GOOD SHEPHERD

THE 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 24/25, 2021

'I know my sheep, and mine know me.' (John 10:14)

Sheep are the most mentioned animal in the Bible. Throughout it, God and Jesus are constantly comparing us to sheep. And when you think about the characteristics of sheep, that's **not** really a huge compliment: Sheep are totally defensless, have zero sense of direction, and are extremely unintelligent.

That's why sheep need a *shepherd*. Besides directing them where to go, the shepherd is what keeps the sheep alive. Left alone in the wild, a sheep has almost zero chance of living. In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus takes it to the next level by calling himself the 'gate for the sheep.' He is the doorway into safe pastures. Knowing that we are totally reliant on him for salvation (just like sheep are totally reliant on a shepherd for survival), Jesus doesn't lead us to safety because he *has* to. He does it because he *wants* to. He's doing it out of *love*. He wants to lead us safely through this world *and* safely into heaven.

As we continue our Easter journey, let us rejoice in the fact that we never have to go it alone. Through these very troubling times, let's take comfort that, with Christ, we always have someone to lead us back when we go astray, care for our wellbeing, and guide us on the journey. Let's follow the voice of Jesus right through the gates of Heaven. Alleluia!

OUR LADY OF CHARITY PARISH 260 Okell + 1901 South Park Buffalo, NY 14220 (716) 822-5962 + OurLadyOfCharityParish.com

BUFFALO, NY

APRIL 24/25, 2021

FROM FR. STEVE....

Dear Family,

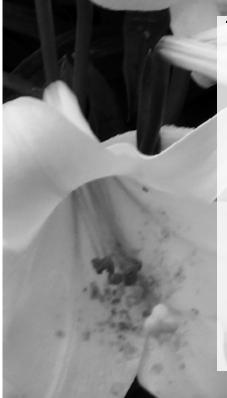
It is such a joy for me to finally be with you! Let us always pray for one another as together we grow in our faith and share our faith through ministry to our community!

Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter, which is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The reason behind that title becomes obvious as we read the Gospel Reading for the day. Jesus proclaims Himself to be the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His followers. We know that He did this once for all through His crucifixion. Jesus never wants us to stray from Him and He will always be searching for us when we do stray. All we need to do if we begin to question whether or not He cares for us is to look at a crucifix. That is pure love! That is how far Jesus was willing to go for us to bring us back into God's fold. Never doubt God's love! He will always be searching for His lost followers. He will always be ready to lift them up when they are found and carry them home! If we have people in our lives that have strayed from the faith, let us offer our prayers to the Good Shepherd that He find them and gently lead them home!

Happy Easter!!!! Alleluia!!!

Praised Be Jesus Christ...Now and Forever!!!

Father Steve



The King of Love My Shepherd Is Henry W. Baker - Gaelic Processional Hymn

The King of love my Shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow My ransomed soul he's leading, And where the verdant pastures grow With food celestial feedeth.

Confused and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me, And on his shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.



THE 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

Acts 4:8-12

1 Jn 3:1-2

R/. Thanks be to God.

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said: "Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which

we are to be saved."

The word of the Lord.

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

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. **R**/.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. **R**/.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever. **R**/.

Second Reading

Gospel

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

Jn 10:11-18

R/. Thanks be to God.

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. 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. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and

power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

З

DISCIPLES STAY IN THE KNOW

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to **Landon James Gattie**, baptized in our parish this weekend! May God grant him and his family every grace and blessing as he begins his faith journey.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of every month, immediately following the 8:00am Daily Mass until 9:30am.

Come spend some time with the Lord as he is exposed on the altar. Various devotions will be offered, with Benediction to follow.

DISCIPLESHIP SCHEDULE

Monday, May 3rd, 6:30pm - 7:30pm In Church or Zoom (please use code from last meeting to log in... link found on our website)

A COVID-19 PRAYER

For all who have contracted coronavirus, we pray for care and healing. For those who are particularly vulnerable, we pray for safety and protection. For our brothers and sisters around the world, we pray for shared solidarity. Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all. Grant peace. Grant comfort. Grant healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen.

MUSIC MINISTRY

After more than a year, our choir is back! (Masked and totally social distanced, of course.) Sundays at the 11:30am Mass - Holy Family Site.

Pastor

Fr. Steve Jekielek Fr.Steve@olcp.org

Deacons Deacon Tim Maloney Deacon Steve Schumer

Business Manager Elaine Williams E.Williams@olcp.org

Director of Music & Worship Brian Meyer music@olcp.org

Administrative Assistant Diana Deck d.deck@olcp.org SBCS at NDA Principal Tristan D'Angelo 824-0726

Sacramental Preparation Maureen Brown Kathleen Mulgueen

Weekend/Weekday Help Fr. Richard (Duke) Zajac Fr. Robert (Bob) Hora

> Prayer Link 768-4022 823-2067



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into mysoul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

SOCIAL ACTION

Thank you to everyone who donated socks to our Easter collection for the Bishop Kmiec Food Pantry! A total of <u>554 pairs</u> of socks were donated: 125 - girls, 68 - boys, 213 - women, 148 - men. Thank you again for your support!

MOUNT MERCY ACADEMY

You are cordially invited to attend our Spring Open House on Wednesday, April 28th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. We are inviting all 7th and 8th grade girls and transfer students! Come join us and learn more about our exciting programs and our strong tradition of academic excellence. Please visit our website to register mtmercy.org/spring-open-house

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00pm (St. Ambrose Site)

Sunday 8:30am (Holy Family Site) 10:00am (St. Ambrose Site) 11:30am (Holy Family Site)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 4:30pm **Currently by appointment only.** (Office will be closed 12:00pm - 12:30pm for lunch) Friday, closed

(716) 822-5962

Please consider remembering our parish community in your will.

DISCIPLES STAY ACTIVE

COMMUNITY DINNERS

If you are interested or would like some more information please contact the parish office at 822-5962 or Mary Anne at 822-1837. Thank you!

> Sponsors for the coming weeks include: April 30: Liturgy Committee May 7: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED May 14: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED May 21: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Attention all gardeners and weed pullers! Our Holy Family Church site is in need of volunteers to weed and prune plants around the Church and rectory.

Anyone interested please call Elaine 313-2618 during regular office hours.

WHAT DOES 'ALLELUIA' ACTUALLY MEAN?

During our Easter season we throw in a ton of extra 'Alleluias.' However, what does that word even actually mean? 'Alleluia' comes from the Hebrew 'Hallelujah,' which is a contraction meaning 'Praise the LORD.' 'Hallel' in Hebrew means to create a joyous song to God. While we often associate Alleluia with the Resurrection of Jesus, it actually appears 23 times in the Book of Psalms in the Old Testemant. Say it loud and proud like our ancestors!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NDA

• Are you a graduate of a South Buffalo Catholic Elementary School? Please check out this new Facebook group just for you! Search South Buffalo Catholic Elementary Schools Alumni Group. www.notredamebuffalo.org

MOUNT MERCY HONORS

Mount Mercy Academy is proud to announce that the following students from Our Lady of Charity Parish have worked hard during the 3rd quarter and have been placed on Mercy's First Honor Roll List:

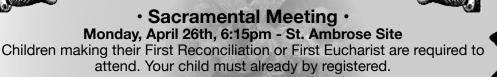
- Bridget Dougherty Catherine Klodzinski Emma Lewis Madeline Lickfeld Abigail Mailloux Grace Spero The following students have been placed on Mercy's Second Honor Roll list: Megan Amicone Abbie Dziadzio The following students have have been placed on Mercy's Merit Roll list: Emma Connors Quinn D'Anthony Isabella Fedele Madelyn Hart
 - Caitlin Mann
 - Margaret Melligan
 - Carolyn O'Keeffe
 - Grace Thie

PLEASE NOTE: IMPORTANT

GOOD NEWS: The Liftevator is FINALLY completely installed at the Holy Family site, and weekend Masses (8:30am & 11:30am) have officially resumed there!_

The 4:00pm Vigil Mass and 10:00am Mass will continue to be live streamed via Facebook from the St. Ambrose site, and then be posted on our website the following day.

SAVE THE DATES



 Discipleship • Monday, May 3rd, 6:30pm - St. Ambrose Site In Church or Zoom (please use code from last meeting to log in... link found on our website: OurLadyofCharityParish.com)

GET INVOLVED!

Are you interested in becoming a lector or eucharistic minister? Just give the parish office a call (822-5962), and we'll get you set up to get started!

DISCIPLES PRAY TOGETHER

VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY

Virtual Bible Study this coming week is <u>canceled.</u> Please stay tuned for more information on the continuation of our weekly meetings. We encourage you to get together in some way virtually to talk about scripture during this Easter Season

PRE-BAPTISM SESSION

Before your child's Baptism, parents must virtually attend a Pre-Baptismal instruction class. The next session will be on **Tuesday, May 4th at 6:30pm** via Zoom. Please call the office (822-5962) to

register. Parents, remember you must have letters of recommendation from the godparents before the Baptism date can be set.

RELIGIOUS SACRAMENTALS

Children making their First Reconciliation or First Eucharist are required to attend our first in-person class which will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021. Class will be held from 6:30 – 7:30pm. Please arrive in the church at 6:15pm. Your child must already be registered for the Sacrament to attend We ask that you practice social distancing upon arrival and masks are required. Thank You!

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Paige Vivian and Aaron Borzillieri will be married at the Holy Family site on May 15, 2021. Please keep this couple in prayer as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

"MASTER, THE ONE YOU LOVE IS ILL." (JOHN 11:1-2)
Edna Albert, Irene Andrzejewski, Irene Barrett, Louise Beamish, Teresa Beamish, Lillian Beyers, Ann Alvira-Buchnowski, Patricia Cajak, Maureen Canney,
Cheryl Clontz, Patricia Colern, Caroline Dominesey, Dottie Eberle, Brigid Evans, Vara Jones, Linda Kurcz, Madisyn Ledder, Janet Murray, Karen O'Neill, Mary Pilon, Maryann Rigby, Sandy Riley, Jane Rozek, Mary Sands, June Stebbins, Ruth White

Daniel Barry, Michael Beyers, Leon Bolick, Owen Chase, Eric Crawford, Vincent Crawford, Frank Czapezyk,
Francis Davis, Larry Deskiewicz, Richard Dinnocenzo, Paul Fitzpatrick, Jason Florea, John Godwin, Eric G.,
Emmett Jakubowski, Rob Karr, Pat Kuhn, Andrew Kuper,
Robert Maggio, Dr. Thomas Raab, George Rodriguez,
Josean Rodriguez, The family of Coach Frank Rossi,
Jeremiah Smith, Jim Sweeney

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat./Sun., April 24/25 - 4th Sunday of Easter

SA • 4:00pm

Mary & Leon Bolick (req. by their family)

HF • 8:30am Betty Ford (Birth. Rem., req. by her daughter, Mary Beth) SA • 10:00am

Mary Clancy (req. by Ron & Dolores DuBois) HF • 11:30am

Marion Hynes (Birth. Rem., req. by "the kids")

Mon., April 26 - Weekday of Easter

SA • 8:00am - Kevin J. Keane (req. by Renae Hansen)

Tues., April 27 - Weekday of Easter

SA • 8:00am - William McClure (req. by Audrey Kunz)

Wed., April 28 - Weekday of Easter

SA • 8:00am - Dr. Dennis DePerro (req. by Sam & Diane Fusco)

Thurs., April 29 - Weekday of Easter

SA • 8:00am - Tom Lynch, Jr. (req. by Joan Smith and family

Fri., April 30 - Weekday of Easter

SA • 8:00am - People of the Parish (req. by Fr. Steve)

Sat./Sun., May 1/2 - 5th Sunday of Easter

SA • 4:00pm

Deaune "Dwyer" Bennett (Birth. Rem., req. by his family) **HF • 8:30am**

Joe & Joan Watkins (Anniv. Rem., req. by Patricia Watkins) SA • 10:00am

Peg & Roger Thexton (Wedding Anniv. Rem., req. by family) **HF •** 11:30am

Deceased Members of the Renzi Family (req. by the Renzi family)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD Let us remember all those who have gone before us: +Robert Ritzel. May he rest in peace.

SANCTUARY LAMPS

<u>St. Ambrose Site (April 25 - May 1)</u> William C. Schumacher, Sr. (req. by Lauretta)

6



3-D-4-3



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