

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“You are Peter,
and to you
I will give the keys of the
kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 16:19

AUGUST 23, 2026



21ER DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

“Tú eres Pedro,
y a ti te daré
las llaves del
reino de los cielos.”

Mateo 16, 19

23 DE AGOSTO DE 2026



Saint Brigid's Church



StBrigidsAmherst



saintbrigidsamherst@gmail.com

413-256-6181 (Phone & Fax)

<https://www.saintbrigidsamherst.org>

CHURCH & RECTORY

122 North Pleasant St., Amherst, MA 01002

PARISH OFFICE, MAILING ADDRESS & PASTORAL CENTER

43 North Prospect St., Amherst, MA 01002

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9:00 am–2:00 pm

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAYS: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am

Friday 12:15 pm at the Newman Center

WEEKENDS: Saturday 4:30 pm

Sunday 8:00 am

12:30 pm (Español)

AFRICAN NIGHTS: 1st Sunday of the Month 4:30 pm**

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 3:30 to 4:00 pm or by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

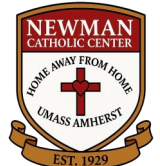
Thursday 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3:00 pm

Spanish Holy Hour (Hora Santa Español) 5:00-6:00 pm

Benediction 6:00 pm

Church is opened Monday-Friday 7:30 am-5:00 pm



Newman Catholic Center



NewmanUmass



newmansecretary@diospringfield.org

413-549-0300

<https://www.newmanumass.org>

BUILDING HOURS**

111 Thatcher Rd., Amherst, MA 01003

Sunday-Thursday 8:00 am to 10:30 pm

Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

During Academic Breaks

Sunday-Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAYS: Monday-Wednesday 5:30 pm**

Thursday 8:00 am at St. Brigid Parish

Friday 12:15 pm

Saturday 9:00 am

WEEKENDS:

Sunday 10:30 am and 7:00 pm**

CONFESSIONS: By Appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

1st Friday of the Month

after the 12:15 pm Mass until the Saturday 9am Mass

(**during academic year only)

St. Brigid's Parish Pastor & Newman Catholic Center Director: *Rev. Fr. Valentine Nwora*
413-256-6181, ext. 102 / 413-549-0300 ext. 101 / v.nwora@diospringfield.org

St. Brigid's Parish and Newman Catholic Center Permanent Deacons:

Rev. Deacon Adalberto Santiago-Martínez

413-256-6181 / a.santiagomartinez@diospringfield.org

Rev. Deacon Thomas Lynch

413-549-0300 / t.lynch@diospringfield.org

Administrative Assistant: *Gricelle Cruz*

413-256-6181 ext. 101 / saintbrigidsamherst@gmail.com

Administration/Development Coord: *Paulina Ortiz-Orive*

413-549-0300 ext. 104 / newmansecretary@diospringfield.org

WEEKLY EVENTS @ AMHERST CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

ST. BRIGID'S CATHOLIC CHURCH (SB)

NEWMAN CATHOLIC CENTER (NCC)

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

CONFESSIONS:

SATURDAY 3:00-3:30 (SB) * BY APPOINTMENT (SB & NCC)

Monday, August 24

07:30 am – Rosary recited (SB)

08:00 am – Mass (SB)

05:30 pm – NO MASS (NCC)

Tuesday, August 25

07:30 am – Rosary recited (SB)

08:00 am – Mass (SB)

05:30 pm – NO MASS (NCC)

Wednesday, August 26

07:30 am – Rosary recited (SB)

08:00 am – Mass (SB)

05:30 pm – NO MASS (NCC)

Thursday, August 27

07:30 am – Rosary recited (SB)

08:00 am – Mass (SB)

08:30 am – Eucharistic Adoration (SB)

05:00 pm – Holy Hour [Hora Santa-Español] (SB)

06:00 pm – Benediction (SB)

06:15 pm-7:30 pm – African Choir Practice (SB-Library)

Friday, August 28

12:15 pm – Mass (NCC)

Saturday, August 29

09:00 am – Mass (NCC)

04:30 pm – Mass (SB) Twenty-second Sunday in OT

Sunday, August 30—Twenty-second Sunday in OT

08:00 am – Mass (SB)

10:30 am – Mass (NCC)

12:30 pm – Mass (SB) Español

07:00 pm – NO MASS (NCC)

AMHERST CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH

SB

NEWMAN CATHOLIC CENTER

NCC

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

NCC 09:00 am

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (VIGIL)

SB 04:30 pm +Catherine Kelley

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SB 08:00 am +Cornelia Como

NCC 10:30 am +Eugene and Gladys McPherson

SB 12:30 pm B-Day Blessings José C. Verdejo-Clemente

NCC 07:00 pm NO MASS

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

SB 08:00 am +Beverly Jean Durnakowski

NCC 05:30 pm NO MASS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

SB 08:00 am +Stanley Kielbasa

NCC 05:30 pm NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

SB 08:00 am +Thomas Stosz

NCC 05:30 pm NO MASS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

SB 08:00 am +Idalia Rodriguez González

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

NCC 12:15 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

NCC 09:00 am

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (VIGIL)

SB 04:30 pm +Max and Alice Stosz

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SB 08:00 am +Sue Huestis

NCC 10:30 am Thanksgiving for prayers answered from Mr. & Mrs. Nicolas Mata

SB 12:30 pm +Idalia Rodríguez González

NCC 07:00 pm NO MASS

PLEASE CALL ST BRIGID'S AND NEWMAN'S OFFICES,
TO OFFER A MASS INTENTION FOR YOUR LOVED ONES.

THE SUGGESTED MASS STIPEND IS \$15.

YOUR GENEROUS OFFERING WOULD BE
GREATLY APPRECIATED.

SAINT BRIGID'S WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Parish Budget — \$4,800.00

August 16, 2026—\$2,039.40

Picnic—\$2,021.00

Thank you for your generous and continuous support!

Scan the QR Code to setup your **ST. BRIGID'S PARISH**
ONLINE GIVING or for a **one-time donation**. Thank You!



*You can find this QR Code on a
sticker conveniently
located on the back of each pew.*

NEWMAN'S WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

August 16, 2026—\$1,340.00

Thank you for your generous and continuous support!

Scan the QR Code to setup your **NEWMAN ONLINE**
GIVING or for a **one-time donation**.

For more information,
please call the Newman Catholic Center.



STAFF (CONTINUED)

OCIA & Confirmation for Students/Adults:	Deacon Thomas (Tom) Lynch, 413-549-0300 / t.lynch@diospringfield.org
Director of Religious Education:	Nancy García, 413-256-6181, ext. 103, amherstcatholicfaithformation@gmail.com
Director of Music / Cantor:	Michael McLaughlin, newmanmusic@diospringfield.org
Organist:	Dr. Klaus Becker, klaube@gmail.com
Business Manager:	Lary Grossman, 549-0300, ext. 106, nbo@diospringfield.org
Building Manager (NCC):	Paul-Miki (Ralu) Ibekwe, 549-0300, ext. 106, newmanbuildingmanager@diospringfield.org
Custodians and Buildings Maintenance (SB):	Pablo Mercado, 413-427-2395 — Juan Amaya, ajuan960@gmail.com
St. Brigid's Cemetery Director:	Ron Lashway, Jr., 413-253-3407
Msgr. Lane Pastoral Center Rental Coordinator:	

GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

Hispanic Ministry Director	Deacon Adalberto Santiago-Martínez, 413-256-6181, a.santiagomartinez@diospringfield.org
African Ministry Coordinator	Christina Camara, christinacamara@gmail.com
Youth Group Coordinator:	Nancy García, 413-256-6181, ext. 103, amherstcatholicfaithformation@gmail.com
Hispanic Music Coordinator	Nelson López, 413-387-8499
Women of Faith Group:	Megan Johnson, womenoffaith.amherst@gmail.com
FORGE Men Ministry:	Stephen Rich, smrich@umass.edu
Spiritual Life Committee:	Joseph (Joe) Lake, lake@umass.edu
Cursillo Movement (English)	Jan Peterson, amherstcursilloinfo@gmail.com
St. Brigid's Prayer Tree -Our Lady's Rose Garden:	Laura MacLeod, 413-472-1121, brigidsamherstprayerertree@gmail.com

Facebook: **UMassNSA**

NEWMAN'S STUDENTS ORGANIZATIONS

Instagram **UMassCatholic**

NCSA Officers

Email: umass.nsa@gmail.com

President—Andrew Lang

Vice President—Emilie Bell

Secretary—Matthew Jamrozek

Treasurer—Guilherme Eloy

Outreach Coordinator

Clementine Mankoski

Event Coordinator

Natalie Gratch

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Sarah Moriarty
smoriarty@umass.edu

Jack Daley
jpdaley@umass.edu

FOCUS Missionaries

Julie Sulva

Julie.sulva@focus.org

Julio Hernandez

Julio.hernandez@focus.org

Lourdes Navarro

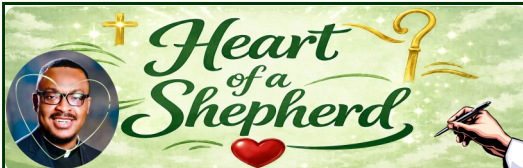
Lourdes.navarro@focus.org

Henry Kindler

Henry.kindler@focus.org

Heidi McLaughlin

heidi.mclaughlin@focus.org



FAITH THAT OPENS HEAVEN

Last Sunday, we reflected on Unwavering Faith, the faith of the Canaanite woman who refused to give up. Today, Matthew brings us to another powerful profession of faith. Jesus asks His disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” Peter answers without hesitation: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Peter’s declaration is more than the correct answer to a religious question. It is a profound act of faith. Jesus tells him that this insight did not come from human reasoning alone: “Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.” God had prepared Peter for a unique vocation and would use him, despite his weaknesses, as an instrument in building Christ’s Church. Jesus then gives Peter an extraordinary responsibility: “You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.” Peter becomes a visible instrument through whom Christ entrusts the keys of the Kingdom. Yet Peter’s authority does not originate in Peter himself. Everything he is and does comes from Christ. As St. Paul reminds us, “For from him and through him and for him are all things.”

This Gospel challenges us to move beyond simply knowing about Jesus to making a personal profession of faith in Him. Who do I say Jesus is by the way I live? Do my choices show that He is truly the Lord of my life? When faith conflicts with convenience, popularity, or public opinion, where do I stand? Am I willing to let Christ change my priorities, relationships, and ambitions? Do I recognize that God can use even my weaknesses for His purposes?

Peter was not perfect. He would later stumble badly. Yet Jesus chose him, formed him, and entrusted him with a mission. That should give all of us hope. God does not wait for perfect people before calling them to serve. He takes ordinary, imperfect people and, by His grace, makes them instruments of His Kingdom.

Fr. Val

Hymns for the Weekend 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRO: The Church's One Foundation 540
OFF: By All Your Saints Still Striving 220

To read more about the history and meaning of this hymn, please see below.

COMM: Shepherd of Souls 368

REC: Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow 217

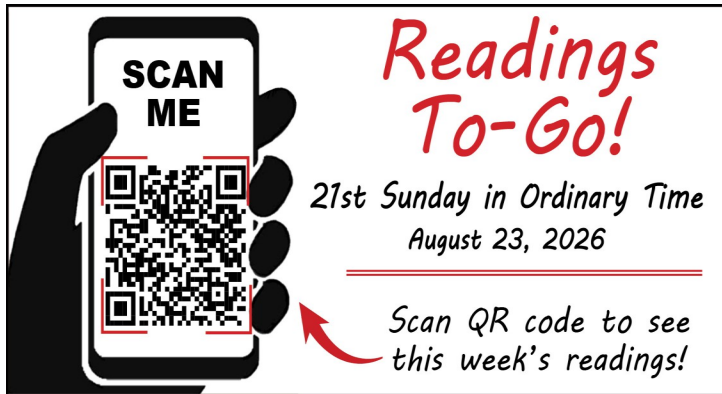
"By All Your Saints Still Striving," is a hymn that is adaptable to any occasion. Listed below are examples of verses memorializing various feast days. Today, we will sing the one for the Chair of St. Peter, as the Gospel reading is about Peter being declared "the rock."



Weekly
AFRICAN CHOIR PRACTICE

ON THURSDAYS
6:15PM - 7:30PM
IN THE PARISH CENTER LIBRARY

We would love to have **NEW SINGERS AND MUSICIANS** join us!



SCAN ME

Readings To-Go!

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 23, 2026

Scan QR code to see this week's readings!

OUR REGISTRATION FOR
CCD (Religious Education/
Faith Formation)
FOR 2026-2027
is now open **ONLINE.**

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

Classes for K-8
will take place at
St Brigid's Parish Pastoral Center
on Sundays from 9:00am-10:00am.

Confirmation classes
will take place at the
Newman Center on Sundays
from 5:00-6:45pm.

All Classes will start
on **October 4**
(orientation on
September 27).

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Building faith. Growing together. Sharing God's love.

Eucharistic Adoration * **Adoración Eucarística**

"if you can't see Jesus in the Eucharist, you can't see him in the poor"
Franciscan Capuchins

Thursdays 8:30am-6:00pm
St. Brigid's Church
*First Friday of the Month
After the 12:15pm Mass until the Saturday 9:00am Mass
Newman Catholic Center

"Si no puedes ver a Jesús en la Eucaristía, tampoco puedes verlo en los pobres."
Franciscanos Capuchinos

Jueves 8:30 am-6:00 pm
Parroquia Santa Brígida
Hora Santa Español 5-6pm
*Primer Viernes del Mes después Misa 12:15 pm
Centro Católico Newman

*during academic year only

*solo durante el año académico

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 23, 2026

OUR CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES SECTION

21er DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO
16 DE AGOSTO DE 2026

SECCIÓN DE ACTIVIDADES PARA NUESTROS NIÑOS

FILL IN THE GAPS

The sentences below are missing key words. Can you find the correct ones? (They are all in today's readings.)

- I will _____ you from your _____ and pull you down from your _____.
- Lord, your _____ is _____; do not forsake the _____ of your hands.
- How deep are the _____ and the _____ and the _____ of God!
- No mere _____ has _____ this to you, but my heavenly _____.
- I will _____ to you the _____ of the _____ of heaven.

ANSWERS

1. thrust, office, station 2. love, eternal, work 3. riches, wisdom, knowledge 4. man, revealed, Father 5. entrust, keys, kingdom

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The Power of Prevention

Friday, October 2, 2026
Saint Brigid's Church
43 N. Prospect St, Amherst, MA 01002

Learn more or schedule your screening!

EVENTS IN OUR DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD



FOR UPCOMING, AND
ONGOING EVENTS
IN OUR DIOCESE VISIT
diospringfield.org/calendar
OR SCAN THE QR CODE.



Fall Semester
Kickoff
September 6th - 12th

- Sunday, Sept. 6th | 7:00 pm Mass
- Monday - Wednesday | 5:30 pm Daily Mass
- Wednesday, Sept. 8th | 7:00 pm Adoration and Confession



Good News!
**OUR PHONES & INTERNET
SERVICE ARE RESTORED!**

All phone lines and internet access
at Saint Brigid's Parish
are now back to normal.

413-256-6181
saintbrigidsamherst@gmail.com

Thank you for your patience
and understanding! ♥



Here are some photos from
our parish picnic,
**Our Lady's
Festival**

*Message from our Pastor,
Father Val*

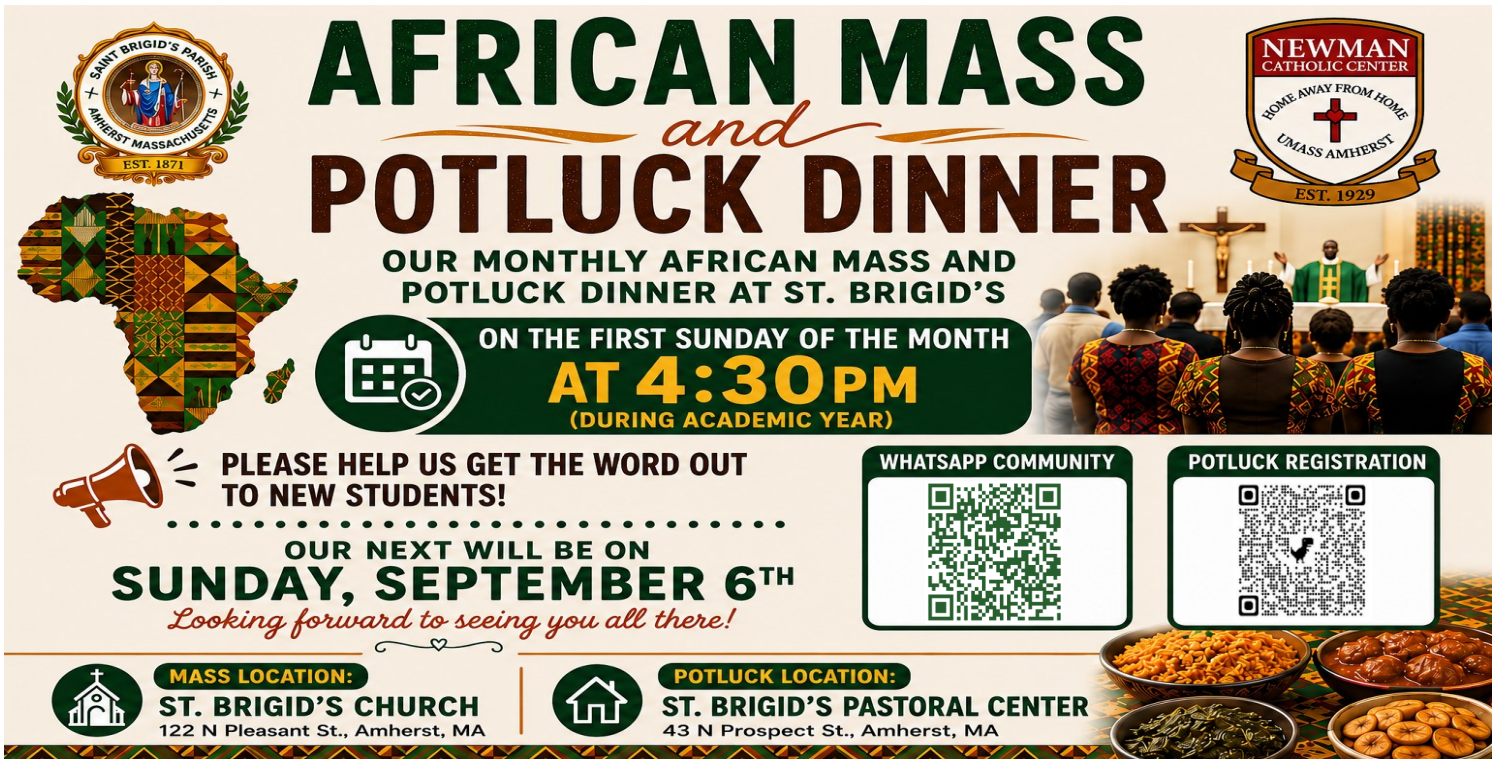
♥ We appreciate the
effort of the Social
Life Committee,
led by Mr. Jason
Bermant, for
organizing
everything.

👥 Thanks to our
parishioners and
community members
for a wonderful
turnout.

👤 Thank you to everyone
who supported and
contributed to making
this day a joyful
celebration.

📷 Photo Credit:
[**Linda Lynch**]

Scan the QR code
to visit our Facebook
page for more
photos!



**AFRICAN MASS
and
POTLUCK DINNER**

OUR MONTHLY AFRICAN MASS AND
POTLUCK DINNER AT ST. BRIGID'S

ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
AT 4:30PM
(DURING ACADEMIC YEAR)

PLEASE HELP US GET THE WORD OUT
TO NEW STUDENTS!

OUR NEXT WILL BE ON
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
Looking forward to seeing you all there!

MASS LOCATION:
ST. BRIGID'S CHURCH
122 N Pleasant St., Amherst, MA

POTLUCK LOCATION:
ST. BRIGID'S PASTORAL CENTER
43 N Prospect St., Amherst, MA

WHATSAPP COMMUNITY

POTLUCK REGISTRATION



bible.usccb.org/es
Lecturas diarias de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos



PARROQUIA SANTA BRÍGIDA

21ER DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

23 DE AGOSTO DE 2026



Escanee el Código QR para acceder al sitio web de Santa Brígida en español.

RECEPCIÓN DE SACRAMENTOS



Llame a la oficina o envíe un correo electrónico al
Diácono Adalberto Santiago-Martínez
a.santiagomartinez@diospringfield.org

Director de la Comunidad Hispana de nuestra Parroquia Santa Brígida, para la recepción de todos los Sacramentos:

- ★ **Bautismo***
- ★ **Primera Comunión**
- ★ **Confirmación**
- ★ **Matrimonio**
- ★ **Unción de los Enfermos**
- ★ **OCIA** (Orden de Iniciación Católica para Adultos)
- ★ **Misa de Quinceañera y Dirección Espiritual**

* Se requiere clase prebautismal

★ **Clase prebautismal tercer sábado del mes, 6:00 pm.**

Una vez recibidos en la oficina todos los documentos requeridos y asistido a la clase prebautismal, se confirmará la fecha del bautismo, a celebrarse el tercer domingo de cada mes, después de la Misa de las 12:30 pm.

"Y yo también te digo, que tú eres Pedro,[a] y sobre esta roca[b] edificaré mi iglesia; y las puertas del Hades no prevalecerán contra ella."

Mateo 16:18



Aquí hay algunas fotos de nuestro picnic parroquial,

Festival de Nuestra Señora

Mensaje de nuestro Párroco, Padre Val



Agradecemos el esfuerzo del Comité de Vida Social, liderado por el Sr. Jason Bermant, por organizar todo.



Gracias a nuestros feligreses y miembros de la comunidad por una maravillosa participación.



Gracias a todos los que apoyaron y contribuyeron para hacer de este día una alegre celebración.



Crédito de la foto: **[**Linda Lynch**]**

¡Escanee el código QR para visitar nuestra página de Facebook y ver más fotos!



NUESTRA INSCRIPCIÓN PARA

CCD (Educación Religiosa/ Formación en la Fe)

PARA 2026-2027

ya está abierta **EN LÍNEA.**



ESCANEA AQUÍ PARA REGISTRARTE



Clases para K-8

se llevarán a cabo en el Centro Pastoral de la Parroquia Santa Brígida los domingos de 9:00am-10:00am.



Clases de Confirmación

se llevarán a cabo en el Newman Center los domingos de 5:00pm-6:45pm.



Todas las clases comenzarán el **4 de octubre** (orientación el 27 de septiembre).

amherstcatholicfaithformation@gmail.com | 413-256-6181 Ext 103

Construyendo la fe. Creciendo juntos. Compartiendo el amor de Dios.



¡Buenas noticias!

¡NUESTROS TELÉFONOS Y SERVICIO DE INTERNET ESTÁN RESTAURADOS!

Todas las líneas telefónicas y el acceso a internet en la Parroquia Santa Brígida ya están funcionando con normalidad.



413-256-6181

saintbrigidsamherst@gmail.com



¡Gracias por su paciencia y comprensión!





LA FE QUE ABRE EL CIELO

El domingo pasado, reflexionamos sobre la fe inquebrantable, la fe de la mujer cananea que se negó a rendirse. Hoy, Mateo nos presenta otra poderosa profesión de fe. Jesús les pregunta a sus discípulos: «¿Quién dicen ustedes que soy yo?». Pedro responde sin dudar: «Tú eres el Cristo, el Hijo del Dios viviente».

La declaración de Pedro es más que la respuesta correcta a una pregunta religiosa. Es un acto profundo de fe. Jesús le dice que esta revelación no provino únicamente del razonamiento humano: «No te lo reveló carne ni sangre, sino mi Padre celestial». Dios había preparado a Pedro para una vocación única y lo utilizaría, a pesar de sus debilidades, como instrumento para edificar la Iglesia de Cristo. Jesús le confía entonces a Pedro una responsabilidad extraordinaria: «Tú eres Pedro, y sobre esta roca edificaré mi Iglesia». Pedro se convierte en un instrumento visible a través del cual Cristo le confía las llaves del Reino. Sin embargo, la autoridad de Pedro no proviene de él mismo. Todo lo que es y hace proviene de Cristo. Como nos recuerda San Pablo: «Porque de él, por él y para él son todas las cosas».

Este Evangelio nos desafía a ir más allá de simplemente saber acerca de Jesús para hacer una profesión personal de fe en Él. ¿Quién digo que es Jesús por la forma en que vivo? ¿Muestran mis decisiones que Él es verdaderamente el Señor de mi vida? Cuando la fe entra en conflicto con la conveniencia, la popularidad o la opinión pública, ¿de qué lado me paro? ¿Estoy dispuesto a dejar que Cristo cambie mis prioridades, relaciones y ambiciones? ¿Reconozco que Dios puede usar incluso mis debilidades para Sus propósitos?

Pedro no era perfecto. Más adelante tropezaría gravemente. Sin embargo, Jesús lo eligió, lo formó y le confió una misión. Eso debería darnos esperanza a todos. Dios no espera a que las personas sean perfectas para llamarlas a servir. Él toma a personas comunes e imperfectas y, por su gracia, las convierte en instrumentos de su Reino.

P. Va/

“Acérquense a Dios, y Él se acercará a ustedes.”

— Carta de Santiago 4:8

Retiro DE FORMACIÓN Y REFLEXIÓN

¡Te invitamos a fortalecer tu fe y crecer espiritualmente!

Acompáñanos en este retiro de formación y reflexión, donde profundizaremos en los temas:



La Fuerza del Espíritu Santo



María, Modelo de Vida



El Padre Nuestro



DÍA:
**SÁBADO
29 DE AGOSTO,
2026**



HORA:
**9:00AM –
12:00PM**



LUGAR:
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Monday of each
month 7pm
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