

Good SHEPHERD

SUNDAY

***CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH
HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, NJ 07604
APRIL 25, 2021***

Parish Offices and Center
218 Washington Place
Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604
201-288-4844

Parish Website
www.corpuschristihh.org
Religious Education
201-288-4844 Ext. 142

School/ECLC
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CORPUS CHRISTI, HASBROUCK HEIGHTS

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

We often act out of ignorance. Armed with the best of intentions, we think we are seeing clearly and correctly, but we are not. We don't always understand the full meaning of things and only perceive part of the truth. Hence, our judgments and actions can be impaired by myopic, incomplete or erroneous perceptions. The meaning of life, understanding of human experience, and negotiating life's challenges can all become skewed without proper understanding and vision. The resurrection of Christ is the corrective to our incomplete and limited view of life. Looking at things with the eyes of faith brings a depth of clarity and understanding to how we see God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Even the disciples struggled with their limited understanding and ignorant perceptions. It was only when Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures that their eyes were opened. It was their "aha" moment when everything clicked. We all want the substance of our lives to come together, make sense, and have meaning. This is easier to achieve when things are going positively, and life is good. It is when suffering, disappointment, death, hardship, and injustice enter the picture that things can become unsettled and disoriented. Our faith in the goodness and love of God is tested. We tend to shift our focus on these difficult and challenging moments and do not see them within the greater picture of how God intends life to unfold. We can gain, from the passion and resurrection of Christ, the clear vision we need in order to move away from ignorance to enlightenment.

We need our "aha" moment when everything comes together and clicks. It can come in a fleeting instant when we feel totally connected with God, where we find ourselves, others and all of creation. It is a moment when all is right and good, regardless of how difficult our journey. Our "aha" moment assures us that God is here, right with us, in us and around us bringing us a gift and blessing we can receive nowhere else: peace. In those brief sacramental encounters when we are lifted up out of ourselves and centered, we can hear God say, "peace be with you," and we feel secure. It's all okay. The resurrected Christ has the power to bring this gift to us. Some people, as they are facing their deaths, remark about this peace. When looking into the window of eternity, they experience a depth of joy and are amazed at God's goodness and closeness. We are called to be witnesses to this Good News.

Parish Stewardship "Treasure Report"

April 18, 2021

Envelope Total: \$ 6,816

Electronic Giving: \$ 3,555

Week Total: \$10,371

2020—April 19 Masses suspended-pandemic

Thank you for your continued generosity.

A MESSAGE FROM FR. KAJ....

A shepherd has one thing to do: Keep sheep safe. That's it. The safety and welfare of the flock is a shepherd's absolute number-one priority.

If a shepherd has one job to do, then what does a hired hand do? If someone is hired to take care of the sheep, then that someone has the same responsibility as the shepherd. In fact, he is the shepherd. The hired hand has been hired to be a shepherd. Therefore, the hired hand has one thing to do: keep the sheep safe.

Most shepherds did not own the flocks they tended. Thus, most shepherds in the pastoral life of Jesus' day were, in fact, hired hands. So, in identifying himself as a shepherd, Jesus is using a metaphor in which he also plays the role of a hired hand. Jesus claims that, unlike most shepherds, he does, in fact, "own" his flock.

Jesus not only does his shepherding for free, but he loves what he is doing and loves the sheep he has volunteered to tend. For Jesus it wasn't a "job." How do we know this? Because not only is he working for free and loving what he does, he is willing to lay down his life to protect the flock or to find one lost lamb. You don't do that if your work is just a "job." The Good Shepherd has a mission.

So, what does all of this have to do with us today? Here is the thing: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was not forcibly detained and executed against his will. He voluntarily surrendered his life. He had the motive, means and opportunity to stay alive.

This is important because a savior who cannot get off that cross isn't too much of a savior, now is he? Jesus voluntarily laid down his life, denying himself and taking up his cross. Interestingly, it is the very thing he said his disciples must do in order to follow him: deny themselves and take up a cross. The tough part—do this for love, love for God and love of God's lambs. Jesus invites us to imitate his example, and lay down our lives, figuratively if not literally, for the sake of the gospel.

Our Savior is our true shepherd. My dear parishioners, we must continue to reflect upon the true meaning of the Easter Season—the willingness for Jesus to give his own life for us—his flock. We must strive every day to pick up our cross, bear the weight of it and persevere through it all—helping one another along the way. There may be times that we must help carry the cross of a loved one or good friend. Volunteer to be someone's cross bearer—it is helping others during the most difficult times that shows the true witness of our faith and love of Jesus Christ.

There are a few items in our Chapel and Church in need of some restoration; chalices, tabernacles, as well as our need for a new sacristy bell and new incense sets. If anyone would like to contribute towards any of these purchases and/or restorations, please let me know or call the parish office. These are beautiful ways to memorialize a loved one as well.

God Bless,
Fr. Kaj

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



During this Easter Season, 77 children from our parish and school will celebrate First Eucharist on May 1st and May 8th at 11am and 1pm. I would like to thank the parents and family members who have been preparing their children at home this year for the sacramental celebrations. Sharing our faith is one of the most important things we can do for our children. May God continue to shower his blessings on all these young members of Corpus Christi Parish.

Verna Paiotti



MOTHER'S DAY REMEMBRANCE ENVELOPES

Envelopes are available in the Church and Chapel to remember living and deceased mothers. *Mother's Day Remembrance Envelopes* will allow you to write in the names of mothers, grandmothers, godmothers and "special moms" in our lives along with your donation. The envelopes will be placed on the altar to pray for all those remembered in a special way. The 6:30am Masses on May 10, 11, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20 & 21 will be offered for all the mothers listed on the Mother's Day Remembrance Envelopes.



Adoration has resumed. Please note the following:

- ♦ Adoration will be held in the Church
- ♦ Adoration will be held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1pm to 11pm.
- ♦ Face coverings **MUST** be worn, and social distancing seating is to be maintained.
- ♦ **Adorers are needed for the following times: Mondays at 5pm; Tuesdays 4pm, 6pm; Thursdays 3pm**

If you would like to become an Adorer and spend an hour in prayer, please contact Diane Calabrese at (201) 288-7732.

2021 ANNUAL APPEAL SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Parishioners are encouraged to prayerfully consider a donation to this year's Appeal. Your donation helps so many within the Archdiocese as well as right here in our parish of Corpus Christi. Rebate monies after attaining our goal will help our parish and school with repairs/upgrades or any needs that arise.

Envelopes are still available or you are encouraged to donate online at www.rcan.org/sharing. Designate Corpus Christi as your parish. Your gift may be restricted for any ministry listed. Thanking you in advance for your generous support.



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MASS INTENTIONS

ANTICIPATED MASS, APRIL 24

5:00 PM +David DeFedele

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

8:00 AM +Gene A. Noll, Sr.

10:30 AM +Elvira & Donald Uργο

12:00 NN +Patricia Hogan

6:00 PM +Gene A. Noll, Sr.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

6:30 AM +Coralie Andreu

8:00 AM +Dorothy J. Coccaro

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

6:30 AM +Rosemarie Baxter

8:00 AM +Anthony Miele, Sr.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

6:30 AM +Fred Calvert Baxter

8:00 AM +Simeone Cuenca

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

6:30 AM +John Patrick Mullins

8:00 AM +Mary & Charles Licameli

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

6:30 AM +Marianne Falletti

8:00 AM +Jeffrey Sheldon

SATURDAY, MAY 1

8:00 AM +Joseph Pietroburgo

ANTICIPATED MASS

5:00 PM +Rose & Julio Quagliero

SUNDAY, MAY 2

8:00 AM +Julia & Charles Berhain

10:00 AM +Salem, Nayfe & Juliet Eid

12:00 NN +Genevieve Dougherty

6:00 PM +Anthony Niosi

CANDLES FOR THE WEEK

The candles to be burned on our altars this week were donated in loving memory of **Patrick DeGenaro** from Cecilia DeLeon & Dennis Uργο.

HOSTS & WINE FOR THE WEEK

The hosts and wine to be consecrated at all the Masses were donated in loving memory of **Deceased Members of the Licameli Family** from Rita Licameli.

In Remembrance

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

Please remember the deceased members of our families, friends and community, especially Julia Rostkowski

Morning Prayers

Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary take place prior to weekday Mass beginning at 7:30am. Come join fellow parishioners. All are welcome!



May the Holy Spirit sustain those who are poor and oppressed, the sick, suffering, and sorrowing of all ages, especially, Justin Duffy Antonio Salcines, Albert DeBenedictis, Mary Nichols, Cosmelina Cammarata,, Baby Adrian Victor Sanfilippo, Paul Giordano, Debbie Murphy, Gary Ryan, Dee Sullivan, Bonnie Poznar, Danielle Delfino, Patricia Kunzmann, Christine Ryan, Patricia Casey, Noreen Ryan, Joseph Cooney, Mishelle Kittlinger, Raimunda Martins, Joseph Marino, Michael Toscano, Jack Co-neys, Josey Munez, Frank Sambucini, Gail Abbate, JoAnne Pic-carreto, Dennis Buttacavoli, Natalie Caulfield, Nora Lindquist, Catherine Groarke, Barbara D'Amato, Phyllis Mink, Mary Lynne Seitz, Leslie Macaluso

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Sharing the Gospel

Jesus is a Good Shepherd. He wants you to help your family and friends. Jesus wants to guide you like a shepherd guides the sheep. Do what you can to help others. Bring in a bag of groceries. Take someone a drink of water. Get a blanket for someone or just sit down and listen to a friend's funny or sad story. Then you will be a good shepherd just like Jesus.

Prayer

Jesus, show me ways to help my family and friends.

Something to Draw

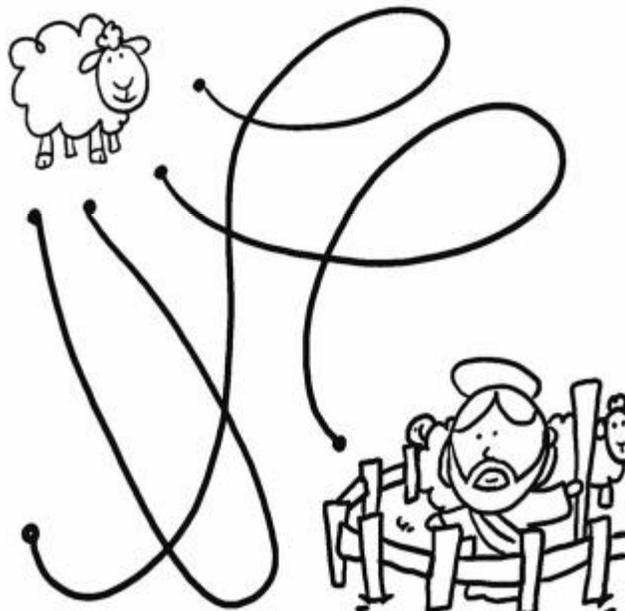
Draw yourself carrying in a bag of groceries for your parents.

Mission for the Week

Every morning I will ask my parents, "How may I help you today?"

PUZZLE

Help this lamb find his way into the sheep pen with Jesus.



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