

APRIL 21, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Very Rev. Rob Adams, STL

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Adoration: Tuesday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

BAPTISM - 2 WEEKS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.

MARRIAGE PREP - 6 MONTHS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep." - Jn 10:14-15



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

04-14-2024.....\$3,050
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
Surplus/Deficit.....\$350

YTD
 Offertory.....\$131,478
 Budget.....\$113,400
Surplus/Deficit.....\$18,078



**ACTS 4:8-12
 1 JOHN 3:1-2
 JOHN 10:11-18**

Jesus is the "cornerstone rejected by the builders which has become the cornerstone". He is the good shepherd who laid down his life for us. Through his paschal mystery we have become children of God.

**Readings may be found
 in the Saint Augustine
 Hymnal Number 959**

Happy Sunday everyone,

Today the Church celebrates the Fourth Sunday of Easter. This has traditionally been called Good Shepherd Sunday and we hear Jesus tell us that He is the Good Shepherd.

I think we should take a moment and reflect on the need for priestly vocations in our diocese. I don't know if people realize how much we need more priests here. Whenever a parish outside of Lexington loses a priest, there is a chance that we will not be able to send a new priest there. This is not because the diocese doesn't want to, but because there are no priests to send!

Christ, for whatever reason, has decided to exercise his role of Good Shepherd through the ministry of priests. We need to do our part to pray for more priests and encourage more young men to consider laying down their lives for Jesus.

"Ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest".

Fr. Rob

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, April 20	5:00 pm Vigil Mass Operario	+Crispino and Zosima
Sunday, April 21	10:30 am Mass 1:00pm	For the People For the People
Monday, April 22	No Mass	
Tuesday, April 23	Noon Mass	Mark Graves and Family
Wednesday, April 24	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Thursday, April 25	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Friday, April 26	Noon Mass	Poor Souls
Saturday, April 27	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Jerome Wesley Garnett
Sunday, April 28	10:30 am Mass	For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

LECTOR ROTATION - Below are the names and dates of the lector rotation.

4/21 Steve Misczanski
 4/28 Sidney Cline
 5/5 Joseph Mata
 5/12 Lindsay May
 5/19 Lauren Vanderpool

"If you cannot make your assigned date, feel free to contact a fill in for yourself or contact Sidney Cline at 606-424-8118".

ROSARY- We will be meeting at noon the first Saturday of each month to say the Rosary.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION -
 ENCOURAGE DEEPER
 UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

Recently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal's wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn't care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.

When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don't know. But I do know, if I had literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.

How passionately Jesus wants us to know him and his willingness to die for us! This week he says, "I know my own and my own know me," and "I lay down my life for the sheep." Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down his life for you and me — and he has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby — blissfully ignorant of the reality

of both our spiritual danger and his saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about his love. He never ceases to lay down his life for us. — Father John Muir ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

During the Easter season, we reflect on being followers of the stone that the builders rejected, the crucified and risen Jesus. Like a shepherd he leads us by his voice that echoes throughout the centuries and remains real and effective even in our modern world. To be his disciple means to risk rejection in a similar way as he experienced. The shepherd will not lead his lambs into danger, but there is danger all around us regardless.

Everyday Stewardship can be something we talk about in the abstract or a way of living we simply wish we could follow. It can be an imperfect reality that at times places us in direct conflict with the world. As we decrease and Jesus increases in us, many will be drawn to the love and compassion that flows through us. However, some will see us for fools and will suggest we are ridiculous. Cultivating our gifts for God's sake and the total surrender of all we possess and have become to God is not wise in some eyes. Either they think we are crazy, or, just maybe at times, the example of our lives causes them to question their own values.

If you give a little, you will be admired. If you give a lot, you will be celebrated. If you give it all, you can be rejected. Not everyone will have this negative reaction. Some will see your example and will seek to do the same. They will then join you in following the shepherd. They will become a true sign of Jesus Christ to the world. But their conversion of heart begins with you and your example. --Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Mary Jo Potensky, Mary Ann Sisco's cousin

Terry Reed, cancer and kidney failure

Sharon Collins, cancer

Alex Wells, car accident

Sidney Tackett

Wilson Vanzant, Lisa Scalf's stepdad

Sister Kathy Avery

Ransom McCoy, Lindsay May's dad

Jimmie Goss

Tim Deskins

Christine Misczanski, Steve Misczanski's mother

Melba Schmidt, Kenny Schmidt's mother

Ryan Altman, Helen Altman's grandson

Steve Misczanski, Sr. (cancer)

Erica Hunt, Lisa Scalf's friend (kidney failure)

John Flichman, stroke

Wanda Baker

Jeffrey Scalf, Lisa's son

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Ron Saros

Kenny Blackburn

Helen Altman

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

VOTIVE CANDLES:

Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead... and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

JOHN 10:16

Living with Our Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We live with a maze of instincts—some from the dark side and some from the light. In her book *Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson describes how cultures tend to consign certain individuals to the bottom of the social ladder. She specifically compares the caste system in India with how the Nazis sought to suppress and eliminate Jews and with the way blacks were oppressed by slavery and even in our own time. She describes the instinct in every society to relegate others to a lower class, always seeking to ensure that we are not at the bottom. This instinct can come from the dark side of people.

There is also an instinct for goodness to others, an instinct of light—to recognize everyone as brothers and sisters. As Saint John notes, “we are God’s children now”

(1 John 3:2). It is the voice of the Shepherd instilled in the human spirit that calls us into one fold, the voice of God urging us to healing goodness.

It is the dark side that nurtures white supremacy. It is the light that enables us to see beyond the color of our skin. It is the dark side that excludes those who seem different. It is the light that welcomes and offers hospitality. It is the dark side that succumbs to fear. It is the light of God’s love that confronts the wolves of hate and urges us to follow. There is always tension between darkness and light. ●

Reflect

How does the voice of the Good Shepherd call you to reject the dark and embrace the light?

Dear Padre,

My son was raised Catholic and still claims he is Catholic, but he and his wife go to a Protestant church. How should I deal with my frustration?

Many parents and grandparents today share your frustration. They raised their children Catholic, maybe even sent them to Catholic schools, but the children have grown up and chosen not to continue to be faithful Catholics. A recent survey showed that nine out of ten people say they believe in God, but often they are not committed to a single religion or house of worship. About

half of the people questioned attend religious services less than once a month, or never. The loyalty to one Church that was evident in our own lives, or in our parents' and grandparents' lives, is lacking in today's people under age fifty-five.

What can one do about this situation? Certainly pray for your children and continue to give a good example through your own loyalty to the Catholic Church and attendance at Sunday Mass. Invite your son and his wife to attend with you when they visit. As your children age, they may become more interested in your family's history and traditions, and the religion of their childhood may again appear attractive. Try to be patient and continue to pray that your children will return to the Church of their roots. ●



M-PRODUCTION / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28
<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>St. Mark,</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday</i>
Acts 11:1-18	Acts 11:19-26	Acts 12:24-	<i>Evangelist</i>	Acts 13:26-33	Acts 13:44-52	<i>of Easter</i>
Jn 10:1-10	Jn 10:22-30	13:5a	1 Pt 5:5b-14	Jn 14:1-6	Jn 14:7-14	Acts 9:26-31
		Jn 12:44-50	Mk 16:15-20			1 Jn 3:18-24
						Jn 15:1-8



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone.... He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God....The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 25, 2021

ZVONIMIR ATLETIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

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