

May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)
Acts 2:14a, 36-41
1 Pt 2:20b-25
In 10:1-10



## Matters of Life and Death

Sheep are a lot smarter than some people think. They recognize the voice of their particular shepherd and follow that voice alone. However, that is not the point of Jesus' teaching today. Because most of us don't raise sheep or know much about them, we don't realize that the situation described in the Gospel passage is a matter of life and death.

It's similar to the relationship between a military squad leader and the troops he leads, another lifeand-death matter. In both, unquestioning obedience is required, and absolute trust in the other is presumed.

That's what Jesus is describing. He's suggesting: "Listen to me. Follow my lead. Trust in me. I want only what is good for you, so I will be your sure protection."

It sounds so easy, as parables and metaphors usually do. What does it mean to follow this Shepherd? In the first reading, Peter announces the answer in one word: "Repent!" There is that challenging word—the word

we might associate with Lent, not with Easter. If we do so, we miss the point of following the Shepherd, for to follow him means to be like him. It means: "Repent! Stop taking advantage of other people. Open your minds and hearts to newcomers. Respect those who observe different religious traditions. Help those less fortunate than you." All of this is captured in the final words of the Gospel reading: do what you can so that all "might have life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Clearly, that's smart.

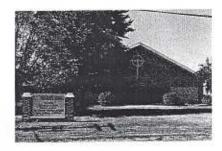
—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

## FOR Reflection

- \* On what path might the Shepherd be leading you?
- \* In what area is he calling you to repent?



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

#### Mass Schedule

Weekdays - Tuesday 12:15pm and Thursday - 8:30am Saturday Confessions - 3:15-3:45 PM or by appointment Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 PM Sunday Mass - 8:30 AM

## \*Pastor of the Three Churches

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

## \*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\*

All Events On Hold

Tuesday

## \*\*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 -Wednesday & Friday - 8:00AM Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:30 PM Sunday (Last Chance) Mass-5:30 PM

#### **Adoration Room**

Open Monday-Friday 8AM-8PM Saturday & Sunday -8AM Until After 5:30PM Mass

#### **Divine Mercy Prayers**

Every Friday 3:00PM

\*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\* All Events On Hold

## 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: www.facebook.com/ htspstm

## \*\*Upcoming Events At Church\*\*

All Events On Hold

## Daily Mass Intentions for

Masses the Week of May 4, 2020

www.bureaucatholic.org - 5:30pm Monday

\*\*www.bureaucatholic.org - 10:30AM

\*\*www.facebook.com/htspstm - 10:30AM Wednesday

\*\*www.bureaucatholic.org - 10:30AM Thursday \*\*www.facebook.com/htspstm - 10:30AM Friday

Offered For

† No Mass

† Norma Templeton

† Madelyn Hahn

† Dorothy Flaherty

† Purgatorial Society

## Next Weekend's Mass Intentions

Offered For Weekend of May 9-10, 2020

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 4:00PM Saturday:

† No Mass † No Mass

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† For The Parishioners

\*\*www.bureaucatholic.org - 10:30 AM Sunday: St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† No Mass † No Mass

## Last Sunday's Offering

\$0.00 Holy Trinity -

St. Patrick -\$0.00

St. Thomas More -\$0.00

#### Visit Venerable Fulton Sheen At Cathedral in Peoria

Monday - Friday 2pm - 2pm 3pm - 6pm Saturday 9am - 2pm Sunday \* \* Temporarily Closed \* \*

## Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

## Holy Trinity

LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - ?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

COUNTERS

Sunday - 8:30AM -

? 802?

## \*\*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 - Rosary - 6PM (On Website) (Rotates Between 3 Churches)

Friday's - Divine Mercy Chaplet - Suspended 3PM - St. Thomas More Adoration Chapel

Third Monday of the Month -

Mass for Reparation of Sins & Rosary -5:30PM (No Wednesday Rosary ThatWeek)

## Prayer In Times Of Pestilence (Coronavirus)

The Star of Heaven that nourished the Lord drove away the plague of death which the first parents of man brought into the world. May this bright Star now youchsafe to extinguish that foul constellation whose battles have slain the people with the wound of death.

O most pious Star of the Sea. preserve us from pestilence; Hear us, O Lady, for Thy Son honours Thee by denying Thee nothing. Save us, O Jesus, for whom Thy Virgin Mother supplicates Thee.

V: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God. R: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

O God of mercy, God of pity. God of benign clemency, Thou Who hast had compassion On the affliction of Thy people, and hast said to the angel striking them, "Stop thy hand:" For the love of this glorious Star, whose breasts Thou didst sweetly drink as antidote for our crimes, Grant the assistance of Thy grace, that we may be safely freed from all pestilence and from unprovided death; And mercifully save us from the gulf of eternal perdition: through Thee, Lord Jesus Christ, King of Glory, who livest and reignest, world without end. Amen.

## Please Note This Change In Church Office Hours During The Stay At Home Recommendation

Tuesday through Friday.

## Confessions

In continuing my plan to rotate the drive-up confessions between the three churches on Saturdays from 3 -3:45PM. This next Saturday's (5/2) confessions will in the St. Thomas More parking lot followed by St. Patrick's the following week.

I am getting antsy to see people sitting in the pews again. Just as you are probably anxious to sit in them again. Pray for God's help in ending this crisis! Blessings through His Resurrected Son Jesus Christ!

Fr. Pat Fixsen

## **End Times Conference** and Our Outlook

One of the challenging sights for me, and probably you, is going into the grocery store and finding so many empty shelves. Yet Jesus, in His messages, did say we would have a declining food supply and that we needed to make sure we would have an emergency food supply. And while it may not be as severe as it will be, we still need to be prepared!

This Wednesday, I am starting my conferences on "The End Times". It will be in three parts; the first part is on what do the scriptures tell us, the second part is what do we need to be aware of as to what is coming, and finally, what can we do to be prepared for all that is coming. I plan to begin the conference on Wednesday at 5:30PM followed by the rosary. The conferences themselves I will try to keep at one half hour each.

Jesus says we are in the last decade of the end times and He will return sometime after 2030. With what He has said is coming the population to the extent we have today will not be when He comes. So we need to pray like we have never before The church office will be prayed in our lives and live good, open from 9AM - 11AM on faithful lives! May God always be with Fr. Pat Fixsen us!

# Dear Padre,

## How will it happen that Jesus will come again and lead us "through the gates"?

We have it from the best of authorities that the date of the world's end is hidden. Jesus said, "But of that day and hour no one knows... but the Father alone" (Matthew 24:36). In spite of Christ's admonition that the day of his Second Coming is known but to God, there have been countless false prophets who have confidently but incorrectly predicted a date for the end of the world. Most of these foolish forecasters based their claims on misinterpretations of the Book of Revelation.

The main purpose of the Book of Revelation is to assure us that God's power will prevail. In the ongoing struggle between good and evil, there are times when evil seems to have the upper hand. No matter. Evil will be conquered and God's rule will extend over all creation.

The world might end tomorrow, or next year, or in five billion years. Jesus tells us we can't know for sure. We are sure, however, that this world will pass away. And for each one of us the world will end at the moment of death. What matters is that we should always be ready to meet Christ.

And we shall be ready if we follow Christ, our Shepherd, whom we meet in today's Gospel. Jesus leads us safely through this life by his teaching, his example, and his grace.

> —Fr. Oscar Lukefahr, CM Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org





## A WORD FROM Pope Francis

We should never forget: the Church is not a static reality, inert, an end in herself, but is on a continual journey through history, towards that ultimate and marvelous end that is the kingdom of heaven, of which the Church on earth is the seed and the beginning.

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, NOVEMBER 26, 2014

## Calendar

Monday MAY 4 Easter Weekday Acts 11:1–18

Tuesday MAY 5 Easter Weekday Acts 11:19–26 Jn 10:22–30

Jn 10:11-18

Wednesday MAY 6 Easter Weekday Acts 12:24—13:5a Jn 12:44–50

Thursday MAY 7 Easter Weekday Acts 13:13–25 Jn 13:16–20

Friday MAY 8 Easter Weekday Acts 13:26–33 Jn 14:1–6

Saturday MAY 9 Easter Weekday Acts 13:44–52 Jn 14:7–14

Sunday MAY 10 Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 6:1–7 1 Pt 2:4–9 Jn 14:1–12

