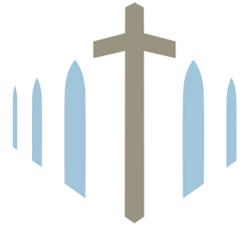




APRIL 17, 2016



ST. MONICA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

9933 Midway Road, Dallas, Texas 75220
214-358-1453 • Fax: 214-351-1887
www.stmonicachurch.org



Search for "St. Monica Church Dallas" in the app store.

WELCOME TO ST. MONICA CHURCH!

We are pleased to have visitors join us in worship and we invite you to become active registered parishioners. Registration forms can be found in the vestibule, at the Parish Office, and online.

Mass Times

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:30 am,
11:00 am, 12:30 pm,
2:00 pm (español), 5:00 pm

Weekday Mass Times

6:45 am, 8:00 am M-F
8:00 am Saturdays
First Fridays 5:30 pm
Primer viernes del mes 7:00 pm

Childcare for 11:00 am Mass

Ages: 12-months to 4-years
No Cost
Room 114 Family Center
St. Monica Women's Ministry

Reconciliation • Reconciliación

Saturday/Sábado
3:30-4:30 pm • 6:30-7:00 pm

Baptism • Bautismo

Third Saturday of each month at 10:00 am
Parents and godparents are required to attend a preparation class offered on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 am. Call the Faith Formation Office to register.

Tercer sábado de cada mes a las 3:00 pm
Padres y Padrinos deben asistir a una clase de preparación que se ofrecen los primeros sábados de mes a la 1:00 pm. Llame a la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano.

Marriage • Matrimonio

Contact a priest or deacon at least six months before the planned marriage date. Llame a un Sacerdote o Diacono por lo menos seis meses antes de la fecha de la boda.

Helplines • Linea de Ayuda

St. Vincent de Paul serves the poor or distressed on an emergency basis. 972-994-1121 (confidential) Volunteers contact: info@stmonicasvdp.org

Stephen Ministry helps those experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or another life crisis. 214-290-0803 (confidential)

Bulletin Deadline

Monday at 12:00 noon • Submit notices in writing to ecooper@stmonicachurch.org.

Parish Staff

Fr. Stephen W. Bierschenk

Pastor - x 7107

Fr. Iñigo Lopez

Parochial Vicar - x 7112

Fr. Edwin Leonard

Vocation Director (in residence)

Monsignor John F. Meyers

Pastor Emeritus

Deacons

Abel Cortes

Bob Marrinan

Larry Lucido

Brian Mitchell

St. Monica Church Office

Main: (214) 358-1453 • Fax: (214) 351-1887

Hours: M-F 9:00-5:00 • Sunday 10:00-2:00

Parish Secretary x 7453

Faby Gomez

Business Manager x 7176

Debbie Diaz

Database Manager x 7111

Melissa Franks

Volunteer Coordinator x 7173

Maria E. Juarez-Plank

Safe Environment Director x 7144

Shavana Lopez

Bookkeeper x 7102

Jared Wirths

Director of Youth Ministry x 7106

Jason Trujillo

Director of Communications x 7142

Erin Cooper

Music Ministry

Director of Music x 7101

Jeremy Wirths

Director Youth Music x 7103

Emmanuel Espiritu

Organist (9:30 & 11:00 Mass)

Guillermo "Will" Martinez

Faith Formation

Main: (214) 357-8549 • Fax: (214) 351-1887

Director of Faith Formation x 7132

Mariangela Byrne

Administrative Assistant x 7549

Eldie Diaz

Marriage Ministry Coordinator x 7164

Coordinadora de Matrimonios

Martha Gonzalez

Ministerio Hispano

Main: (214) 357-8549 • Fax: (214) 351-1887

Director of Hispanic Ministry x 7131

Maria M. Gonzalez-Rocha

St. Monica School

Main: (214) 351-5688 • Fax: (214) 352-2608

Phil Riley, Principal

www.stmonicaschool.org

From the Pastor

S. I. McMillen, in his book *None of These Diseases*, tells a story of a young woman who wanted to go to college, but her heart sank when she read the question on the application blank that asked, "Are you a leader?" Being both honest and conscientious, she wrote, "No," and returned the application, expecting the worst. To her surprise, she received this letter from the college: "Dear Applicant: A study of the application forms reveals that this year our college will have 1,452 new leaders. We are accepting you because we feel it is imperative that they have at least one follower."

It is traditional on the fourth Sunday after Easter to use a gospel passage in which Jesus refers to himself as the Good Shepherd. Today's is by far the shortest and simplest passage of that type. But, in the first two sentences, the four verbs used to describe the relationship of Jesus to his followers tell us in a simple way some very important truths about our relationship to the Good Shepherd.

Jesus begins by saying, "My sheep hear my voice." Of course we don't sit around waiting for a voice to boom out of the heavens calling us by name. Actually, Jesus speaks to us in so many ways – as someone asks for our help; as we feel inspired to go outside our comfortable life to give our time and possessions to help another be blessed; when we suddenly understand something we've heard in the gospel a hundred times before and we are moved to invite God more completely into what we say and do.

We usually hear Jesus pretty well. We just don't want to do it. When he tells us to love our neighbor, we don't mind that. But to love our enemy! He calls us to take up our cross and follow him. And that isn't too much to consider when things are going well in our life and the cross is more theoretical. But, then what happens if we are hurt deeply by someone and they don't even think about it, or when weakness and pain become our daily

companion? Hearing is not always so easy to turn into doing.

But, then Jesus says, "I know them." He knows us completely. He knows every time we've chosen to be faithful instead of sinning. He knows the times we have deliberately done something good in his name, even when no one else notices. Even when we are imperfect, when we wander far from what God wants us to be, he knows our heart, that if only we were stronger, if we knew more, our heart wants to love him even in our sinfulness.

"They follow me." We have to admit we are not always the best at following Jesus. He is the model of forgiveness; we prefer to hold a grudge. He is the model of humility, quietly serving others; we prefer to make sure to have our own way and that we don't have to do something we don't like. We ignore opportunities to do good and excuse our weakness as we choose to do wrong. Jesus is not discouraged because we are not perfect. We are here today, not because anyone forced us, but because we have chosen to follow Jesus, to sit at his feet asking for pardon and listening to his Word. And he is always there before us, calling us by name.

"I give them eternal life." Think of the scene described in the second reading, the multitude before the throne of God is so vast it cannot be counted by anyone. When God chose to bring us into existence, Jesus tells us that he had already prepared a place for us with him in that multitude. Our place there was prepared long before we did one good thing to deserve it, or chose one thing that would separate us from God. It is God's will that we be with him forever, and so we cannot be discouraged by our weakness. The Good Shepherd only asks us to be a good follower. He will lead us home.

—Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk

News & Events

The use of the Narthex

The liturgical norms of the United States Bishops suggest that the Narthex (main entrance) of the church be a place of welcome, where the people make the transition from the world outside and enter into the place of worship. Over the years, the Narthex of our church has come to be used for many other purposes. Often it is crowded with representatives of groups seeking members, or organizations involved in fundraising. At the suggestion of the Parish Council and after consulting the church staff, Fr. Bierschenk has decided that the Narthex area is too small to support uses other than welcoming those who enter and leave, greeting the clergy after Mass, and providing information for parishioners and guests at the Connection Point. Beginning May 1, fundraising efforts, signing up for events, and information tables will be in Angel Hall or on the breezeway outside the church. Two groups per weekend may occupy the space, which must be scheduled on the facilities calendar (email Melissa Franks mfranks@stmonicachurch.org).

Celebrate Spring and the fact that "tax day" has come and gone with **breakfast burritos and sausage on a stick** treats. After May, the Knights Culinary Team will be taking the summer off - so grab yours after the Masses today and remember to bring some home to your neighbors, they'll love you for it. Thanks for supporting your Knights of Columbus.

The **Adoration Chapel** is in need of adorers for the following times: Tuesday from 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm and Monday from 11:00 pm to Midnight. Contact Marge Giangiulio at [214-769-4407](tel:214-769-4407) to sign up.

L1FT Youth Ministry is taking a group to the inaugural **Steubenville Lone Star Conference** taking place in Dallas June 17-19. This will be an unforgettable experience that can jumpstart even the weakest faith. Register online at www.l1ftministry.org.

St. Monica Works is the Business and Professional Ministry of the Parish. This is where parishioners meet to learn about the products, services and professions of others and let them know about yours. Come join with other faith-minded individuals on Thursday, April 21st in the lower lounge of the Family Center. Arrive between 7:30 am and 8:00 am for socializing, coffee and donuts. Then, stay for the informative meeting which ends promptly at 9:00 am. Want more information? Call [214-707-3726](tel:214-707-3726) or visit www.stmonicaworks.org. Come join us! You'll be glad you did.

Adults wanting to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation** are invited to attend three upcoming classes on April 19th, April 26th and May 2nd from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in Family Center Room 217. Confirmation will be on Pentecost Sunday, May 15th, at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Those interested in the class should register online on our website under the tab for Adult Confirmation. If you have any questions, please contact: Mariangela Byrne at [214.357.8549](tel:214.357.8549).

Save the Date! **Dallas Diocesan Council of Catholic Women** will host a Women's Day of Reflection on Wednesday, May 4, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, in the Grand Salon. Speaker Sheri Wohlfert will discuss *Being a Woman of God*. Mass will be celebrated at noon by Bishop Gregory Kelly.

The **Monday afternoon Bible Study** has concluded its study of John. We will resume meeting on September 19 with a study of Lesser Prophets. Please watch the bulletin for more details.

Short on time, but looking for a way to give back? We need volunteers to help prepare or buy menu items for the homeless who reside at Austin Street Shelter. Contact Derek Blake at dblake88@gmail.com to learn more.

Stewardship

04-10-2016

Regular - \$48,031

Renovation - \$14,509

Total Mass Attendance

04-10-2016

3,156

Mass Intentions

Sunday, April 17

8:00 am..... Priest's Intention
9:30 am..... Priest's Intention
11:00 am..... Priest's Intention
12:30 pm Priest's Intention
2:00 pm Priest's Intention
5:00 pm..... Priest's Intention

Monday, April 18

6:45 am..... Alma Roberts † by Berta Montes
8:00 am..... Alberta Gruber † by Molly & John McHugh

Tuesday, April 19

6:45 am..... Irene Champion † by Florence Crable
8:00 am..... For Madden & Canary Families

Wednesday, April 20

6:45 am..... Neil Patrick Emmons †
by Rich & Sandy Haas
8:00 am..... Familia Salinas Moreno

Thursday, April 21

6:45 am..... Chris Bird † by Rich & Sandy Haas
8:00 am..... Familia Banda Cervantes

Friday, April 22

6:45 am..... Anne Osifo † by Sacristan Volunteers
8:00 am..... Irene McCone † by Judy McCone

Saturday, April 23

8:00 am..... David Carpenter †
by Melissa & James Carpenter
5:00 pm..... Morgan Filhiol †
by Virginia & Mark Filhiol

Sanctuary Light

This week the Sanctuary Light is burning for Joey Betancourt †.

For Our Sick

To request a name to appear, please contact the parish office or complete a green prayer request card (found on tables at the back of church) and place the card in an offering basket.

Pat Haynes ¹	George Vilfordi ²
Jeremy Fuller ¹	Lloyd Shelby ²
Lorenzo ¹	Ilda Manriquez ²
Zach ¹	Betsy Solis ²
Rosalinda Miramontes ¹	Peggy Martin ²
Alejandro Ruiz de Velasco ²	Maureen Wijeweera ³

Names will appear for 3 weeks. The numbers after the names begin at 3 and count down and are intended to help those who make requests.

For Our Departed

Joe Cook





JOIN US TO CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD FOR

Fr. Stephen W. Bierschenk

SUNDAY, MAY 1ST

11 AM

MASS

9 AM - 3:30 PM

RECEPTION AND PRESENTATION
IN THE FAMILY CENTER

2ND ANNUAL ST. MONICA

MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION

PENTECOST SUNDAY
MAY 15TH, 2016

11 AM: MASS

11 AM - 3:30 PM:

RECEPTION IN FAMILY CENTER

For more information, contact Maria
Rocha at 214-358-1453 or
mrocha@stmonicachurch.org or
Juliette Akagu at 214-791-4358 or
julieakagu@yahoo.com.



News & Events

The **North Texas Catholic Men's Conference** will be held Saturday, April 23, 2016 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Grapevine. The all-day conference, *Mercy and Virtue: Our Faith in Action*, features four noted speakers, confessions, Celebration of the Eucharist, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and vendor exhibition and will run from 8 am - 6 pm. Speakers include Father Wade Menzes of the Fathers of Mercy; Jim Drake, president of Miracles for Mary; Vinny Flynn, author of *Seven Secrets of the Eucharist*; and Jared Zimmerer, founder of Strength for the Kingdom. Music will be directed by Curtis Stephan, Grammy award winning music director at St. Ann Parish, Coppell. Limited registrations at \$40 are available through the website for North Texas Brothers for Christ. Breakfast, lunch and Tee shirts are included in the registration fee. For additional information contact, John Roppolo, parish captain, at 972-245-1739.

Angels of Charity Luncheon – Compassion in Action The 15th Annual Angels of Charity Mass and Spring Luncheon will be held Tuesday, April 26, beginning with Mass at 10:30 at the Cathedral. The event continues across the street at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center with lunch, drawings, the Angel of the Year presentation to Vicky Lattner and an inspirational program. Dr. Alessandra Comini, a University Distinguished Professor of Art History Emerita at SMU, author and lecturer, is this year's vibrant speaker. Underwriting opportunities and reservations are available at www.CCDallas.org or by calling 214-520-6590, Ext. 1105.

The **Dominican community of St. Albert Priory** invites the public to participate in its Solemn Vespers in honor of St. Catherine of Siena. The event will take place on Friday, April 29, at 7 p.m., in the Dominican Priory, located at 3150 Vince Hagan Dr. in Irving. Refreshments will be served afterwards. The Vespers service is part of a series of celebrations the priory is hosting during the Dominicans' eighth centennial year. Future Vespers liturgies are planned for Monday, August 8, and Thursday, November 3. All are welcome.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, located in Keller, and the Theocentric Guild and Outreach are hosting a **Women's Health Conference, Restoring the Dignity of Womanhood**, on Saturday, April 30th. Speakers and presenters include Diane Schwind, Lexi Meleski, DC, CD, John Andrew Sustaita, Andrew Gill, ThPsyD, FCPI, and Jenee Ohrvall, LM, CPM. The registration fee is \$30 and includes attendance to four sessions of your choice and the keynote speaker's presentation. Lunch is also provided. To register, visit www.regonline.com/womensdignity.

Family Vocation Chalice

To participate call (214) 368-3640

April 23 at 5:00 pm
Michael & Sarah Ogden

April 24 at 11:00 am
Eric & Amanda Schlumpf

April 24 at 8:00 am
Florence Crable

April 24 at 12:30 pm
Gonzalo & Maria Venegas

April 24 at 9:30 am
James & Melissa Carpenter

April 24 at 5:00 pm
Mary Fox

Noticias y Eventos



HOLA QUERIDO AMIGUITO
¿Te gustaría pasar un tiempo con Jesús?
Pues tenemos una invitación especialmente para tí...

HORA SANTA Infantil...

Ven a pasar un momento en la presencia de Jesús Eucaristía
junto a otros niños de tu edad, para recibir todo el amor y
las maravillas que Jesús está guardando para tí.

Cada 5to. Viernes de mes
7:00 pm
(Abril 29, Julio 29, Septiembre 30 y Diciembre 30 del 2016)

**Parroquia Católica
Santa Mónica**
(9833 Midway Rd. Dallas, Tx. 75220)

Después de la Hora Santa tendremos una
sorpresa para tí.. **Acompáñanos...!!!**

 **ST. MONICA**
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Hora Santa Infantil

Jesús es amigo de los niños y quiere pasar tiempo con ellos. Los invitamos a traer a sus hijos a pasar un tiempo con Jesús Eucaristía. Este 29 de Abril a las 7pm. habrá una Hora Infantil dirigida por el Padre Iñigo. Este es uno de los mejores regalos que puede dar a sus hijos. Déjales ser acompañados y guiados por el amor, misericordia y alegría de Jesús. Al terminar la Hora Santa Infantil, se tendrá una sorpresa para ellos para celebrar el día del niño. Para más información llame a Dolores Rojero, 214-609-9344.

Día Multicultural

El 15 de Mayo celebraremos el día multicultural en la comunidad de Santa Mónica. Somos una comunidad formada por personas de diferentes países y les invitamos a compartir su orgullo de pertenecer a esta comunidad, representando su país natal o descendencia de sus raíces. Vista su traje típico y traiga un platillo típico de su país. El evento se llevara a cabo el 15 de Mayo, iniciando en la Misa de 11 am, continuando con la celebración en el gimnasio de la escuela hasta las 3:30 pm. Sera un día colorido y alegre para convivir con personas de otros países. Anímese a ser parte de esta celebración. Por favor comuníquese con María González-Rocha para más detalles 214-357-8549.

Adoradores

Te gustaría pasar una hora con Jesús Sacramentado? Se necesitan adoradores en los siguientes horarios: martes de 10 pm a 11 pm lunes de 11 pm a medianoche. Por favor llamar a Marge Gianguilio al 214-769-4407 para anotarse. Si por algún motivo no se puede comprometer a visitar al Señor en estos horarios no se prive de estar con El, en un horario que se le sea conveniente el Santísimo está expuesto de lunes a viernes de 9am a media noche, domingos 6 pm a medianoche.



CELEBRANDO EL CUARENTA ANIVERSARIO SACERDOTAL DE
Padre Stephen W. Bierschenk
DOMINGO, 1 DE MAYO
9 AM - 3:30 PM EN EL CENTRO FAMILIAR

SANTA MÓNICA
**CELEBRACIÓN
MULTICULTURAL**

**DOMINGO DE
PENTECOSTÉS**
15 DE MAYO, 2016

11 AM: MISA
11 AM - 3:30 PM:
RECEPCION EN EL CENTRO FAMILIAR

Para más información llame a
María Rocha al 214-358-1453 o
mrocha@stmonicachurch.org.



El uso del atrio Las normas litúrgicas de la Conferencia de Obispos de los Estados Unidos, sugiere que el atrio (entrada principal al templo) sea un lugar de acogimiento, donde las personas pasen del mundo exterior y entren a un lugar de oración. En los últimos años, el Atrio de la iglesia se ha usado para diferentes cosas. A menudo está muy saturado con representantes de diferentes grupos buscando reclutar nuevos miembros u organizaciones recaudando fondos. Como sugerencia del Consejo Parroquial y después de consultar con los empleados de la iglesia, el padre Bierschenk ha decidido que el atrio el cual es muy pequeño para tener todas estas actividades, sea usado solamente como un lugar de acogimiento, donde el sacerdote salude a los feligreses después de Misa y proveer información a parroquianos y visitantes en el Punto de Conexión. Comenzando el 1ero de Mayo, las actividades para recaudar fondos, inscribir para eventos y mesas de información estarán en el pasillo del Ángel o en los pasadizos afuera de la Iglesia. Solo dos grupos pueden estar cada fin de semana y deben reservar su lugar en el calendario de eventos.

Divina Misericordia Les invitamos a ser parte del Ministerio de la Divina Misericordia, semanalmente nos reunimos a meditar la Palabra, el Catecismo de la Iglesia y el Diario de Santa Faustina. Las reuniones son todos los martes a las 7 pm en el salón de la Biblioteca. Como Apostolado visitamos a los enfermos a los hospitales y hogares; también llevamos la imagen de la Divina Misericordia a hogares que deseen tenerla por una semana. Las más información llame a Baltazar Villanueva 214-584-7789.

Pastoral Familiar Es un Ministerio Católico formado por matrimonios y parejas que buscan transformar su ambiente familiar. Vivir una experiencia personal con Dios y reavivar su matrimonio y aceptando el designio que Dios tiene para su relación y su familia. Llevan un proceso permanente de conversión transmitiendo el compromiso de ser fermento y testimonio para otros matrimonios. Sus asambleas son todos los jueves de 7 a 9pm. en la Cafetería de la Escuela. También, tienen evangelización para niños y jóvenes. Para más información comuníquese con Romel y Rosalía 214-789-7421.

Cáliz Vocacional Familiar

Para llevarse el Cáliz llame al (214) 358-1453

24 de Abril
Guadalupe Sanchez

De El Pastor

En su libro Ninguna de Estas Enfermedades, S. I McMillen, cuenta la historia de una mujer joven que quería ir a la universidad, pero su corazón se hundió cuando leyó la pregunta en la aplicación que preguntaba, “¿Eres un líder?” siendo honesta y consciente, escribió, “No,” y envió la registración esperando lo peor. Para su sorpresa, recibió esta carta del colegio: “Estimado aspirante: Un estudio de las formas de registro revela que este año tendremos 1,452 nuevos líderes. La estamos aceptando porque sentimos que es imprescindible que tengan por lo menos un seguidor.”

Es una tradición que el cuarto domingo después de Pascua se use el pasaje del evangelio en el cual Jesús se refiere a sí mismo como el Buen Pastor. Hoy es el pasaje más corto y simple sobre este tema. Pero las primeras dos frases, los cuatro verbos utilizados para describir la relación de Jesús con sus seguidores, nos dicen en una manera simple algunas verdades muy importantes sobre nuestra relación con el Buen Pastor.

Jesús comienza diciendo, “Mis ovejas escuchan mi voz.” Por su puesto nosotros no estamos esperando que una voz retumbe del cielo pronunciando nuestro nombre. Realmente, Jesús nos habla de diferentes maneras, cuando alguien nos pide ayuda; cuando somos inspirados a salir de nuestra vida cómoda para dar de nuestro tiempo y posesiones y ayudar a que otros sean bendecidos; cuando de repente entendemos algo que hemos escuchado más de cien veces en el evangelio y decidimos invitar a Dios para que forme parte de lo que hacemos y decimos.

Usualmente, escuchamos a Jesús muy bien, simplemente no queremos hacerlo. Cuando nos dice que amemos a nuestro hermano, no nos molesta. Pero, ¿jamar a nuestros enemigos! Nos llama a cargar nuestra cruz y seguirle. Eso no es mucho que considerar cuando las cosas van bien en nuestra vida y tomar nuestra cruz es teórico. ¿Pero qué pasa cuando alguien nos

lastima y ni siquiera lo piensan o cuando la debilidad y el dolor son parte diaria de nuestra vida? Escuchar no siempre es fácil de hacer.

Pero Jesús dice, “Yo les conozco.” Nos conoce totalmente. Sabe cada vez que hemos escogido ser fieles en vez de pecadores. Sabe los momentos que hemos hecho algo bien en su nombre, aun cuando nadie lo vea. Aun cuando somos imperfectos, cuando nos alejamos de lo que Dios quiere que seamos, conoce nuestro corazón, que si tan solo fuéramos fuertes, si supiéramos más, nuestro corazón quisiera amarle aun en nuestro pecado.

“Me siguen.” Tenemos que admitir que no siempre somos los mejores en seguir a Jesús. Él es el modelo del perdón, nosotros preferimos mantener resentimientos. Él es el modelo de humildad, silenciosamente sirviendo a otros, nosotros preferimos hacer las cosas a nuestra manera y no tener que hacer algo que no nos gusta. Ignoramos las oportunidades de hacer el bien y excusamos nuestras debilidades al escoger hacer el mal. Jesús no se desanima porque no somos perfectos. Estamos aquí, no porque alguien nos esté forzando sino porque hemos decidido seguir a Jesús, estar a sus pies, pedirle perdón y escuchar su Palabra. Él siempre está ante nosotros, llamándonos por nuestro nombre.

“Les doy la vida eterna.” Piensa en la escena que describe la segunda lectura, la multitud ante el trono de Dios es tan grande que no se puede contar. Cuando Dios decidió creamos, nos dice Jesús que ya había preparado un lugar para nosotros en medio de la multitud. Nuestro lugar ahí, ya había sido preparado mucho antes que decidiéramos hacer algo bueno para merecerlo, o hacer algo que nos separara de Dios. Es la voluntad de Dios que estemos siempre con El, es por eso que no podemos desanimarnos por nuestras debilidades. El Buen Pastor solo nos pide que seamos un buen seguidor y él nos llevara a casa.

—Fr. Stephen W Bierschenk