



Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2020

He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross,
so that, free from sin,
we might live for righteousness.

— 1 Peter 2:24a

IN NEED OF A SHEPHERD

For a while it was very fashionable to own pigs as pets. The publicity surrounding these creatures informed us that they were—contrary to their popular image—very clean animals, and also quite smart. Sad to say, sheep will most likely never enjoy this sort of domestic vogue. They are neither clean nor smart and are largely defenseless when left on their own, even in large numbers. The biblical image of us as the flock of sheep is not a particularly flattering one. Sheep without a shepherd are truly sad, because they most likely will perish either from their inability to fend for themselves or from their lack of defenses against predators. Placing ourselves in the heart of this unflattering image can reinforce our faith. Until we come to a profound realization of how much we need a shepherd, we cannot appreciate how deeply blessed we are to have been given a Shepherd, one who laid down his life for us and was raised to life eternal in the Spirit, so he might guide us and we might follow him in faith forever.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Especially during the Easter season, we are very conscious of the communal nature of baptism. We stand witness to the baptism of adults at the Easter Vigil in many parishes, and countless parishes celebrate festive baptisms for infants. The rule for celebrating baptism is that it be only once a day in any parish church, a sign of the Church's desire that baptism be the work of the gathered community. "Private baptism" is therefore a misnomer, since all baptisms, even emergency baptisms for infants in danger of death, are a public act of entrance in to the Body of Christ, the Church.

In an emergency, and providing the parents desire it, anyone can baptize by pouring water and saying, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." But then afterward the Church is encouraged to supply what is missing: the gathered assembly to proclaim and hear God's word, the promises, the naming, the anointings, the clothing with a white garment, the candle, the Lord's Prayer, and the solemn blessing of the parents at the altar. Wonderfully, this ritual often provides the opportunity for great rejoicing at the recovery of an infant who had been in danger.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All peoples called by God will receive the gift of the Spirit if they repent and are baptized (Acts 2:14a, 36-41).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — Once we were like straying sheep; but now we have been returned to the shepherd, our guardian (1 Peter 2:20b-25).

Gospel — The shepherd leads the sheep out into pastures of abundant life (John

There has been numerous requests on how to sign up for the CDOM family emails being sent out. This is how to do so. There is a link on the <https://cdom.org/> website under the Stay Connected located at the bottom of the page. There you will find an envelope to click on that will direct them to our Constant Contact page. You will need to enter some basic information and then select which lists you want to join. The main one is the Bishop's E-mail.

Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,
Emanuel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,
Louis Humble Sr. , Joy Williams,
Martha Jo Neuenschwander , Mary
Taylor

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3;
43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7;
Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a;
Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3,
21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6
-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4;
Jn 14:7-14

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2,
4-5, 18-19;

Office will be open Monday and Wednesday
from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Offertory 4/262020
BUDGET \$1351.00
ACTUAL \$700.00..00

Annual Catholic Appeal

Our Goal is **\$5,000** and 100% Participation of
our 34 registered Families

58.82 % Participation

\$3995.00 Pledged

COUNTING SHEEP

When at night you cannot sleep, talk
to the Shepherd and stop counting

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

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