

APRIL 25, 2021  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

We are never alone because Jesus is our Good Shepherd. This 4th Sunday of Easter is called The Good Shepherd Sunday.

The image of Christ as the Good shepherd is a lovely image and is deeply rooted in The Sacred Scriptures. Besides, it is one of the images Christ used to describe himself, as in The Gospel of today.

In The First Reading, St. Peter reminds us that there is no salvation except through Jesus alone. Both in the second reading and in the Gospel, we are reminded of two important truths of our faith-that we are the children of God and that Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

As sheep we are weak, but Jesus our Shepherd is strong. As sheep we are defenseless, but Jesus our Shepherd is our protection. As sheep we cannot succeed on our own, but Jesus is with us as the Good Shepherd to give us the guidance and strength to succeed in this life and reach the pastures of eternal life.

It is vital for us to recognize that we cannot do this on our own – we need Jesus! In the first reading, Saint Peter tells us that there is no salvation through anyone else other than Jesus. We cannot save ourselves, we cannot find salvation somewhere else or through anyone else. But we don't have to. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life freely, offering it up for you and me that we might have life and salvation in and through him.

May each of us choose to follow the words of our psalmist today: 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. Jesus is the only one who can save us, and he chooses to lay down his life for us. We do not have to earn it or merit it, we simply have to choose to follow him. Even in my weakness and my helplessness, Jesus loves me, for he is my Good Shepherd.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM      10:00 AM

**ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>April 24</b>
5:00 PM	Mass:
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 25</b>
8:00 AM	Mass:
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Teresa Mary Lorain Adamo (RIP)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>April 26</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: For the Healing of Bill Sabourin
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>April 28</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass:
<b>Friday</b>	<b>April 30</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Mass: Erika Fusco (RIP)
10:00 AM	Mass: Fr. Raymond Luft (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING  
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

## Catechism Program

Peace and grace! That's how St. Paul began many of his letters- "peace and grace." It was his way of saying, "I hope all is well with you and those you love." This hope isn't a mere wish. It's a prayer that you experience the peace which comes from knowing God loves you with no strings attached, no matter what life hands us.

The Covid crisis us caught us unprepared. We canceled our catechism classes and didn't replace them with online classes. Partly because we knew that families were juggling enough stuff with "school at home." And partly because we weren't prepared offer a meaningful alternative.

We're now ready to start a renewed catechism program. There is a plan; but we need your input to make sure what we offer is what you need to help strengthen your family's faith.

We had two zoom meetings last week and received some valuable feedback. If you didn't get a chance to join us on zoom, please still fill out the online survey. Thank you!

## Calendar Raffle

Each day in May, a drawing will be done to select a lucky winner of that day's prize. **31 prizes – 31 chances to win!** Calendars are on sale now until the end of April. **\$10 each.** No limit how many calendars you can purchase.

## St. Paul's Lancaster Show Trip

We are planning a motorcoach bus trip to Lancaster to see the show "Queen Esther" at Sight and Sound Millenium Theatre. The trip will be October 12—14. It is 3days / 2 night for \$305. Flyers are available in the entrance with more information.

We need 30 people for this pricing. Due to Covid- all passengers will have to sign a Covid-19 Waiver of Liability and provide a copy of your Covid-19 Vaccination Record Card (Front and back) showing you have been vaccinated at least 15 days prior to the departure date of the trip. Trip insurance is available as well. Contact Brenda Knox for more info at Bren1a0602@gmail.com

## Healing Mass for the Loss of a Child

The Respect Life Ministry at Saint Philip Church will be hosting a Healing Mass for pregnancy and infant loss. We invite parents, grandparents, siblings and family who grieve the loss of children from the causes of miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion and early infant death. The Mass will be celebrated by Father Phillip Dufour on **Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 6 PM at Saint Philip Parish, 622 Putnam Pike, Greenville, RI 02828.** Social distancing and mask wearing will be observed. For more information contact Ashley Codding at 401-533-3455.

## 2021 Catholic Charity Appeal

The CCA is underway in our parish. Because of the pandemic, our parish goal was reduced to \$15,000 for this year. To date, we have \$6,895 so far. Your tax deductible gift helps thousands of people in need every year. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to support the 2021 Appeal to the best of your ability. Thank you.

## Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details below.

### Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at [stpaulsfoster.org](http://stpaulsfoster.org), and click the "Donate Now" button.

## Food Closet Ministry

is month we are in need of **Toiletries: Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deoderant.** The Food Closet is open every other Saturday morning 9:30- 11 AM.

### GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - April 17/18  
\$ 2,198.00

Thank you for your support!

## Living the Liturgy

### Inspiration for the week

The cornerstone is the first stone that is laid and the stone that not only determines how the other stones are placed but the position of the entire structure. As human beings, we need a cornerstone or reference point so that our lives can be properly placed and positioned. Our cornerstone determines not only how we see ourselves but who we will become. Without a cornerstone or reference point, we will be disconnected, disoriented, and poorly positioned for effective action in our world. In order to be the children of God we are, Jesus Christ needs to be our cornerstone and the reference point for all that we do. He alone is the Good Shepherd who can guide through life's questions and challenges, bringing us to proper pasture. Without this proper base, we can easily fall into the trap of self-aggrandizement and quickly lose our way. If that happens, then moral principles, proper conduct, justice, wisdom, and virtue will be difficult to find. We need to listen to the right voices and allow God to show us how to build our house well. Salvation only comes from God and only God will protect us, no matter the cost.

## KIDS CORNER

### Sharing the Gospel

Without a good shepherd to lead them, sheep would get lost. Without a good shepherd to protect them, sheep would get hurt. A good shepherd would even die, just to keep his sheep safe. Jesus is your good shepherd, and you are his precious little lamb. When you get lost, Jesus comes to find you. When you are in danger, Jesus comes to comfort you. Listen to the voice of Jesus. Spend time reading the bible every day. He wants to lead you to life with God. He wants to protect you from sin. Jesus gave up his life just to save you. Jesus is your good shepherd.

### Prayer

God, help me to always follow Jesus, my good shepherd.

### Mission for the Week

Learn as much as you can about Jesus, so you can follow him. Read a bible story with your family every night before bed.