Acts 4:8-12 / 1 John 3:1-2 / John 10:11-18



# Living with Our Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

e live with a maze of instincts—some from the dark side and some from the light. In her book *Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson describes how cultures tend to consign certain individuals to the bottom of the social ladder. She specifically compares the caste system in India with how the Nazis sought to suppress and eliminate Jews and with the way blacks were oppressed by slavery and even in our own time. She describes the instinct in every society to relegate others to a lower class, always seeking to ensure that we are not at the bottom. This instinct can come from the dark side of people.

There is also an instinct for goodness to others, an instinct of light—to recognize everyone as brothers and sisters. As Saint John notes, "we are God's children now"

(1 John 3:2). It is the voice of the Shepherd instilled in the human spirit that calls us into one fold, the voice of God urging us to healing goodness.

It is the dark side that nurtures white supremacy. It is the light that enables us to see beyond the color of our skin. It is the dark side that excludes those who seem different. It is the light that welcomes and offers hospitality. It is the dark side that succumbs to fear. It is the light of God's love that confronts the wolves of hate and urges us to follow. There is always tension between darkness and light.

#### Reflect-

How does the voice of the Good Shepherd call you to reject the dark and embrace the light?

## St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

Rev. Michael Pampara Pastor email: pamparas db@omail.com P D Box 309, Stapleton, NE 69163, email: abjcatholics@gmail.com

Parish Office 308-636-2421 : Secretary—Kristie Walz Cell 308-636-8399 : Father Michael Cell 308-660-5730 Website: www.abjcatholic.org - Facebook Page: St Agnes, St Boniface & St John the Evangelist

### Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)

### From Wayward Sheep to Good Shepherds

As a child, I always loved hearing about Jesus the Good Shepherd and seeing pictures of our Lord holding His staff in one hand, surrounded by a herd of fluffy sheep, and with one wayward sheep always curled around His shoulders. I was comforted by this image of Jesus, who loved all His sheep, even those who lost their way and took off in the wrong direction.

This parable offers a much deeper meaning to me now as an adult. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who laid down His life to help me - a sinner who is so prone to going astray. He suffered, died on the cross, and rose from the dead to lead me and all of God's children (His sheep) on the right path to heaven. He knows me by name and restores my soul with grace from the Sacraments. He safeguards my steps from the snares of the Evil One through the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit alive in the one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church. He sometimes allows me to make wrong turns, but because I know and love Him, I can trust that He is always right there, ready to bring me back into the fold.

Through the living waters of Baptism and the gift of the Holy Spirit, Christians are called and empowered to become like Jesus and be good shepherds, too. In His image, we must forgive those who are lost and do our part to bring them back into God's embrace. We must live our lives in joy and compassion for others – especially the poor, the downcast, and the lost – who most need God's mercy.

Trusting in the wise voice and directions of the Good Shepherd, we must never be afraid to speak God's truth and wisdom with love and grace to correct those who are astray and having trouble finding their way. As worthy shepherds, we must pray for courage to stay loyal to Christ, the Good Shepherd, in our every day thoughts, words, and actions, whether alone, with family, at work, at church, in politics, in science, or interacting with media.

### Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of April 22, 2024

Mon.	Apr	22	4:00 PM	SJ	No Daily Mass
Tues.	Apr	23	5:30 PM	SA	No Daily Mass
Wed.	Apr	24	6:15 PM	SJ	Children of the parish
Thurs.	Apr	25	5:30 PM	SB	No Daily Mass
Fri.	Apr	26	8:30 AM	SJ	No Daily Mass
Sun.	Apr	28	8:00 AM	SJ	Quincy & Bobbi Opela
Sun.	Apr	28	9:30 AM	SA	All Souls
Sun.	Apr	28	11:00 AM	SB	People of the Parish



Kristy Opela April 22nd Iris Anderson April 23rd Tristan Welch April 23rd Karla Pandorf April 26th Quinton Boeser April 26th

Ministry Schedule									
Date: April 28	St. Agnes	St. Boniface	St. John's						
Time	Sunday 9:30 AM	Sunday 11:00 AM	Sunday 8:00 AM						
Hospitality	Ann G.	Chancy & Roni B.	Kaman D. Family						
Lector	Ann G.	Carla K.	Toby K.						
Server		Dylan P. & Quinton B.	Kelsey A. & Gregory W.						
ЕМНС	Evan B. & Gary M.	Steve & Kristen B.	Jon & Molly W.						
Communion to shut ins or Music		Steve B.	Music: Robin G.						

Our Gifts to God & Church April 14, 2024

Total Collection: \$207.00 Knight's Fish Fry \$877.50

<u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Dollar Goal = \$4014/so far \$2935

Donor Goal: 9 out of 16 Thrift Store
Open May 3rd from 9AM to 4PM

Needed: Mass Intentions

for St Agnes. Reconciliation Service April 21st starting at 12:30 PM

Mother's Day Breakfast served by the Knights following mass May 5th.

with Fr Loren. Everyone is welcome.

## St. Boniface

Our Gifts to God & Church April 14, 2024

> Total Collection: \$2293.00

Diocesan Appeal Dollar Goal =\$7306/ so far \$7330 Donor Goal: 16 out of 19 The dollar goal is REACHED

This Week The last CCD will be April 24th.

We will have the meal at 6:10 PM and some fun activities to follow

Thanks to all that help in anyway.

# St. John's

April 14, 2024 Total Collection: \$2774.50 Knight's Fish Fry \$877.50

Our Gifts to God & Church

Diocesan Appeal Dollar Goal=\$5001/so far \$5020 Donor Goal: 15 out of 17

The dollar goal is REACHED! This Week

April 24 last CCD class. There will be mass at 6:15 PM. then meal and games.

Families are invited Please RSVP to Jenny by April 21st so she can plan the food.

## Quotes for Today

Blessed Teresa Maria of the Cross (1846-1910) Feast day April 23

"God makes saints with a chisel, not a paintbrush."

CATHOLIC RADIO NETWORK

In cooperation with Jeff Cavins and Ascension Press, Spirit Catholic Radio brings you The Great Adventure - Your Journey

Through the Bible. Learn how the people, places, and events of the Bible all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. Tune in on your own, with a spouse, or if possible, gather your bible study group during these times. Upcoming schedule: The Bible Timeline begins April 16, 2024, airing on Tuesdays at 11am and replays at 8 pm. Matthew begins April 25, 2024, airing on Thursdays at 11am and replays at 8 pm. Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life begins May 11, airing on Saturday at 7am and replays Sunday at 8pm. Discount on materials also available! More details at spiritcatholic adio.com/adventure

# Dear Padre.

My son was raised Catholic and still claims he is Catholic, but he and his wife go to a Protestant church. How should I deal with my frustration?

Many parents and grandparents today share your frustration. They raised their children Catholic, maybe even sent them to Catholic schools, but the children have grown up and chosen not to continue to be faithful Catholics. A recent survey showed that nine out of ten people say they believe in God, but often they are not committed to a single religion or house of worship. About



half of the people questioned attend religious services less than once a month, or never. The loyalty to one Church that was evident in our own lives, or in our parents' and grandparents' lives, is lacking in today's people under age fifty-five.

What can one do about this situation? Certainly pray for your children and continue to give a good example through your own loyalty to the Catholic Church and attendance at Sunday Mass. Invite your son and his wife to attend with you when they visit. As your children age, they may become more interested in your family's history and traditions, and the religion of their childhood may again appear attractive. Try to be patient and continue to pray that your children will return to the Church of their roots.

#### The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Mark,	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fifth Sunday
Acts 11:1-18	Acts 11:19-26	Acts 12:24-	Evangelist	Acts 13:26-33	Acts 13:44-52	of Easter
Jn 10:1-10	Jn 10:22-30	13:5a	1 Pt 5:5b-14	Jn 14:1-6	Jn 14:7-14	Acts 9:26-31
		Jn 12:44-50	Mk 16:15-20			1 Jn 3:18-24
						Jn 15:1-8



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone.... He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God....The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 25, 2021

ZVONIMIR ATLETIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

#### Timely Topics Viewed with a Catholic Perspective

Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liquori.org or call 800-325-9521.



© 2024 Ligueri Publications, Ligueri, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. Imprimetur: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on May 16, 2023, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituse, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing centrary to Church teaching is centained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the options expressed in the publication; nor is any Uability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the New American Bible, revised edition © 2010, 1991, A Redemphariat Alliminty 1986, 1970 Conflicternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved, Download our lateix catalog, visit Liquori.org or call 800-325-9521.