

April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)

Acts 4:8-12

1 Jn 3:1-2

Jn 10:11-18



The Good Shepherd

or many of us, our only connection with sheep is with the cuddly white creatures found on holy cards. However, that image strays from the facts. Sheep are not household animals. They live outdoors; they lie down in grass, dirt, and mud. Furthermore, unlike many other animals, sheep cannot clean themselves. I'm not denigrating sheep, just putting aside any fanciful view of their nature.

Raising sheep was an important occupation in the ancient world. In fact, the royalty's governance of people was often described as shepherding. David was told: "You shall shepherd my people Israel" (2 Samuel 5:2). Later, when the royalty were not faithful to this charge, God declared: "I myself will pasture my sheep" (Ezekiel 34:15). This startling characterization of God became a characterization of Jesus.

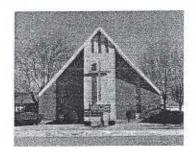
Grime and animal smells, the blood of births and

deaths, inclement weather, and the threat of predators mark the life of a committed shepherd. Human comfort was secondary to the needs of the sheep. Sheep actually learn to recognize the voice of the one who feeds them, cares for them, protects them. The shepherd's voice seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine. As "the good shepherd," Jesus is totally committed to us, his sheep. He attends to our needs, willing to risk his own security in order to save us. His care for us seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine.

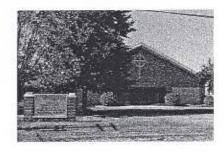
Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- * Is Christ really your shepherd? Do you listen to his voice?
- * Do you rely on Christ's protection, even when you don't seem to feel it?



Holy Trinity Catholic Church



St. Thomas More Catholic Church



St. Patrick Catholic Church

Main Office Holy Trinity Church & Rectory

212 S. Main St. PO Box 159 Cherry, IL 61317-0159 Phone: (815) 894-2006

Office Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com Website: www.bureaucatholic.org And on Facebook at

"Bureau Catholic Churches".

Mass Schedule

Weekdays - Wednesday 5:30pm and Thursday - 9:00am Saturday Confessions - 3:15-3:45 PM or by appointment

Sunday Mass - 9:00AM

*Pastor of the Three Churches

Fr. Patrick Fixsen Email: frpat.fixsen@gmail.com

Upcoming Events At Church

No Events Scheduled

Saturday:

Sunday:

Emergency Phone For All Three Churches 815-664-8241

St. Thomas More Church

302 Chestnut St. Dalzell, IL 61320 Phone: (815) 663-6201

Email: StTMoreDalzell32@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Weekday Mass -Tuesday & Friday - 9:00AM Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 PM Sunday (Last Chance) Mass-5:30 PM (Suspended)

Adoration Room

Open Monday-Saturday 9AM-8PM Sunday - 9AM - 6PM

Divine Mercy Prayers

Every Friday 3:00PM (Outside Lent)

Upcoming Events At Church

No Events Scheduled

St. Patrick Church (Office at Holy Trinity Church)

> 106 Church St. Arlington, IL 61312 Phone: (815) 894-2006

Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass - 10:30 AM

*3 Churches Pastoral Assistant

Julie Hollinger Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

Office Hours

Holy Trinity - Tues, Thurs, & Fri. - 9AM-12PM St. Thomas More -Wed - 9AM - 12PM

**Facebook: Use Link on Home Page - www.bureaucatholic.org

Upcoming Events At Church

No Events Scheduled

† Jack & Theresa McCallum

Daily Mass Intentions for

Masses the Week of April 26, 2021

Facebook Link - 4:00PMSTM Monday Tuesday **Facebook Link - 9:00AM**STM

www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 5:30PMHT Wednesday

www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00AMHT Thursday **Facebook Link - 9:00AM **STM Friday

Next Weekend's Mass Intentions

Weekend of May 1-2, 2021 **Facebook Link - 4:00PM **STM

www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00 AMHT

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM (No Streaming)

**St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 6:00 PM (Last Chance Communion)

Offered For

Offered For

† Annie Buckovic

† Norman Farrel

† Richard Guerrini

† No Mass

† For The Parishioners

† Mina DeAngelo

† Esther Nedlo

† No Mass (Only Holy Communion)

(**Recommendation Watch Our Mass Online Or EWTN Mass Before Receiving Communion)

Latest Offering's

Holy Trinity - \$0.00

St. Patrick - \$0.00

St. Thomas More - \$0.00

Visit Venerable Fulton Sheen At Cathedral in Peoria

Monday - Friday Saturday 12pm - 2pm 3pm - 5pm

(Re-Opened Again)

Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

Holy Trinity

LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - ?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -

1

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

COUNTERS

Sunday - 8:30AM -

? & ?

Mass Intentions

We are in need of Mass Intentions for weekday Masses. The Masses on the web are a great occasion for family members not living in this area to pray with us for family members who have died. Please consider having a weekday Mass for a deceased member of your family and thank you. Mass intentions can be paid through our online giving program, mail or dropping by our office.

Recurring Special Church Events

Wednesday's - Mass/Rosary - 6PM (On Website)

(After Wednesday HT Evening Mass) Friday's - Divine Mercy Chaplet -

On Facebook- 3PM -

St. Thomas More Adoration Chapel

In April

Holy Water Available

When Easter comes, we have the great occasion to bless holy water for our personal use. We are still not able to have holy water in the fonts at the entrance of the church. Some holy water bottles have been purchased for our parishioners and filled with holy water for you to take home and use. They are available after Mass or if you would like to call the office and we will figure out some way to get them to you.

First Communion Weekend

The First Communion Mass will be offered this Sunday, April 25th at Holy Trinity's 9AM Mass. We will have five boys and girls receiving Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist for the very first time. May God bless them!

Collection Envelopes

Also we still have many envelope boxes in our office. If you haven't received yours yet, please let us know how we can get them to you! We can get them to any of the three churches for you to pick them up. Thank you!

St. Thomas More Rays

A BIG Thank You is in order for the Rav Twisters for their contribution to keep St. Thomas More Church financially stable. Everyone has enjoyed the tasty ravs but now it is time for the Rav Twisters to rehabilitate their fingers! And enjoy the summer!

Thank you to everyone who supported the church through the purchase of the ravs!

Confessions

The next confessions will be: Saturday - May 1 - 10:30-11:15pm - at St. Thomas More Church in the Hall.

This Week's Update

The Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, "lays down his life for the sheep". We have just remembered this very action with Jesus' death on the Cross. With Jesus' brutal death on the cross, to take away our sins so we can have an opportunity for eternal life. But we have our responsibility to recognize the wolves who are trying to take away our chance for eternal life and turn to Jesus Christ through our faith. This is why we need to know our faith so we can tell the good shepherds from the wolves.

The world is full of bad shepherds today. Many are sharing their approval of worldly views rather than church teaching. And Jesus sees exactly how the devil has corrupted too many shepherds and their failure in standing up for and preaching church teaching.

The fact that the Catholic Church congregations have dropped below 50% all over the world is the result of wolves in our Catholic Church. And the lack of effective and true Catholic and unified preaching on Catholic topics that lead to many people turning away from Christ.

As I said last week, we need to know what the Church teaches and we need to know the Bible to know God and Jesus and all they have taught us in how to live in the world. Heaven should always be the goal in our lives. We need to stand firm in and for our Catholic faith! It is up to each one of us! Continue to have a Blessed and Happy Easter!

Fr. Pat Fixsen

Dear Padre,

Am I sinning when I work or shop on Sunday?

Biblical tradition states that the Sabbath is the day that God rested from the labors of creation. Sunday is also the day we commemorate Christ's resurrection from the dead and the inauguration of the new creation.

We rightly refer to Sunday, then, as the Lord's day. This being so, it's important that we do everything possible to keep the Lord's day holy and ensure that we reserve adequate time on Sunday for worship, rest, and recreation.

Today, many activities, social services, and family needs require some people to work on Sundays. In fact, many people have only the weekends to do the errands and activities that sustain their families.

Our participation in such activities and services is not a sin, nor does it mean that those who do need to work cannot find an appropriate way to sanctify the Lord's day and allow time for the worship, rest, and renewal that are proper to the day.



Even so, we must guard against treating the Lord's day as just another workday, or a continuation of our Saturday shopping spree. Remember that the primary focus on Sunday should be participating in the Mass and growing our relationship with the Lord.

For more information on this topic, see paragraphs 2184 through 2195 of the *Catechism* of the *Catholic Church*.

> Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSsR Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Calendar

Monday

APRIL 26 Easter Weekday Acts 11:1–18 Jn 10:1–10

Tuesday

APRIL 27 Easter Weekday Acts 11:19–26 Jn 10:22–30

Wednesday

APRIL 28 Easter Weekday Acts 12:24—13:5a Jn 12:44–50

Thursday

APRIL 29 St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Acts 13:13–25 Jn 13:16–20

Friday

APRIL 30 Easter Weekday Acts 13:26–33 Jn 14:1–6

Saturday

MAY 1 Easter Weekday Acts 13:44–52 Jn 14:7–14

Sunday

MAY 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 9:26–31 1 Jn 3:18–24 Jn 15:1–8



True rest is not simple, because there is false rest and true rest....Man has never rested as much as today, yet man has never experienced as much emptiness as today! Opportunities to amuse oneself, to go out, cruises, travels; but many things do not give you fullness of heart. Indeed, they do not give you rest.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, SEPTEMBER 5, 2018



