

May 11, 2025: 4th Sunday of Easter- Vocation Sunday

Background on the Gospel Reading

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel is taken from the tenth chapter of the Gospel of John. This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge to his authority by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders. Already, the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angered that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see [John 10:31](#) and [10:39](#)). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

Set in a moment of tension and conflict in John's Gospel, today's Gospel reading is Jesus' answer to the question, “Are you the Messiah?” Jesus responds by saying, in essence, “If you have to ask, then you are not one of my sheep.” Then Jesus asserts his unity with the Father. At the conclusion of these words, John reports that the Jews intend to stone Jesus for blasphemy, but he escapes arrest.

We may be less familiar with the metaphors of sheep and shepherd than those to whom Jesus spoke. The image of Jesus as Good Shepherd and the community of followers as his sheep has endured over the centuries as a primary image in our faith tradition. Its power to describe the relationship between Jesus and his followers transcends direct experience with sheep. The image speaks to us about the protection, security, and care that shepherds represent for their sheep.

Today's Gospel speaks powerfully about the familiarity and intimacy between Jesus and his disciples, expressed as recognizing and knowing another's voice. Today's Gospel also speaks to the relationship between Jesus and the Father. In the Gospel of John, Jesus identifies so closely with the Father that he tells us that they are one—not just close, but actually one. To know Jesus is to know the Father. Jesus doesn't just bring us closer to the Father, Jesus puts us directly into contact with God the Father, removing all distance between us. Our relationship with Jesus is an invitation to share in the life of God.

May 11th, 2025
4th Sunday of Easter
Vocation Sunday

Sacred Heart Parish
A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Fr. Lee Lainey

Office Administrator: Roseann Janes

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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Note: include your envelope #

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am.

Weekday Mass: Tuesday to Friday 10a.m.

Daily mass is cancelled & Office Closed any day schools are closed due to bad weather.
Lohnes Complex* First Friday of each month - 2 pm Only - No morning mass.
Bible Study: To be determined at a later date.
Holy Hour of Adoration: Postponed until further notice.
Reconciliation: By request.
Marriages: Six months’ notice required. A year’s notice is recommended.
Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.
Family Connections: At www.rcchurch.com you will find a link to family connections.
St. Vincent de Paul: To assist those in need. Call 709-638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS May 4 - 5

Regular Sunday	2220.00
Loose Offering	101.40
Building Fund	215.00
Lenten Folders	50.00
Votive Candles	23.35
Mass Stipends	50.00
Baptism	50.00
Development & Peace	15.00
Good Friday	45.00
Ecclesiastical Students	50.00
Pope's Pastoral Works	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS May 13 - 18

May 13	Special Intention: Joseph Power
May 14	The Late Gary Seaward
May 15	The Late Alexis Dunphy
May 16	The Late Mary E. Sooley
May 17	The Late Bill Brake
May 18	The Late Michael Mullins

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

May 17 – Saturday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Lynette Taylor	Joan Penney
May 18 – Sunday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Mike Leonard	Anna House
Communion to the Sick: Joan Penney	

SACREMENTAL PREPARATION:

Sacramental Preparation will commence in September. Registration forms are now available at the back of the church or you can contact Julia Myles-Hackett at juliahackettmyles@gmail.com

MOTHER'S DAY:

Today, we remember, with gratitude, our mothers and all who have shown us a mother's love. Through their love and sacrifice, they have played such a big role in seeing us on our way.

We also remember those who have gone before us that they may know eternal happiness in the Kingdom of God. Happy Mothers' Day.

THE ROOF FUND In Memory PLAQUE:

Please contact Tony Griffin at 709-632-5755 to re-confirm your names and the name of the person you want on the plaque.

SSVP ACTIVITY REPORT:

Furniture: From April 1-30, we picked up 31 furniture donations and made 30 furniture deliveries. 11 mattresses, 7 boxsprings, 13 dressers, 6 loveseats, 5 kitchen tables and 20 kitchen chairs were delivered, among many other items. Of the 30 deliveries, nine were to households of New Canadians, from India, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Nigeria and Ghana. Storage cleanup, furniture repair, and other tasks were also completed during the month. Appreciation goes out to everyone who donated items and to SSVP members and friends for contributing a total of 90 volunteer hours during the month.

Mary's Kitchen: A variety of delicious meals were served during April, with an average of 25 people attending each week. Our total volunteer hours amounted to 110. Many thanks to Immaculate Heart of Mary staff and students who helped out during the month. Gratitude, as always, is expressed for your ongoing volunteer and financial support, especially during the Poor Box Collection.

MOTHER'S DAY MASS:

The Late Sarah Rose Brake and all mothers of the Brake family.

REGISTER EARLY FOR THE PILGRIMAGE:

OUR LADY OF LORDES PARISH GROTTO:

This year in July 2025 we will be having a pilgrimage, and it will start at 8am from Sacred Heart Parish Church to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Grotto on the Port au Port Peninsula. Rosary will be held in the Grotto weather permitting, followed by Mass inside the Church. Lunch will be held in the Parish Centre and a donation for the upkeep of the grotto will be gladly accepted.

To Register: There is a registration form in the back of the church, or you can call Elizabeth Carew at 709-785-5094.

Once we have a total number of participants, we will be able to figure out the cost to each of us for renting a bus, as this is about a 2 hour drive each way, instead of carpooling.

NATIONAL FAMILY & LIFE WEEK

Sunday, May 11 – May 18, 2025:

The Catholic faithful across Canada are invited and warmly encouraged to celebrate National Family and Life Week 2025 (NFLW) from Sunday, 11 May to Sunday, 18 May 2025. This annual event is an initiative of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, in collaboration with its Standing Committee for Family and Life, and the corresponding Office. In the context of the Jubilee Year of Hope, the theme of this year's NFLW is "**Abound in Hope**" inspired by Saint Paul's letter to the Romans: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13).

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY TO ALL

SUNDAY MASS, May 11, 2025:

There **will be no** coffee/snack service after mass this Sunday due to Mothers Day.

GIFT CARD TREE:

Special thank you to Joan Penney and Veronica Stone for distributing tickets at the Church over the past two weekends. It was so very much appreciated.

This weekend please place your tickets in the collection plate or return to the office. No one will be on hand to collect them personally.

Remember to put your name on the envelope along with the dollar amount.

We now have some locations around town to sell them, if you are available, please contact the office.

Reflection:

The vocation to love

The deepest wound of all is that which affects the heart: the feeling that one has not been loved, that one is not precious to anyone. Many people today are wounded at heart. Each of us can do something to heal their wounds.

We have hands that can make things, and minds that can understand things. But above all we have hearts that can give life. We are not sterile people.

We can give life to people who are inwardly broken.

We can show them that they are important, and so bring life to them.

Today, Good Shepherd Sunday, is also vocations Sunday

But all vocations are vocations to love.