

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.

MASS INTENTIONS ARE:

Dennis McCloskey, Huval Family, Margaret Mary Mulé, Connie Tyler, Nick Sita, Sonny Chandler, Anne Montgomery, Carol Pieri, Marie Duhon, Sr. Claire Mulé, Doris M. Letsch, Richard W. Letsch, Marie Bergeron, and for the living: Andrew Danenhower, Shirley Caminita and Parishioners

All Mass intentions that were previously scheduled are transferred to 4:30 p.m.

Church is open daily from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. for private prayer.

PRAYER LIST

James Michael Cole, Dot Willie, Scott St. Romaine, Freddie Addotto, Fred Kopfler, Louise Cashmere, Florence Hoffman, Nita Addotto, Joseph Hadad, Richard Atkins, Roy M. Piazza, Ruthi Olson, Pam Addotto, Cindy Hebert

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Envelopes	\$ 1,852.00
Loose	\$ 998.00
Building and Preservation Fund	\$ 160.00
E-giving	\$ 595.00

Thanks to all who continue to send in their contributions at this trying time. This is most needed as we continue to maintain the workings of our Church parish. If you wish to give online, please go to: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnfolsom>. Download the FAQs and instruction sheet here, or watch a short demo video here.

CANDLES WILL BURN IN HONOR OF:

Sanctuary Mary Santopadre

Blessed Mother Audrey Maracich

St Joseph John Stahel

Saint Ann Carol Pieri

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7 day candle please call 796-3806.

Memorial Flowers are in memory of Carol Pieri

Fr. Vincent will celebrate Sunday Mass at 4:30 p.m. Mass will be pre-recorded and uploaded as soon as possible. View it on St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Facebook, or YouTube at stjohnbaptistfolsom
YouTube link: <https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCe4axaxnr1YAh91aqlliag>. It is also on St. John's facebook from our website: stjohnbaptistfolsom.org

The office is open for normal business, on Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am – noon, closed on Friday. Please do not hesitate to call 796-3806 if Joy can be of any assistance to you. Fr. Vincent continues to be available if needed for anointing and confessions. His emergency contact number is 985-474-9898.

THE CLARION HERALD NOW HAS AN ON-LINE EDITION. Especially, during the stay-at-home mandate, it is important for parishioners to remain informed of Catholic News. It is available each week at <http://clarionheraldla.newsmemory.com>.

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS

Let us pray,

Loving and faithful God, the coronavirus reminds us that we have no power and we are dependent on you. We place ourselves in your loving hands. Give eternal rest to all who have died from the virus. Place your healing hand on those who are ill, and give your protection to us in this time of fear and uncertainty. Calm our fears and help us to trust you as our faithful God. Enlighten our government and Church leaders as they are faced with important decisions. Give blessing to those in health care and protect them.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us.

Blessed Francis Seelos, pray for us. (His life was taken while caring for the sick in the yellow fever epidemic.)

SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

May 3

Call Philip the gospel's "Answer Man." "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Nathaniel asked Philip, who had proclaimed Jesus "the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets" (John 1:45). Jesus asked Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" (John 6:5). Greeks brought Philip their request: "We would like to see Jesus" (John 12:21). Philip's answer to each question: bring people to Jesus! At the Last Supper, finally, Philip had a request of his own: "Show us the Father!" (John 14:8). Jesus had three last questions for Philip: "You still don't know me? How can you ask that? Don't you believe?" And an answer: "I am in the Father and the Father is in me" (John 14:10). Today's James is not John's brother, Zebedee's son, but, tradition says, author of the New Testament Letter of James, who died praying for his murderers in Jesus' words: "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." Few historical details for either saint, but lessons aplenty: Bring every question we have and everybody we meet to Jesus; be, as James' letter challenges, "doers of the word and not hearers only" (James 1:22).