heard?

1.3 Text in Context

In last week’s Gospel, we heard Jesus send his disciples to preach and to heal in his name. Today’s Gospel, tells us what happens when they return from their first mission work. Jesus understood very well how the apostles felt after the experience of reaching out to the people, which must be exciting but tiring.

1. What does Jesus want his disciples to do now that they have returned from their work? (He wants them to rest.)
2. Do they succeed in finding time to rest? (No, the crowd continues to seek them out; Jesus is moved with pity and begins to teach the crowd.)
3. What do you think made Jesus attract a big crowd?
4. What do you say of Jesus’ attitude towards the apostles? To the people?
5. What image best describes Jesus in today’s gospel story?

**PHASE II REFLECT the Story
of the Church
(Teachings of the Church)**



Jesus is the Son of God. His being divine makes him all the more human, who can sense and attend promptly to others' needs with much compassion

Upon the Apostles' return from their experience of mission, Jesus must have heard all their good reports on how they cured the sick and expelled demons. Jesus knew that the mission was just beginning. More people are waiting for them. More than the good things the apostles had done, Jesus wanted them to have a timely rest. Jesus said to his apostles:

Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while."

But reaching the other side of the shore where they planned to have some rest, they were met by a crowd that went ahead of them in the same place. Jesus and his apostles could have longed for relaxation that afternoon. Instead, another urgent need of a great number of people came out more than Jesus' wish for his apostles to regain energy.

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

We do not know who were among the huge crowd, numbered as 5,000 in the four Gospels. They must be mixture of Jews and Gentiles who were not considered children of Israel. Here we have the image of Jesus as the true shepherd whose heart beats out of compassion for the flock. As a Shepherd, Jesus would like to lead them to the truth so that they will go to the right path. We know that most of the people in Jesus' time were confused because religious leaders failed to practice what they taught about God. People also looked for a true leader of their nation, Israel, which had been oppressed by different foreign rulers for many years.

God hears the cries of the people. God said to Jeremiah, the prophet, 400 years before the birth of Christ as today's First Reading tells us:

The day is coming when I will raise up a king, ... he will rule wisely and govern with justice and righteousness.
(Jeremiah 23:5)

This line points to Jesus, the promised king who promotes the good of the people and what is just for each one especially the poorest, the abandoned, and the neglected of the community.

What behavior of Jesus surprised you?
Have you experienced the compassionate love of Jesus?
When did it happen?

Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd who understands even the most hidden needs of people. He protects the welfare of all. He denied himself of the needed rest at this particular time in order to attend to the people who longed to hear his teachings. Jesus has a shepherd heart that is ready to give himself for all so that there will be ONE flock. This flock is not only Israel. We are all brothers and sisters who belong to the same flock, the same humanity. We may be believers and non-believers, black and white race, poor or rich, sinners and righteous. Jesus has a compassionate heart for all, his shepherding love is universal. Through the Cross

Jesus reaches the highest expression of his love to form the ONE BODY, ONE FLOCK.

In today's Second Reading, St. Paul said, *In Christ Jesus you who once were far off have become near by the blood of Christ.* (Ephesians 2:13)

Through the blood of Christ all of us are able to be united with God and to one another. Thanks be to the shepherding love of Jesus who offers us the gift of peace and reconciliation.

**PHASE THREE RESPOND – with/ in my personal
faith /community faith story**

All followers of Christ, we share the same joys and hopes as well as the griefs and sorrows of the people of our time. (GS#1). We know that many people suffer at this time of pandemic.

We cannot put all the responsibilities to the government alone. Like Christ we must look deeper into the real needs of the people for better world where there is peace, justice and care for one another. The role of leaders of our country is important to be the flock that God would like us to become. Let us look on how we can form ourselves to choosing the right candidates of our country

NOTE: Catechists are expected to study the GABAY (see pp 3-4) as a way to animate family members/parishioners on Voters' Education for May 2022 National Election. These days are the opportune time.



CLOSING PRAYER

Prayer for Government Leaders (based on Psalm 72)

O Jesus, the Good Shepherd
give Your love of justice to those who rule our land.
Like you, help them to rule with wisdom and compassion,
so that the poor and powerless may be treated fairly and with justice.

Grant them the Shepherd's heart that sees the cries of those caught in cycles of poverty, abuse or violence.

Give them your wisdom to know how best to respond,
and courage to do the right thing, even when it may not be popular. Under your guidance, help our nation to flourish;
With lasting peace and plenty for all. Amen.

Adapted from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com>

BACKGROUND FOR THE CATECHISTS

Fratelli Tutti 92/93. The spiritual stature of a person's life is measured by love, which in the end remains "the criterion for the definitive decision about a human life's worth or lack thereof" Yet some believers think that it consists in the imposition of their own ideologies upon everyone else, or in a violent defense of the truth, or in impressive demonstrations of strength. All of us, as believers, need to recognize that love takes first place: love must never be put at risk, and the greatest danger lies in failing to love (cf. *1 Cor 13:1-13*).

Saint Thomas Aquinas sought to describe the love made possible by God's grace as a movement outwards towards another, whereby we consider "the beloved as somehow united to ourselves". Our affection for others makes us freely desire to seek their good. All this originates in a sense of esteem, an appreciation of the value of the other. This is ultimately the idea behind the word "charity": those who are loved are "dear" to me; "they are considered of great value". And "the love whereby someone becomes pleasing (*grata*) to another is the reason why the latter bestows something on him freely (*gratis*)".]



GABAY
SA TAMANG PAGPILING KANDIDATO/LIDER
(HALALAN 2022)

“Choose from among all the people competent persons who fear God, who are trustworthy and incorruptible.”(Ex 18:21)

The Gabay aims to provide standards consistent with God’s Commandments and the Constitution in choosing servant leaders who will contribute to bring positive change and transformation for the common good of our people and country.

Knock-out Issues

These are persons who seek public office but whose political & moral behavior does not conform to God’s Laws and our Constitution thus automatically eliminating them from being considered as potential candidates.

- 1) Supports EJK, Death Penalty and Abortion
- 2) Does not defend our country’s sovereign rights to our exclusive economic zone in the West Phil. Sea
- 3) Does not support the passage of an Anti-Dynasty Law which is in the Constitution
- 4) Involved in graft & corruption and does not publicly release SALN
- 5) Supports Charter Change during this present administration.
- 6) Unwilling to hold accountable past and present public officials who have committed crimes under our present laws.

“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice but when the wicked rule the people groan and sigh” (Prov:2)

INSTRUCTIONS

The chart on the following pages outlines characteristic and behavior of the potential candidate you are evaluating. Please indicate whether or not the person possesses these characteristics based on information you have about them. You may use the numbers 1-10 to rate them accordingly.

“Choose those who are wise, understanding, experienced and respected ...and I will make them heads over you” (Deut 1:13)

Character

- 1. Has integrity, with a clean record of public service**

Malinis ang pangalan, walang bahid ang panunungkulan at hindi sangkot sa anumang katiwalian

- 2. Has moral courage to stand up for what is just and right**

May paninindigan para sa tama at mali, ipaglalaban ang katarungan at katotohanan

- 3. Upholds democratic rights and the rule of law**

Matibay ang loob sapag papatupad ng batas, walang kinikilingan o sinasanto, kumukonsulta at nakikinig sa mamamayan

Competence

- 1. Has the required training, experience and technical expertise in the position the candidate is aspiring for**

Nag-aral at maysapat na kasanayan, karanasan, at kaalaman sa posisyong hinahangad

2. Has a good track record as a leader in governance, business, academic, NGOs and other institutions

May kakayahang bilang lider, maganda ang karanasan sa pagpapatakbo ng isang sangay ng gobyerno o anumang kumpanya o institusyon na gaya ng unibersidad at NGO

3. Has capacity to build consensus among various stakeholders in advancing critical issues

May kakayahang mapagkasundo ang iba'tibang sektor at interes upang maisulong ang mga mahahalagang isyu

4. Has a clear platform for improving the economy and providing solutions to poverty

May maliwanag na plataporma para sapag-unlad ng ekonomiya at paglutus sa kahirapan ng mga dukha sa bansa

5. Has the professional respect of his peers and the capacity to discern, recognize and attract top-class talent to help in actual governance

Respetado siya ng mga kasama sa larangan ng kanyang propesyon at may kakayahang sumipat ng mgamahuhusay na tutulong sakanya sapamamahala

Commitments

1. Pro-poor, as evidenced by his record of laws, policies, and support for programs like agrarian reform, rural development, just wages and ending contractual labor

Kita sakanyang public service record nakinikilingan ang kapakanan ng mga mahihirap, gaya ng reporma sa lupa, pag-unlad ng kanayunan, makatarungang sahod at job security sa mga manggagawa

2. Works for constructive resolution of conflicts with rebel groups and marginalized sectors through peace negotiations and social reform

Nagsusulong ng reporma at mga solusyon upang wakasan ang kawalan ng kapayapaan na dulot ng paghihimagsik ng mgarebeldeng Muslim at NPA dahil sa kahirapan at kawalan ng karapatan, katarungan at boses sa lipunan

3. Advocates and works towards care of the environment and our natural resources by supporting programs and policies for reducing carbon emissions, developing clean energy, conserving forest and water resources, and banning destructive mining

Nagtutulak at sumusuporta sa mga batas at programang na ng angalaga sa kalikasan at yaman ng bansa, gaya ng pagpapababa ng carbon emissions, paglilinang ng malinis na enerhiya, pangangalaga sa kagubatan at katubigan, pagbabawal sa nakasisirang pagmimina

“You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people...who once were no people but are now the people of God...” (1Peter 2:9-

