

Christ the Servant – Christ the Good Shepherd

As I experience the goodness of your lives as people of faith, it inspires me in my life as a Catholic Christian and my place in the community as a priest. I reflect often on the prayer of the Bishop at my ordination many years ago, in which he said, “Meditate on the law of God, believe what you read, teach what you believe, and put into practice what you teach.” He continued, “Always remember the Good Shepherd who came not to be served but to serve, and to seek out and rescue those who were lost.” Those words I hope will continue to be manifested in my life as your priest, and that together as God’s people we will allow these words to be the aspiration and attitude for Christ the Servant Parish enabling us to be a living symbol of the “Good Shepherd” in our acre of God’s world.



The vitality of a shepherding parish community depends on five fundamental signs. Borrowing from the RENEW program of evangelization these are: **The Sunday Worship Experience, The Feeling of Welcome, The Sense of Belonging, Opportunities for Witness, and Reaching Out in Mission.** Each fundamental sign is not an option but constitutive of Christ the Servant’s faithfulness in serving God’s mission. God’s Project and the responsibilities entrusted to us are challenging, but I believe we have the capacity as a parish community to serve this mission with wisdom, courage and perseverance.

For this reason I am asking us all to recommit ourselves as servant’s to the mission, trusting that Christ the Good Shepherd will continue to guide us.

LGaetano