

Bulletin Letter 4-25-21 Fourth Easter Cycle B

***From the Pastor:***

Today we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday and we recall Jesus' promise to protect us from harm, to rescue us when we stray, and to guide us home at the end of the day. We should be reminded of today's Psalm, the Twenty-Third, which offers us the consoling wisdom that the Lord is our shepherd indeed. While we all might have concerns and worries, I pray that we all might find comfort in knowing that our Good Shepherd is always with us, giving us comfort, protection, guidance, and - most importantly - salvation.

Good Shepherd Sunday is also the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. Please pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, vowed religious life, and for lay vocations as well. People often ask me why there are so few priests. I respond by asking them if they ever asked a young man if he considered priesthood or encouraged a young man to consider priesthood. This is especially important for families with sons. Vocations are often nurtured at the home level. So parents and grandparents, don't be afraid to ask your young men.

This weekend we celebrated **First Reconciliation** for the children of Immaculate Conception and next Saturday we will do the same for St. Joseph's and Our Lady of Grace. The First Eucharist celebrations will follow on May 8 and May 15. What joy it is to see our young ones grow in love of Christ as they come to the table of the Lord! I am so thankful to their parents and our catechists for shepherding them all on their journey of faith!

Until next week, be well, do good deeds, and say your prayers.

***Fr. Jerry***

<p><b><i>Our Prayer: Loving God, be present to us and grant us wisdom, so that we, who may feel anxious about change, might trust in Your love and rest in the Changelessness that is You.</i></b></p>
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