

# *St. Mary's Our Lady of the Lake*

*Christ Centered + Biblically Grounded + Sacramentally Nourished +  
Serving Our Neighbors in Christian Love*

May 3, 2020 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

[www.rcda.org/livestream](http://www.rcda.org/livestream)

## **Interim Parish Administrator**

**Karen Walker ~ 607-264-3779**

[pastor@stmaryscoop.org](mailto:pastor@stmaryscoop.org)

Karen is in St. Mary's parish office each Monday or can be reached by phone.

## **Parish Office ~ 547-2213**

Kitty Dykstra

Administrative Assistant/ Bookkeeper

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

## **Faith Formation Director ~ 293-7901**

Maureen Davidson

[cooperstowncatholic@gmail.com](mailto:cooperstowncatholic@gmail.com)

## **Anointing of the Sick ~ 547-3626**

Call the Parish Office, or if at the hospital, contact the Chaplain Office's office

## **Trustees**

Peter Henrici & Mike Millea

## **Finance Chair**

Vincent Russo

## **Pastoral Planning Chair**

Rob Bohm

## **Church Sexton**

Frank Liberati ~ 607-644-5958

## **Cemetery Sexton**

John Sansevere ~ 607-435-9137

# ENTER



“Whoever enters through  
the gate is the shepherd  
of the sheep.”

JOHN 10:2

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31 Elm Street  
Cooperstown, NY 13326

607-547-2213

<https://stmaryscoop.org/>

The church is still open for private prayer and there are a few bulletins available each week. It is a great opportunity to sit in front of the tabernacle and know Christ is physically present. We know he is always present but this is even more special. Hope you get a chance to stop in. We wipe down surfaces every day so it is safe for you; wear a mask and continue with the safe distancing please.

Thank you all for sending in the weekly offerings, we aren't yet able to pay all our bills but we are trying to get more frugal. Offertory donations, including e-giving, made to St. Mary's the week of April 26 : \$3,385.65

Michael Millea: Thank you so much for all your input and time. Last week was Mike's last as one of St. Mary's lay trustees and we are so grateful for his service. We are also proud to announce that Raymond McGoldrick has accepted the position of trustee along with Peter Henrici who will continue on. Trustee's have a great deal of input in the parish as overseers and advisers to the parish leader. We need them all the more at this time that we are between pastors. They advise with the good of the parish foremost in their minds and aim to be good stewards of the all that the parish is comprised of. We are very blessed to have such caring and selfless individuals.

**May 5th is Teacher's Day.** I have heard lots of families express how much more they appreciate the work teachers do since they have been homeschooling. So congrats to all the "at home" teachers and to those professional teachers who have sent messages, Facebook hellos, drive-by parades and lawn signs put up to let their students know how much they are missed. Take the day off!

Our **Confirmation students** have a project to do while they are home; 100 Questions about their parish, church and faith. If one of them calls for help, please give it. This is an open quiz and they will have to ask questions of family and friends and they may need some help on where to look for information. There are *Bibles* and *Catechisms of the Catholic Church* in our little library at church and I'm sure in many of your homes. This project is for the whole family and extended family so, if they don't ask you, ask them if they need any help.

If you would like a copy of the 100 questions please call the parish office 607 547-2213 to obtain a set. We do not have a date for Confirmation yet since everything is on pause.



We want to thank all who participated in the two blood drives recently held in our parish hall April 10 and May 1. Blood is so very important at any time but especially at this stressful time of the COVID-19 virus that we know so little about. We appreciate your donation.



### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### US Census announcement:

At last count fewer than 40% of Otsego County households had responded to the census! We're lagging behind the State and well behind the country. It's time to do everything we can think of to get our neighbors to respond. We've had to cancel all the fun events we had planned to get the word out, so we need your help. We don't expect the virus to limit our lives for the next decade, but a low response rate could cripple our county until 2030. Folks who haven't responded yet have gotten a paper census form, but everyone can still respond at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov). It just takes minutes!

If you know of seniors in your churches who may be feeling a bit isolated and have a computer, encourage them to send an email to [coopseniorcenter@gmail.com](mailto:coopseniorcenter@gmail.com) requesting the newsletter we send out Monday-Friday. It has a daily song, quote, cartoon and theme, like Monday Menu, Tuesday Trivia, as well as brain teasers and activities. Currently, 130 emails go out nearly every day. Thank you from Carole Lachance

If anyone wants to get some *fresh air and exercise*, there is a huge *lawn* around the rectory and in front of the church that needs to be *raked*. Preferably for free as I am very frugal with your money! I may have rakes and at least one wheelbarrow in the garage, just let me know when you want them out!

### Run for Otsego

Clarks Sports Center has created a virtual race in which **all the funds raised are given to the local churches**. All you have to do is sign up and complete a 5K between now and May 31st.

**Register** (<https://celebratecooperstown.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=13490>) for the 5K run or walk between now and May 31st

**Run or walk** anywhere you choose - following the guidelines of shelter in place / social distancing

Post any photos of your run to our Facebook page using hashtag #ClarkSportsCenterEvents #RunnersStayStrong

**Log back on** to the website (<https://celebratecooperstown.itsyourrace.com/Results.aspx?id=13490>)

and **update your time** before the end of the day on May 31st



Pray for the sick and homebound of our parish:  
Fr. Peter Pagones ~ Ivy Bischof ~ Maureen Brennan ~  
David Butler ~ Vin Cronin ~ Mary Devenpeck ~  
Robert Davenport ~ Richie Davy ~ Stephen Markuson ~  
Senator Jim Seward ~ Bradley Smith ~ Sarah Tarr

Pray for members of the military from our families  
Liam Dolan-USMC ~ Ryan Barrow  
Please call the Parish Office to add any names.

**As soon as we are able to have Masses we will be contacting people to reschedule mass intentions that were made after March 16.**

### Pints with Priests

Enjoy a pint of your favorite drink or ice cream, socialize and partake in an engaging online conversation with a priest. Expect an enlightening Q&A filled with both wit and wisdom. Pints with Priests is your chance to get to know our clergy more personally. Questions can range from light-hearted to practical to theological. Get to know the man behind the collar! Information can be found on the RCDA website:

<https://www.rcda.org/pintswithpriests>

**Register at** <https://forms.gle/BE5GpAy97g6V3c8f8> and you will be sent an e-mail with the Zoom log-in prior to the event.

**Platform:** Online gatherings will be hosted on Zoom

**Schedule:** Starting on Thursday, April 30; then every other Thursday

**Booked guests include:** Bishop Ed: 4/30;  
Fr. Sam Bellafore: 5/14; Fr. Kyle Eads: 5/28;  
Fr. David Mickiewicz: 6/11



On Friday, May 1, Archbishop Gomez led the country in a prayer which renews the consecration of the United States to Mary, Mother of the Church.

"This will give the Church the occasion to pray for Our Lady's

continued protection of the vulnerable, healing of the unwell, and wisdom for those who work to cure this terrible virus,"



# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 3, 2020

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>SUN 5/03</b> | Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10 |
| <b>MON 5/04</b> | Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:11-18                  |
| <b>TUE 5/05</b> | Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30            |
| <b>WED 5/06</b> | Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50                |
| <b>THR 5/07</b> | Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20             |
| <b>FRI 5/08</b> | Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6                  |
| <b>SAT 5/09</b> | Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14                  |
| <b>SUN 5/10</b> | Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12           |

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 3, 2020

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday:</b>      | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>     | Cinco de Mayo   |
| <b>Thursday:</b>    | National Day of Prayer  |
| <b>Next Sunday:</b> | 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day                      |

## LIVE THE LITURGY

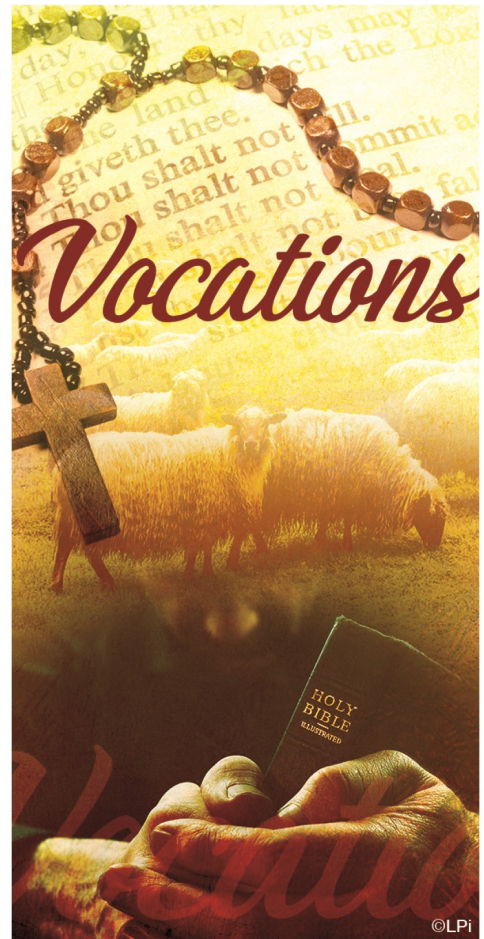
### Inspiration for the week

When you wake up in the morning, whose voice is the first one you listen to? Your own? Someone else's? Or God? We all listen to someone and follow some sort of guidelines and principles. If it is a secular voice that propels us to get up in the morning and take up the task of the day's agenda, then we may find ourselves off track. The advice found in the Acts of the Apostles was as true then as it is now, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Most of what we listen to in secular voices is off the axis of truth and distorted. It may sound attractive, but it is deceptive at best. Many have gone astray like sheep and need to return to the Good Shepherd. Only Jesus can offer us the gate of life, and only Jesus as the Good Shepherd can really motivate us to take on the challenges of life. If we don't recognize his voice, we can risk facing destruction.

# WORLD DAY OF Prayer



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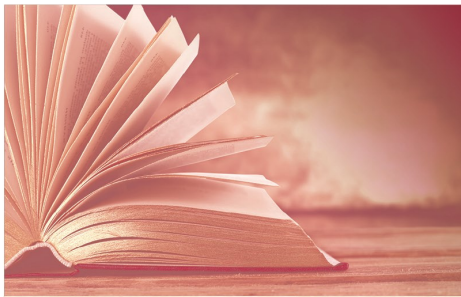


*"Let your  
words teach  
and your  
actions speak"*

-ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020 | 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER





### FIRST READING

Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)



### PSALM

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23) or Alleluia.



### SECOND READING

He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Pt 2:24)



### GOSPEL

"I am the gate.

Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." (Jn 10:9)

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## WORSHIP & MEDITATION



### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home.



# LITURGICAL LIFE

## RESPONDING *to the Call*

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

#### Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

##### Recognizing the Voice of Jesus

When my wireless provider introduced HD Voice, the voice I heard on my phone was unbelievably clear, and it felt at times like both the caller and I were in the same room. The best aspect of this feature is that it didn't cost the customer any additional fees, and it didn't require any changes to the phone. I could say it was free, but I suspect I was already paying for it in my monthly bill anyway. At least it felt free.

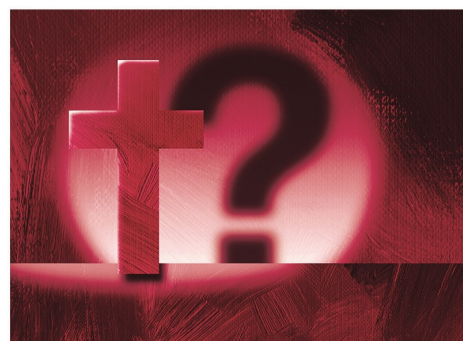
The clearer the voice calling you, the easier it is to recognize who it is on the other end of the line. In John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the gatekeeper who opens the gate and calls for his sheep. They respond because they know his voice. Others try to lure the sheep when the gatekeeper is not there, but the sheep find their voices unclear or unfamiliar.

Jesus is our gatekeeper. But unlike receiving something for free from a wireless company, to be able to hear his voice we need to pay attention and practice listening. By developing a stewardship way of life that is mindful and prayerful, we become attuned to his voice and are able to discern when the call is from our Lord and when it is from an imposter. It is great to talk about all the things we can do and all the gifts we can share, but if we are not listening for his call to hear where our offerings are needed, we can end up like a lost sheep searching for the gatekeeper.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



### WHY DO WE DO THAT?

#### Catholic Life Explained:

##### *Daily Prayer Versus Mass?*

#### Question:

I have a friend who says she doesn't need to attend Mass because she prays to God every day. What are your thoughts on this justification?

#### Answer:

If the only reason for going to church were to talk to God, your friend might be right. Prayer is not something limited to a physical place or even a holy place. If the sole purpose of the Church were prayer, it would be a narrow purpose indeed. The Church is a community of believers, formed by "one Lord, one faith, one Baptism." It is an outward sign of our faith in God instituted by Christ, and the purpose of the Church is to give us grace, that is, a share in God's life.

Coming to Mass is not really for God's sake, but for ours. If we believe that Jesus is truly present in the holy Eucharist, then we will want to be in his presence. We will want to be fed by him. Our daily prayer and good works are strengthened by our authentic encounter with our Lord. For Catholics, it is at Mass that we celebrate the source and summit of our faith. If this is true, why would we ever stay away?



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**"I am the gate. Whoever  
enters through me will be  
saved, and will come in and  
go out and find pasture. A  
thief comes only to steal  
and slaughter and destroy;  
I came so that they might  
have life and have it more  
abundantly."**

**— Jn 10:9-10**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
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## **LITURGICAL LIFE**

### **QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture**

#### **First Reading**

Luke tells us that Peter often testified: "Save yourself from this corrupt generation." How is this message still applicable today?

#### **Second Reading**

Peter asserts that the virtue of patience in one's suffering is a grace from God because Jesus modeled patient suffering. How does the exercise of this spiritual disposition help bring peace of mind?

#### **Gospel Reading**

Using the metaphor of sheep and gatekeeper, Jesus teaches his disciples the importance of remaining focused on his voice. Why do you think people are so easily distracted from other voices?



4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



**SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020 | 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

# HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## 3 EASY STEPS

### To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



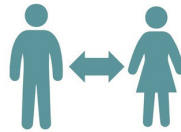
#### Wash Your Hands

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.



#### Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.



#### Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.

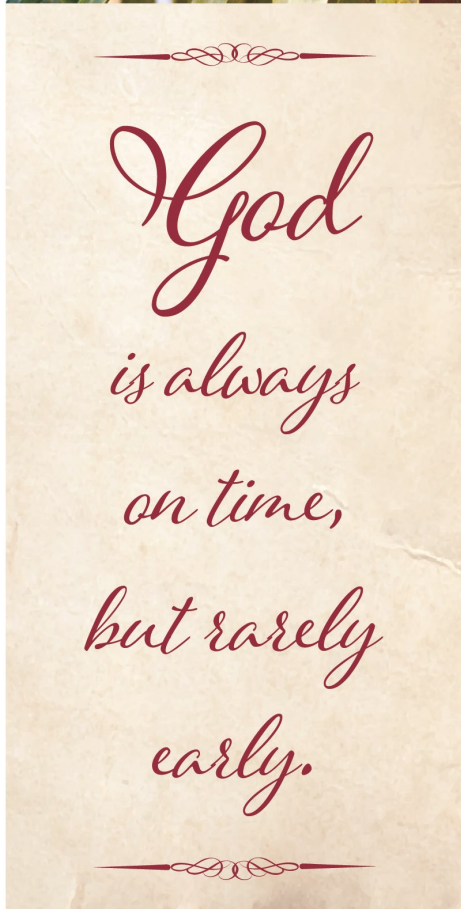
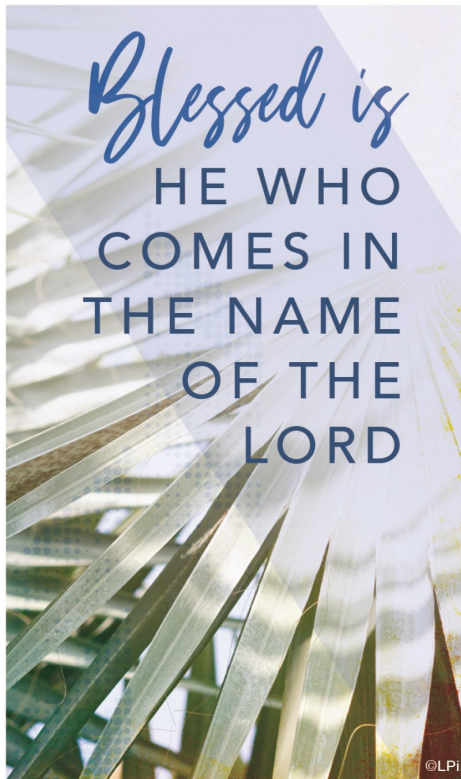


*“Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice.”*

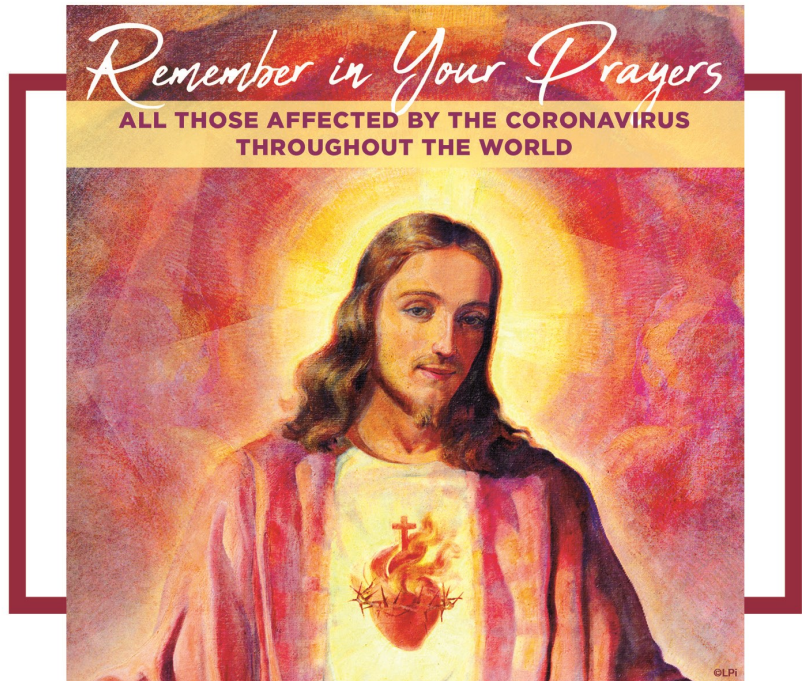
- Lk 24:30-31

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## PRAY



Compassionate and Loving Father,  
In the face of confusion and concern  
impart to us the calm of Your presence.  
In You allow us to find hope and healing.  
Be with those who serve the sick and  
give them Your caring hands.  
Be with those who lead and give them  
Your spirit of wisdom.  
Be with those who have fallen ill and  
give them Your comforting heart.  
Wrap Your arms around our world  
and hold us in Your love.  
Allow us at this time of trial to then  
serve as instruments of that love  
to all we meet.  
We ask this in Your Name.  
Amen