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St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118): The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

St. Joseph The Worker News:

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

Praying with Pope Francis April: *For the role of women: We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.*

Mass Intentions For This Week:

4th Sunday of Easter

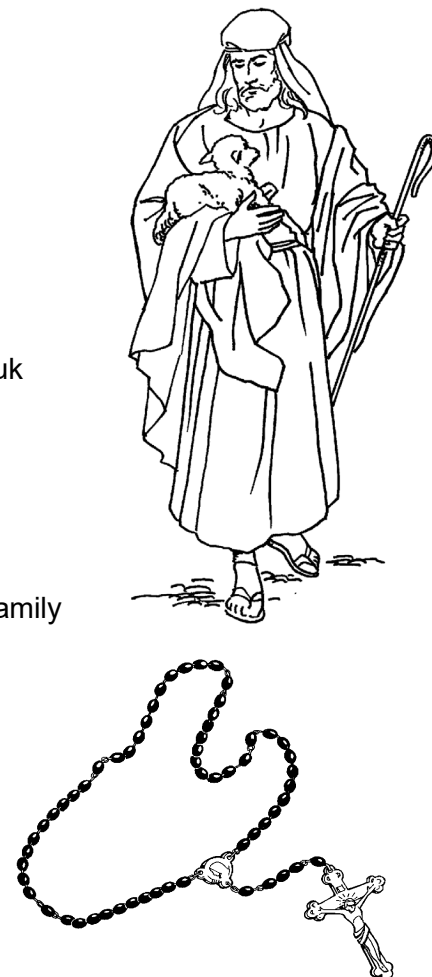
- Saturday Apr 20 11:00 a.m. Russell Funeral for Anne Gallant
7:30 p.m. Russell + Jutta & Erich Leven req. by Michelle & Curtis & family
- Sunday Apr 21 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am**
For all parishioners by Father Paul
11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Wendy req by David & family
- Monday Apr 22 Health of family & friends req. by Jean Goba
- Tuesday Apr 23 + David Vermette from Funeral offering
7:00 p.m. – **Parish Council Meeting**
- Wed Apr 24 Fr Paul req by Jean Goba
- Thurs Apr 25 10:30 Rossburn Adoration
11:00 a.m. Stefania Kaftan req by Vince Kaskiw
- Friday Apr 26 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration
9:00 a.m. Mass Health of Fr Paul req by Florence & Walter Shwaluk

5th Sunday of Easter

- Saturday Apr 27 7:30 p.m. Russell + Phyllis Keller req by Frank & Family
- Sunday Apr 28 9:00 a.m. Russell **Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. & YouTube after 10:15 am**
For all parishioners by Father Paul
11:00 a.m. Rossburn + John Ryshytylo req by Allie Macdenski & family

Marian Month: For the Marian Month the CWL will lead the Rosary on Mother's Day May 12th. **Please come early to join them as they will start it at 8:40 a.m.**

Congratulations to Shane Bandola and to his parents Jayson & Jean Bandola! Shane was baptized on April 6th at St. Joseph The Worker Russell Parish.



Coffee Sunday is next Sunday, April 28th after 9 am Mass and *everyone is invited! **Please note...*** If you haven't already done so and would like to be added to a group, please contact Brenda Robin at 204-564-2646 or cell 204-937-0270. Louise Trinder's group will be busy in the church kitchen downstairs next Sunday handing out the coffee and juice and providing us with some delicious goodies! Coffee Sunday is part of the Ministry of Hospitality, a time to gather together, greet one another and visit after Mass while enjoying coffee and snacks. **We hope to see you there!**

World Day of Prayer for Vocations - April 21, 2024

Office of Vocations - The World Day of Prayer for Vocations is observed each year on the Fourth Sunday of Easter also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (cf. Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Anne Gallant whose funeral was held yesterday, April 20th at St. Joseph The Worker Parish in Russell.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Jack Mann whose funeral was held April 15th at Rossburn.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Stanley Korowski whose graveside service was held on April 20th

The Good Shepherd in the New Testament: Introducing himself as the Good Shepherd of his flock, Jesus makes five claims in today's Gospel:

- 1) He knows his sheep and his sheep hear his voice: Just as the Palestinian shepherds knew each sheep of their flock by name, and each sheep knew its shepherd and his voice, so Jesus knows each one of us, our needs, our merits, and our faults. Of course, the knowledge talked of here is not mere intellectual knowing but the knowledge that comes from love and experience, and leads one to express care and concern for all others. Jesus loves us as we are, with all our limitations, and he expects us to receive and return his love by keeping his word. He speaks to us at every Mass, through the Bible, through our pastors, through our parents, family, and friends, and through the events of our lives. "God whispers to us in our pleasures, He speaks to us in our consciences, and He SHOUTS in our pains; it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world!" (C.S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain, Ch. 6 "Human Pain").
- 2) He gives eternal life to his sheep by receiving us into his sheepfold through Baptism. Jesus also strengthens our Faith by giving us the Holy Spirit in Confirmation, supplies food for our souls in the Holy Eucharist and the Divine words of the Holy Bible, and he makes our society holy by the Sacraments of Matrimony and the Priesthood.
- 3) He protects his sheep by placing them in the loving hands of his Almighty Father. Without Him to guide us and protect us, we are easy prey for the spiritual wolves of this world: that includes Satan, as well as the seven deadly sins of pride, avarice, envy, gluttony, anger, lust and sloth.
- 4) He goes in search of his stray lambs and heals his sick ones. In the first part of chapter ten of John's Gospel, Jesus adds two more roles to the work of the good shepherd. Jesus heals the wounds of our souls by the Sacrament of Reconciliation and strengthens us in illness and old age by the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.
- 5) Jesus dies for his sheep: Just as the shepherds of ancient days protected their sheep from wild animals and thieves by risking their own lives and even dying, so Jesus suffered and died in expiation for the sins of all people.

In the final part of today's Gospel, Jesus invites those who are touched and saved by the love of the Shepherd, to shepherd and care for others. "There are other sheep that are not of this fold and these I have to lead as well." Though Jesus cares for his own, he loves all of us and takes responsibility for all of us without exception, for God has created all of us and loves us all. Jesus ultimately dies because he cares for all peoples.

"The other sheep." Jesus' reference to other sheep and to one flock (v. 16) points to the universality and unity of the community of believers. By "the other sheep" Jesus probably meant the poor, the tax collectors and sinners who were generally ostracized by society. Like the Jews, the earliest Church considered the Gentiles and unbelievers as the "other sheep"; that error ended while Peter was still living, and Paul combatted it throughout his ministry to the Gentiles. We are now being challenged to recognize our own list of those whom we fear or scorn because their attitudes or behaviors differ from ours. Let us pray for the day when there will be "one flock, one Shepherd," both in this world and in our own hearts.

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. ●



PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

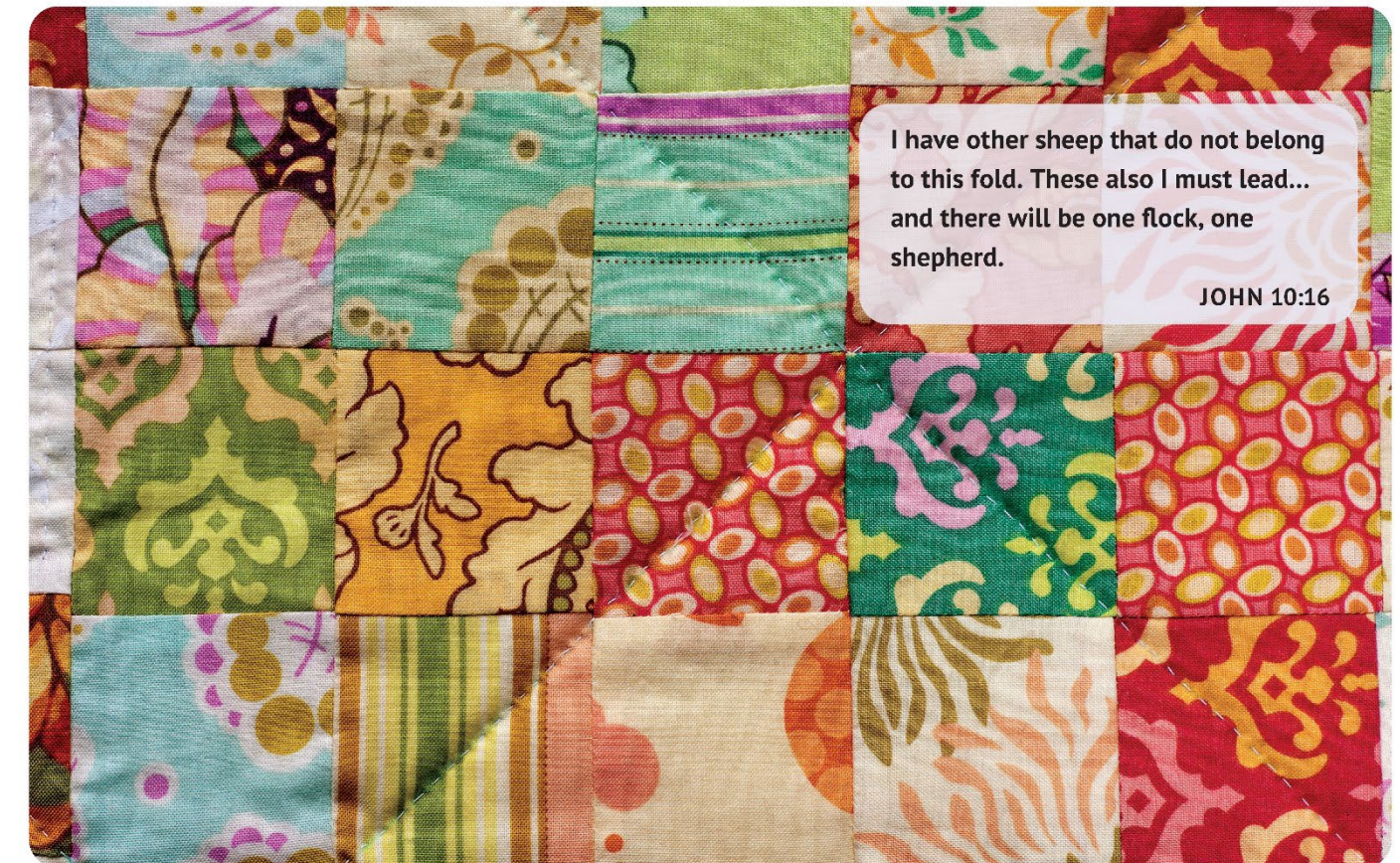
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Mark, Evangelist	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10	Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30	Acts 12:24-13:5a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

Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)

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



I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead... and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

JOHN 10:16

Living with Our Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We 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?



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

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