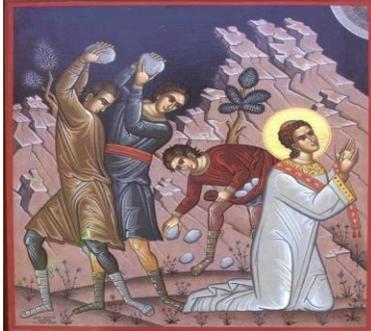


Perfection as One: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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Acts 7:55-60; Psalms 97:1-2, 6-7, 9; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20;
John 17:20-26



Jesus is praying for us in today's Gospel. We are those who have come to believe in Him through the Word of the Apostles, handed on in His Church.

Jesus showed the Apostles His glory, made known the Father's name, and the love He has had for us from "before the foundation of the world."

He revealed that He and the Father are one (see [John 14:9](#)).

Jesus is the "first and the last" (see [Isaiah 44:6](#)), the root of David (see [Isaiah 11:10](#); [2 Samuel 7:12](#)), as today's Second Reading declares.

Wrapped in clouds and darkness as God was at Sinai (see [Exodus 19:16](#)), He is "the king...the Most High over all the earth," as we sing in today's Psalm.

Exalted at God's right hand, as Stephen sees in the First Reading, the Lord calls to us through the Church, His Bride.

He calls us to "the tree of life," to communion with God. This is the goal of His love, His saving purpose from all eternity - that each of us enter into the life of Blessed Trinity, be "brought to perfection as one" with the Father and Son in the Spirit.

The story of Stephen, the first martyr, shows us how we are to answer His call.

Listen for the echoes of the crucifixion: Stephen, like Jesus, sees the Son of Man in glory and dies with words of forgiveness and self-offering on his lips (compare [Acts 7:56-60](#); [Matthew 26:64-65](#); [Luke 23:24,46](#)).

We, too, are to commend our spirits to the Father, to pray and offer our lives in love for our brethren, awaiting His coming in judgment. We renew our vows in every Mass, coming forward to receive the gift of His life.

We answer His call by crying out a call of our own: "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"

And in our communion we answer our Lord's prayer: "That they may all be one, as You, Father are in Me and I in You."

ANNOUNCED MASSES
May 7th – May 15th, 2016

Sat. May 7th 10:00 a.m.	Weekday Marel – For Healing – by Cathy
4:30 p.m.	Gilda Pednekar – RIP – by Be My Disciples Catechists
Sun. May 8th	Ascension of the Lord (Mother's Day)
9:00 a.m.	Nina Asconi – RIP – by the Ladies' Auxiliary
11:00 a.m.	Luisa Bencito Atas and Rosalina Mojica – by the family
Mon. May 9th	NO MASS
Tues. May 10th 7:00 p.m.	Weekday Albertina and Francisco Carreiro – RIP – by Maria Ponte
Wed. May 11th 9:00 a.m.	Weekday Anthony Saverimuttu – RIP – by daughter Julia
Thurs. May 12th 9:00 a.m.	Weekday Theresa C. Buguis – RIP – by Elena
Fri. May 13th 9:00 a.m.	Our Lady of Fatima Deceased Members of Yvorchuk family – RIP – by the family
7:00 p.m.	SPECIAL MASS FOR OUR LADY OF FATIMA
Sat. May 14th 4:30 p.m.	Saint Matthias Jacinto Tomaz and Luis Leite Melo – RIP – by Maria Ponte
Sun. May 15th 9:00 a.m.	Pentecost Sunday Tom Kennedy – RIP – by the Ladies' Auxiliary
11:00 a.m.	Eloise Knights Songui – RIP – by the family

Called Home To The Father

*Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Antonina Bartolini Asconi**. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

Collection: April 24, 2016 - \$2,520.45

...Thank you for your generosity.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Mary, on this day when we honour all mothers, we turn to you. We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood. Never has it been known that anyone who sought your intercession was left unaided by grace. Dear Mother, thank you for your "Yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human history. You opened yourself to God's word and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Dear mother, intercede for all of our mothers. Ask your Divine Son to give them the grace of surrendered love so that they could join with you in giving their own "Fiat." May they find daily strength to say yes to the call to the sacrificial love that is the very heart of the vocation of motherhood. May their love and witness be a source of great inspiration for all of us called to follow your Son. Amen.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA



The feast day of our parish patron, Our Lady of Fatima, is **May 13th**. We will celebrate it with our usual **9am mass**. There will also be a **mass at 7pm (Rosary begins at 6:30pm)** hosted by the Our Lady of Fatima Prayer Groups.

This title "**Our Lady of Fatima**" was given to the Blessed Virgin Mary after she appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, between May 13 and October 13, 1917. The three messages or 'secrets' of Fatima stress the importance of repentance, conversion of heart, and dedication to Our Lady, especially through daily prayer of the Rosary (*Living with Christ, May 2016*).

Prayer for the end of abortion

*Heavenly Father, we pray that the scourge
of abortion be lifted from our land;*

*That those who promote it may be brought
to a change of heart;*

*That all who are tempted to abortion may
be lovingly helped to protect the precious
gift of life;*

*And that all who have experienced an
abortion may be comforted with the healing
gift of love.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ Our
Lord. Amen.*

COFFEE SUNDAY ON MAY 29

The "Coffee Sunday" will be held on **May 29th** instead of May 8th after the 11 A.M. Mass at the Church Hall. The Wardens will host the event. Everyone is cordially invited.