



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ✕ APRIL 21, 2024



- Sat. Apr. 20 **VIGIL-FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
4:00pm Bobby Jantz by Karen Jantz
- Sun. Apr 21 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
9:00am Stephen Smoyak by Lisa Smoyak  
10:30am Andrew Kelemen by Linda Kelemen
- Tues. Apr 23 **FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER**  
9:00am Bill Pullin by McCauley Family
- Thur. Apr 25 **SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST**  
9:00am Mary Maslowski by Mike and Jessie Koscelnak
- Sat. Apr. 27 **VIGIL-FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
4:00pm Henry and Mary Davis by Bruce and Diane
- Sun. Apr 28 **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
9:00am Genevieve Tierney by Tom and Grace Mielczarek  
10:30am Kelly Felins by Dan McCauley



*The Bread and Wine are  
donated this week  
in memory of Bobby Jantz  
by Karen Jantz.*



Parishioners who are sick and in need of prayers can be added to our prayer list by calling the parish office at 570-842-4995. Please pray for: Margaret Adamiac, Josephine Amato, Joanne Arredondo, Chelsey Bartro, Michael Bota, Rose Bremer, Reilly Canas, Tony Cannella, P.J. Cappola, Jane Colwell, Dennis Corbisiero, Jim Dantis, William Delahanty, Barbara Derrenbacher, Carole Dougherty, Linda & Bob Earthy, Dan Edwards, Lisa Fay, Mary Ann Flaherty, Kealy Ford, , Kyle Gemberling, Tyler Hanson, Pat Henes, Donald Hughes Marge Imperatrice, Jaime Jantz, Daria Killian, Mary Knowles, Betsy Kressler, Susie LaFave, Viviana Lewis, Donna Jean Marabella, Stephanie Martino, Roland Matthews, Alice McAfee, Ellie McCauley, Tim McGovern, Carol McKnight, Donald Migliorato, Richie Morrison, Paul Natoli, Tom Natoli, Judith Neelans, Neal Owings, Gioia Palmerio, Victor Panzella, Ben Pickarski, James Piloni, Ruth Piloni, Frank Quattrock, Jennifer Quinn, Howard Rife, Steve Rish, Anthony Romaro, Lisa Sarnicola, Michael Sawko, Mary Schaub, Beth Schuil, Larry Shock, Duane Sprovach, Millie Stoia, Luke Stricker, Jason Scott Taylor, Dana Thorne, Skyler Thorne, Jack Tizio, Thomas Tizio, Gregory Tobin, Pat Topar, Marivita Williams, Helen Zerbe, and all the sick of the Parish. **Please call the Parish Office if someone should be taken off the list.**



### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### First Reading: Acts 4:8-12

Peter explains to the elders that his healing of a cripple was done in the name of Jesus Christ. He reminds the elders that they crucified Jesus, but God rose him up so that all people could be saved in his name.

#### Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

John expresses amazement at the fact that God allowed us to be called his children. Although we are unsure exactly what we will be after this life, we do know that we will see God as he is and be like him.

#### Gospel: John 10:11-18

Jesus speaks of a shepherd working only for pay, with no real concern for the sheep being well cared for. But Jesus is our shepherd and would lay down his own life for all those in his flock. God loves him for his willingness to sacrifice himself for the sake of all God's children.

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#### Sunday

Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

#### Monday

Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10

#### Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

#### Wednesday

Acts 12:24—13:5a; Jn 12:44-50

#### Thursday

1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20

#### Friday

Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

#### Saturday

Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14



**Sacrificial Giving**

**WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

**God's Plan for Giving 04/14/24.**

<b>Sunday Offering</b>	<b>\$1413.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$ 353.00</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$ 173.00</b>
<b>Easter Offering</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>
	<b>\$1949.00</b>

**Diocesan:**

<b>Care &amp; Ed</b>	<b>\$ 40.00</b>
<b>Catholic Home Missions</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>
	<b>\$ 70.00</b>

**TOTAL: \$2019.00**

**Mass Attendance**

**Sat: 7:00PM---29**

**Sun: 9:00AM---44**

**10:30AM---44**



Easter Flowers donated in memory of: D/M Tobin & Coghill Families, D/M Jantz & Stetz Families, Julia & Douglas West, Douglas & Helen West, Robert & Rose West, John & Nora West,

Anna & Peter Crehan, MaryEllen McAfee, Conchetta & Charles Volpe, Emma & Robert Guidetti, Thomas Volpe, Paul Guidetti, Joseph & Marie Paolino, Wolodymyr & Catherine Baran, Joe Tierney, Jean Tierney, John & Eleanor Drykos, Karen Smoyak Hoffman, M/M Steve Smoyak, M/M Ron Scheiner, Deacon Neil & Dr. Shirley Smoyak, Marj Takkula, D/M Snyder & Tizio Families, Elden & Margie Nawrocki, Paul McCauley, Vincent Chiodo, D/M Tizio Family, D/M Chiodo Family, Robert Condran, D/M Manago Family, D/M Pohopin Family, Ann Caruso, Rose & Tom Collins Sr, Hazel & Chris Meyers, Tom Collins Jr, Herbert Meyers Jr, John Boruta, Antoinette Boruta, David Boruta, Elden & Margie Nawrocki, Alice Giordano, Marcia & Clinton Hegeman, Anthony Stigliano, Paul Ballard, Kim McAdams, Marie Albright, Mary Ann & Robert Lybarger, Marianne & Stephen Proch, Vince Doyle Jr. & Sr, Charles Hensel II, Edward Olechna



**Father Rawel's Corner**

**SACRIFICIAL LOVE**

The readings of the day demonstrate that Jesus Christ cares for us as a Shephard, not as a simple shepherd, but as a good shepherd who cares for his flock at the cost of his life. Jesus explains that he is the good Shephard who knows his sheep and will do anything to save them. This image reminds us that Jesus is intimately involved in our lives and that he knows us and loves us individually.

The good Shephard makes sacrifices for the sheep not because it's required but because it's a deliberate choice. Out of love, Jesus sacrificed his life for every one of us. His sacrificial love calls us to make a choice to love like Jesus. This reminds us of the dynamics of a healthy family life where parents choose to make sacrifices for their children out of love, not an Obligation. As loving parents, we can become good models and invite our children to choose to make a sacrifice for other family members and other people, acting out of love rather than obligation. Therefore, my dear friends, when we are presented with an opportunity to make an act of sacrificial love, let us not miss it. If we can't bring ourselves to make a sacrifice out of our weakness, we must know that He still loves us with all his heart. Let us pray to our good Shephard to help us face the consequences of outwardly love.

May our loving Jesus, the Good Shephard, help us understand the nature of sacrificial love and meaning of laying down one's own life for others. AMEN.

Have a blessed, Good Shephard Sunday.



*Please pray for the repose of the soul of Catherine Kimmel who died this week.*

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord*

*and let the Perpetual Light shine upon her.*

*And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in Peace. Amen*



***No Committees in Heaven***

***Msgr. Joseph P. Dooley***

When God was creating the animals, a group of angels remarked that it looked like fun, so God let them form a committee and create one animal.

The committee created the platypus—an animal with the bill of a duck, the fur of an otter, the tail of a beaver and the feet of a frog.

“Enough!” shouted God, and ever since then there have been no committees in heaven.



## Fourth Sunday of Easter

### First Reading

*Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12*

Peter announces an act of healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

### Second Reading

*1 John 3:1-2*

God revealed his love for us by calling us children of God.

### Gospel Reading

*John 10:11-18*

Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.

by Loyola Press

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life 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... This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.”

The beautiful image of the role of the shepherd: giving life, protecting life, feeding, and leading the flock. Jesus described Himself, but His work continues in the church today. As He speaks of knowing the Father, He also knows us and our needs as part of the flock. May we come to know the shepherd, appreciate His role, and follow Him as we walk our journey. He left ninety-nine in search of the one, and I may be that one.

### HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON  
THE SUNDAY READINGS

