



SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC CHURCH †

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APRIL 21, 2024

Pastor: Rev. Mark Scholz (423)837-7068

Deacon: Mike Butz

Sr. Maria Del Pilar Hnojosa Aguilar (423)463-1541

Mass Schedule: Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Thursday 7:00 p.m. (Hispanic)

Adoration:

Confessions: 7:30—7:50 a.m. Sunday before mass
& by request.



If you are a new parishioner, or would like to become one, you are invited to stop by the Office to register. **If you are visiting**, we extend a Special Welcome. We hope you find it spiritually rewarding and will come back.

Daily Readings for the week April 21

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12; 1Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

Monday: Acts 11:1-8; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: 1Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; 1Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Mission Statement

We will use our skills and resources to promote, maintain and encourage a supportive community that earns the respect and recognition of our neighbors both near and far as we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12
Peter announces an act of healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

Responsorial: Psalm 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28,29
The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2
God revealed his love for us by calling us children of God.

Gospel Reading: John 10:11-18
Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep.



★ = New, Updated, or Important

Saint Michael the Archangel Prayer

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the divine power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. **-Amen**

★ **Prayer to Receive a New Bishop**

Praise to You, Lord our God, our Eternal Shepherd and Guide.

We know that all authority comes from You. With confidence in Your providence, we entreat You to provide the Diocese of Knoxville a new shepherd after Your own heart.

In your love for us, send us a shepherd who will lead us in being Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice.

Help him to fill our minds and hearts with the truth of the Gospel, the power of the sacraments, and the desire to build up Your Holy Church.

We pray through Christ our Lord. AMEN

★ **Background on the Gospel Reading**

★ The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship

between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires. **Loyola Press**

Today, we celebrate **"Good Shepherd Sunday"** where we reflect on Jesus' care and love of us. When Jesus calls himself "the good shepherd," he is using an example that would have been very familiar to his listeners. Because sheep are voracious eaters, they must range freely over a wide area. Shepherds had to be outdoors in all conditions for long periods of time. They literally had to surrender a large part of their lives for the sheep in their care. Shepherds had to keep an eye

Monthly Schedule		
Date	Lectors	Intercessions
04/21/2024	Craig Cerminara Michelle Nuñez	Greg Higgins
04/28/2024	Greg Higgins Nagore Luzuriaga	David Tuggle
05/05/2024	John West Michelle Nuñez	Greg Higgins
05/12/2024	Don Lamb Nagore Luzuriaga	David Tuggle
05/19/2024	Bob Main Michelle Nuñez	Greg Higgins

Last Sunday—April 14	
Mass Attendance: 106	
Collections:	\$ 1,200
Food Bank:	\$ 399
Online Giving:	\$ 100
2nd Collection :	\$
Online Giving is available through our website. Note: Collection includes all previous week Masses	

	March	YTD
Collection:	\$ 7,661	\$ 17,611
Expenses:	<u>\$ 16,327</u>	<u>\$ 31,580</u>
Net:	(\$ 8,666)	(\$ 13,969)

out for predators, while herding the sheep away from dangerous areas. Jesus offers the same kind of dedicated love. He gives his life for each member of his flock.

Crunch Entertainment, the ex-Hollywood Catholic filmmakers who made the award-winning film, Father Ryan: A Higher Call (available on FORMED) for the Diocese of Knoxville, need your help to make the pro-life, faith-based movie, He Named Him Adam.



Inspired by a true story of abortion regret and ultimate redemption through Christ, this film has the potential to change minds on the issue of abortion by changing hearts. Like the makers of Sound of Freedom and The Chosen, these filmmakers/parishioners of Saints Peter & Paul Basilica are relying on crowdfunding supported by Christians who are committed to restoring our culture to a culture of life. Please consider donating to help them bring this worthy project to the world. You can stream the movie when it's finished for a \$15 donation or make a donation of your choice on the website. All donations are appreciated. To find out more, visit HeNamedHimAdam.com or scan the QR Code.



Are you feeling depressed? Isolated? Worried? Overwhelmed?

There is hope. Catholic Charities of East Tennessee offers counseling services in the Knoxville and Chattanooga areas. In Knoxville, please call 865-963-4420. In Chattanooga, please call 423-322-0057. If you are in crisis and need immediate help, or if you are worried about someone who may be in a crisis, help is available by calling the Tennessee Statewide Crisis Line at 855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471) or the Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255

We Welcome Everyone

If you would like to register, change your address, or have questions about our parish, please fill out the form and drop it in the collection basket.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

I would like to enroll as an active parishioner.

Please change my address to the one above.

I would like to learn more about the Catholic faith.

I would like to volunteer as a Reader, Usher, Maintenance helper or some other capacity.

Please Contact Me.



Food Bank: Don't forget to bring in your favorite canned food items. Always in need of plastic bags, canned green vegetables (green beans, peas, etc) and canned protein foods (tuna, salmon, etc). Any donations can be dropped off here at church for delivery to the food bank.

★ **PLEASE NOTE !** No food in the sanctuary or narthex. All food should be confined to the kitchen area and large dining room. If spills do occur anywhere in the church, please take the time to clean it up. Food on the floor attract ants and other insect. So please be careful and clean up. Parents, please watch your children. Thank you !

The Tabernacle Lamp is lit to indicate the living presence of Jesus Christ in the tabernacle and to Honor and Glorify Him. Parishioners may request to have the Tabernacle Candle burn for one week in memory of a loved one, in thanksgiving, or for a special intention. Intentions will be published in the weekly bulletin. There is **NO** donation requirement, although donations are accepted. Please contact Kathy West at dandkwest@bledsoe.net or in person or (423)554-3289 to schedule a Lamp memorial week.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to request a Mass intention, there are white envelopes in the Narthex. All Mass Intentions are offered at Our Lady of Lourdes. If the date you request is not available, we'll come as close as we can to that date. A \$5 donation is requested, but **not required**.

If you would like to have your Anniversary, Birthday or any Special Event mentioned in the bulletin, please come by the finance office after mass and let me know, or send an email to the church email address or place a note in the collection basket.

Volunteers are always needed for grounds caring, church cleaning, ushers, readers, etc. Please see Father Mark or any council member to serve in God's work.

Please submit all bulletin announcements, to Don West - (423) 554-3289
shepherdofthevalleyindunlap@yahoo.com

The Sunday bulletin is available through our website on the Friday night before Sunday.

Parish Secretary: Mary Anne Moyer
Bookkeeper: Don West
Dir. Religious Education: Erin Lamb
Council of Catholic Women: Linda Lambert

Council Members : Fr. Mark; Darcy Cogar, MaryAnne Moyer; Craig Cerminara, Nagore Luzuriaga, Barbara Klusa

The Council meets the second Thursday of each month at 5:30pm. Everyone is welcome.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)
RCIA is a program for adults who wish to become Catholic or who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith. Please contact Fr. Mark.

Please continue to bring in your plastic shopping bags to be re-used at the Food Bank. Just drop them off in the Narthex and they will be collected and carried to the Food Bank.

If you know of anyone on our Prayer List who has recovered, or if you would like to add someone to the list, please share that information with the Parish office so the list can be updated.

Please Remember in your Prayers

The Smith Family, Karen Sprague, Gee Miller, Jeremy Holmes, Margaret Robin, Judith Winner, Jan Schumacher, Richard Kern, Melinda Hendon, Mary Ann Keukel, Adam Turner, Mary Ellen Majewski, Kathy West, Linda Slomian, Dorothy Creedon

In Memoriam

Larry Fish, Emma Hankins, Joan Scholz, Laura Moyer, John Kaprelian, David Ramirez