

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.

JOHN 10:14-15



APRIL 25, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The difference between the good shepherd and the hired hand is the difference between life and death. Unlike a hired hand who only works for pay and would run away at the first sign of difficulty, Jesus is a good shepherd who willingly lays down his life for his sheep. The good shepherd draws the sheep near to him. They belong to him—not as a possession that can be discarded, but as precious ones who are assured that they can rely on his care and protection. The sheep owe their very lives to the shepherd. Without him, they will be scattered and left on their own in what is often a dangerous world.

BECOMING GOOD SHEEP

No sheep with any sense would wander off and leave the fold. The shepherd provides food and safety. Away from the fold, the sheep risks death in the jaws of wolves or starvation in the desert. Jesus is the Good Shepherd and invites us to be good sheep. Jesus has experienced

the best and the worst of all that life has in store. He has known the simple joys and the deep disappointments of life; he has known temptation, anxiety, and fatigue. Jesus walks ahead of us, leading the way. We may be tempted to wander away, lured by temporary pleasures and tempted by the illusion of something better over the horizon. In the noise of daily life, surrounded by messages that compete with God and God's ways, it is easy to become distracted from what is important and lasting. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, invites us to be good sheep who are so close to him that we hear and recognize his voice. As good sheep, we are called to follow the voice of the Shepherd, trusting that he will guide us to the best pasture, where we can thrive.

Today's Readings: Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29;
1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider

Celebration of the Sacraments:

Mass: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday:
45 minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six
(6) months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit **Catholic Church**

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Welcome Visitors!

*We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us
and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home."*

*Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years,
you are invited to join our parish family. **Please come again!***

Fourth Sunday of Easter

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Valerie Branch. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Yvonne Scott. Ulysses Cormier. Bollinger Family. Kate Guthrie. Charlie Parker. Molly Dunn. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Ed & Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. **We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: DeLois Estoll, mother of Shirley Munoz. Johnny Collins Sr., grandfather of Johnny Collins.**

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community: New active recruit, Dawn Quinn, US Army (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Nataie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: There is no salvation through anyone else (Acts 4:8-12).

Psalms: The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone (Psalm 118).

Second Reading: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).

Gospel: The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11-18).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14 or (for the memorial) Gn 1:26 — 2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-28, 30-32; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 4/24 Lexi Bonicard (M/M Bonicard)

Sun 4/25 Eloise Sanchez (K of C)

Tue 4/27 Milton Aucoin Jr.+ (M/M Bonicard)

Wed 4/28 Elayne Hayes (K of C)

Thurs 4/29 Ron Szczepanski+ (K of C)

Fri. 4/30 Carol Szczepanski (K of C)

Sat. 5/01 J C Catalano+ (Mary Catalano)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through March 31, 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,642

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,364

Attendance 4/17 Saturday 43 4/18 Sunday 62

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.

April Pope's Intention:

Fundamental rights. We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

THE GLORY OF GOD

The glory of God is humanity fully alive.

—St. Irenaeus

RESPONDING TO THE CALL

Do we truly know the voice of Christ? Do we truly respond to the voice of our shepherd with our own distinctive voice? How often we attempt to imitate those around us, appropriating the response of another member of the flock to Christ. Perhaps we need to balance the image of being sheep of one flock with the image from the second reading, which tells us that we are all children of God. What child has precisely the same interaction with parents as his or her siblings? Instead, they frequently do and say things to distinguish themselves in the eyes of their parents.

Whether we use the image of children or of sheep to understand our relationship with Christ, we believe that we are all known and called by name. With this great gift comes a responsibility: to respond to the call with our own distinctive voice, to take time to discern exactly what our call is, to determine precisely what the will of the Father is for each of us.

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Holy Spirit Food Donations: *We are in need of can vegetables for our food pantry.* Please place donations in plastic container in the Narthex between the parish hall and church hall.

Thank you,

*Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd; Stan & Terry Evans
Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team*



Holy Spirit Garage Sale

June 4th & 5th

→ **MORE ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR SALE** ←

We started pricing and you can **drop off items every Wednesday between the hours of 9:30—11:30am. NO CLOTHING or ELECTRONICS.** Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868 if you have questions or unable to drop off items on Wednesday mornings.

April Second Collections: 24th & 25th: "Catholic Home Missions."

Cenacle of Life: Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm.** Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

To fulfill the **Legion of Mary** work obligation they are making information posters for our parishioners & visitors. The information will not be new to most of you, though some of it may be. It is their hope that each of you will find something in the information that encourages your spiritual growth. Look for these posters in the entrance to the parish hall. They may also be placed outside also be placed outside, weather permitting.



WHAT IS THE LORD ASKING ME TO DO WITH MY GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT?

LITURGICAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULT MEN & WOMEN

ALTAR SERVERS, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, LECTORS, USHERS, CANTORS & CHOIR MEMBERS WITH MUSICAL ABILITIES

FOR ONE OR SEVERAL OF OUR MINISTRIES

SIGN-UP WEEKEND APRIL 24th & 25th

EVERYBODY SIGN UP EVEN IF YOU SIGNED UP BEFORE—WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE YOUR MASS A SHARED EXPERIENCE

WATCH YOUR BULLETIN FOR DATE OF TRAINING

SERIOUS NEED FOR HELP ON OUR "HOLY CLEANING CREW"

Call Richard Boultinghouse 903-769-4257 or email rbhouse61@aol.com



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Blue Sunday Day of Prayer for Abused Children Sunday, April 25th

Please open your hearts to pray for the victims of child abuse/neglect and for those who rescue them.

Look at third page for the warning signs of abused in minors and perpetrators of abuse and what steps to take to make a report.

Pray the children will be rescued.

Pray they are put with caring people.

Pray that their bodies and mind can heal

Pray they find hope.

2



OUR CHURCH IS NOW OPEN WEEKEND & WEEKDAY MASSES

Protocols still in place:

1. Limited seating in the church maximum of 31 people. We are still alternating every other pew.
2. When we have an overflow, there is sitting available in the parish hall, (please do not move the chairs). The large screen television is setup to view our Mass. Someone from church will bring you communion in the parish hall.
3. We do ask, no socializing in the church or parish hall before, during or after each Mass. Please exit to the parking lot after Mass to socialize.

God Bless You,
Fr. Mike Snider

Warning Signs of Abuse in Minors

- No longer wants to see a **particular person** they had been close to
- No longer interested in **activities** they used to enjoy
- Changes in **personality**
- Demonstrates **aggressive behavior** or constantly angry
- **Withdraws** from family or friends
- Declining **academic** performance
- Tries to hide use of **technology**

Warning Signs of Perpetrators of Abuse

- Tries to get minors **alone**
- Keeps **secrets** with minors
- Allows or encourages minors to **break laws** or rules
- Gives lavish **gifts** to minors
- Has **inappropriate** or suggestive conversations with minors
- Does not believe the **rules** apply to them (or, does not follow rules or protocols)
- Takes **photos** without approval, or asks minors to send them photos



How to Report Abuse

If you know or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult is currently being abused or is in danger, **immediately report** it to state/local law enforcement or the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or txabusehotline.org.

Call 9-1-1 in an emergency.

The Diocese of Tyler is committed **respecting the dignity** of all persons and to helping anyone who may have been hurt or abused by a priest, deacon, religious, or anyone working in the name of the Church.

Any current or past cases of abuse involving Church personnel should also be reported to civil authorities and the diocesan **Victim Assistance Coordinator** at (903) 266-2159 or vac@dioceseoftyler.org.



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