

SACRED HEART AND SAINT JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

With great authority, Peter proclaims to the people that the Christ who was crucified is indeed the Messiah.

Urging them to reform and be baptized in the name of Christ, three thousand responded to his words and were baptized.



Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25

This is a strong exhortation from Peter to the people to endure suffering for Christ as he did for them. Healed by his wounds, they have “returned to the shepherd.”

Gospel: John 10:1-10

Christ uses the beautiful image of the shepherd to describe his care for his sheep. He also says he is the sheepgate and promises that “Whoever enters through me will be safe.”



For the Week of May 3rd through May 10th

Sunday

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

Monday

Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday

Acts 12:24—13:5a; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday

Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

Friday

Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday

Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.



REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH: Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish: *John Troffo, Valerie Lindyberg, Patricia Dana, Angela Wilmer, Faith King, Eugenia Brooks, Alicia Bourne, Tom Blum, Betty Ann Strong, Joseph William, Benjamin Ellingsworth and all those whose names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS.*

MAY THE ANGELS LEAD THEM INTO PARADISE:

Please remember in your prayers Eloise Ewing, and our deceased parishioners, loved ones, and benefactors. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: It is possible to make your weekly financial commitment to the Parish using Electronic Funds Transfer. We are encouraging everyone to consider using this contribution method. Contact Mary Jo Frohlich with any questions at 410-778-3160, or mfrohlich@sacredparish.org. Sign up forms are available at the doors of the Church.

FLOCK NOTES: Do you want to know what's going on in our parish?? Sign up for Flocknotes. It's easy. You can choose what info you would like to receive – via email or text message and you can unsubscribe at any time. There are two easy ways to connect:



- *Visit flocknote.com/SHParish on your computer
- OR
- *Text SHPARISH508 to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.

SUNDAY LITURGIES:

Sunday liturgies will be streamed on Facebook at 10:00 each Sunday morning. Please go to <https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartforyou/>.

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program

Bringing the Gospel Home

Fourth Sunday of Easter – John 10:1-10

Reflection for Parents

Imagine your child wandering off in a crowd of strangers - perhaps at an amusement park or a shopping mall. After an anxious period of separation, your child hears your voice above all the others calling out his or her name. The relief and joy your child would feel is the same emotion Jesus promises us when we follow his voice. The thieves that separate us from our children are not necessarily people. Sometimes we allow thieves of busyness, work priorities or even social engagements to steal control of our lives. This Gospel reminds us it is better to listen to the trusted voice of the Good Shepherd.

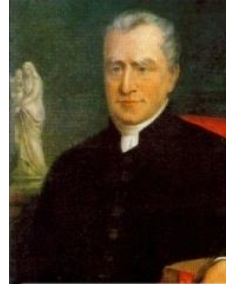
Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Think of a person or group of people your family knows who needs to be "shepherded" (or cared for). Decide on an action you can all do together to help this person. When you have completed the service, talk over with one another how your family's "shepherding" was similar to the shepherding Jesus talked about in today's Gospel. Consider whether or not your service shepherded your own family as well.

Discussion Starters

1. I know Jesus cares for me because . . .
2. As a family we shepherd one another by . . .
3. Some thieves in my life are . . .

MAY SAINTS



EDMUND RICE – MAY 5

Can you imagine what it would be like if it were a crime for children to go school? That was the law in Ireland when Edmund Rice, who was born in 1762, grew up. The people of Ireland were harshly ruled at that time by the British, who believed that if the Irish were uneducated, they would be easier to rule.

Edmund's parents wanted their seven sons to have a good education. They hired a religious brother from Australia to teach them in secret.

When he was 18, Edmund began working with his uncle, a wealthy businessman in Waterford. Edmund traded livestock and supervised the loading of ships with supplies for British colonies around the globe. When his uncle died, Edmund took over the business.

Edmund fell in love with Mary Elliott and they were married. They were expecting their first child when Mary was killed in an accident. Their baby was born with special needs and required life-long care.

Edmund turned to God for help, support, and direction. It would have been so easy to be angry at the problems in his life, but he did not let that happen. Instead, he attended daily Mass, read the Scriptures, and helped people in need in his village.

One day, Edmund was walking with his bishop and noticed a group of poor boys playing in the street. The bishop asked Edmund if he was going to leave these boys abandoned. That was a new beginning of a new life for Edmund! He sold his business in 1802 and opened a school for poor boys in a converted stable. His stepsister cared for his daughter during the day while he was busy at the school.

Soon, other men who were interested in the Catholic education of young men joined Edmund in his ministry. With the encouragement of the bishop, Edmund founded two religious communities: the Congregation of Christian Brothers and the Irish Christian Brothers. These men, devoted to spreading the Catholic faith and the education of young people, continue their work today in Ireland, England, Africa, South America, and Australia. The first Christian Brothers came to the United States in 1906 and opened their first school in New York City in 1909.



PARISH NEWS

Offertory – Week Ending 4/26/20 Week 44

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John’s are made possible. “Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold.”

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 04/26 Wk. 44	\$3,323	\$894	\$6,635	-\$2,418
YTD Wk. 44	\$197,518	\$79,389	\$291,940	-\$15,033

FROM THE DESK OF OUR BUSINESS MANAGER

I am truly grateful for your kindness and generosity. It is so evident in your response to our parish family, our neighbors and our financial wellbeing. Thank you.

Our parish has taken cost cutting measures but we still need to pay for basic utilities: electricity, water/sewer, phone, internet, etc., insurance, building and maintenance issues, salaries (unfortunately, we have had to lay off our organists and cut hours for some employees), and other essential concerns. Our office has been working diligently to secure federal and state initiatives to defray costs due to COVID-19. Hopefully, we will receive some funding.

Please pray for our parish and know that you are in our prayers. Keep safe, well and upbeat! We are in this together.
Mary Jo Frohlich, Business Manager.

NEED LEGAL HELP: During the COVID-19 emergency, Mid-Shore Pro Bono is taking clients and placing cases. Even though the courts are physically closed, the legal system hasn’t stopped. Cases can still be filed and low-income individuals needing legal assistance with family law, elder law, consumer debt, landlord/tenant, bankruptcy, and immigration can get free legal help through local volunteer attorneys. Call Mid-Shore Pro Bono at 410-690-8128 to schedule a consultation or complete an online intake at www.midshoreprobono.org. To reach a staff member about Family Law matters call 443-496-5011. To reach a staff member about Elder Law matters call 410-200-5027. Habla español? Llama por teléfono 443-998-9425.



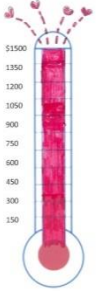
Thank you to all who have donated for Rise Against Hunger. **Despite these difficult times, generous donations have continued to be made and we have reached and surpassed the**

Sacred Heart Parish goal to raise \$1500 to help cover the cost of the Meal Packaging Event, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2020. A total of \$2007 was raised by the parish. Together we can do great things!

This will be the 6th year of our partnership with Christ United Methodist Church in sponsoring this event. More details will come in the fall.

For more information about Rise Against Hunger, visit their website www.riseagainsthunger.org.

Now, more than ever, let us not forget the hungry right here in our own community by continuing to support our local food pantries.



WAX



Eastertime is the 50-day-long season from Easter Sunday until Pentecost, May 31 this year. Throughout this time the paschal candle shines in church. This candle is an image of the risen body of Christ.

When people are baptized into the church, they are given candles lit from the paschal candle. They are told to keep their lamps burning brightly throughout their lives. At funerals the paschal candle shines on the dead, like a pillar of fire to guide them to the promised land.

A burning candle is a sign of self-sacrifice. It consumes itself in a blaze of glory. Traditionally, the church’s candles are made from beeswax. A beehive is a symbol of the church, where everyone is called to work together for the common good.

Many households light a fine, fat candle every mealtime, and indeed, every time they gather to pray. It is a holy habit.

When you light a candle in prayer you might say, “Jesus Christ is the light of the world, a light no darkness can extinguish.” Or say the words proclaimed at the Easter Vigil, “Light of Christ! Thanks be to God!”

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