

Jesus, Our Shepherd

We, His Flock

Jesus begins His triumphant entrance into Jerusalem on a *colt*, as prophesied by the Prophet Zechariah. In the First Reading, we find St. Paul turning to the Gentiles to deliver the Good News. The Jews only listened for a while, then became jealous and rejected him. In fact, they became so furious, they incited others against the Apostles until they were all expelled from the Jerusalem. The Apostles gladly suffered for the Faith, for then they were participating in Christ's suffering. Meanwhile, the Gentiles eagerly listened to the *kerygma that is, preaching of the Good News*. Though the Apostles were run out of town, a small Christian community was left behind in the Gentiles. We are blessed with St. Paul's letters to the different Gentile communities. He regularly wrote to these new Christians to nourish and encourage them, and now us, in the Faith. • The Responsorial Psalm, like the Gospel, celebrates Jesus as our Good Shepherd, and we as His flock. We are not left to struggle through life by our own devices. Jesus sends His Holy Spirit to guide us in our every action. We are blessed with a loving Shepherd who guides us with kindness and gentleness. His love and goodness are limitless, extending to every time and nation. • In today's Gospel, Jesus identifies Himself as the Good Shepherd. He proclaims this not on His own authority, but by the Father's for He obeys His Father's will. The Second Reading casts a shadow of the cross on today's Gospel, for as His sheep we are purchased and made clean by the Blood of the Lamb. So, by the Almighty Father's power and the shedding of His Son's blood for us, we sheep belong to the Shepherd and shall not be snatched away.

Prayer of the Week

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, though your people walk in the valley of darkness, no evil should they fear; for they follow in faith the call of the shepherd whom you have sent for their hope and strength. Attune our minds to the sound of his voice, lead our steps in the path he has shown, that we may know the strength of his outstretched arm and enjoy the light of your presence for

Faith First

Good Shepherd Sunday

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel is taken from the tenth chapter of the Gospel of John. This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge to his authority by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders. Already, the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angered that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus. This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death. • Set in a moment of tension and conflict, today's Gospel reading is Jesus' answer to the question, "Are you the Messiah?" Jesus responds by saying, in essence, "If you have to ask, then you are not one of my sheep." Then Jesus asserts his unity with the Father. At the conclusion of these words, John reports that the Jews intend to stone Jesus for blasphemy, but he escapes arrest. • We may be less familiar with the metaphors of sheep and shepherd than those to whom Jesus spoke. The image of Jesus as Good Shepherd and the community of followers as his sheep has endured over the centuries as a primary image in our faith tradition. The image speaks to us about the protection, security, and care that shepherds represent for their sheep. • Today's Gospel speaks powerfully about the familiarity and intimacy between Jesus and his disciples, expressed as recognizing and knowing another's voice. Today's Gospel also speaks to the relationship between Jesus and the Father. In the Gospel of John, Jesus identifies so closely with the Father that he tells us that they are one—not just close, but actually one. To know Jesus is to know the Father. Jesus does just bring us closer to the Father, Jesus puts us directly into contact with God the Father, removing all distance between us. Our relationship with Jesus is an invitation to share in the life of God.

ever. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever Amen.

In Our Prayers

**Daily Mass Intentions
May 12 - May 19**

Sun	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	9:30am	Glen Schwartz (+)
	11:00am	Bill Riehl (+)
Mon	8:00am	Dorothy Domich (+)
Tue	8:00am	Joan T. Koster (+)
Wed	8:00am	Rajko Vidovich (+)
Thu	8:00am	John Silveira (+)
Fri	8:00am	Jack Decker (+)
Sat	9:00am	Doris Wagner (+)
	5:30pm	Evelyn Elmer (+)
Sun	8:00am	Don & Anita Cerqui (+)
	9:30am	Int...Parker Madrigal
	11:00am	For the People of the Parish

In Memoriam

Isabel Grace Flynn • May 5-6, 2019

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to the little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Please Pray for the Sick

Robin Aurelius, Elliot Sevier, Diana Zuniga, Suzy Riehl, Isabel Harper, Rouzbeh Daylami, Howard Huston, Mark Zane, Richard Honey, Dale Wooldridge, Donald Anderson, Teresa Yeung, Nancy McGarry, Vivian Stolp, Rita Doherty, Patrick Valenzuela, Cheryl Halm Lincoln, Michael Fletcher, Grayson Kemp, Gary Pepe, William Daniel Reed, Stephanie Merenda, Victoria Generoso, Jim Collins, Robert Arkebauer, Libby Basurto, Dena Foster-Cook, Marie Schumacher, Ralph Goodall, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, Angel Curiel, Phillip Worth, Sonia Damiano, Barbara Cramer, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Amnon, Mary Terese Henriksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

Meetings & Events

May Crowning

This Sunday, May 12, at the 9:30 am Mass, there is a procession by children and a May crowning of the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Many younger parishioners have not seen this devotional, which has been part of parish life for hundreds of years worldwide.

Class of 2019

Please pray for the 8th graders at Sacred Heart Parish School as they complete their last two weeks of school before graduation on May 21. The class spent May 6 on retreat where they reflected upon their time at Sacred Heart School and planned for their future in high school. We are very proud of the Class of 2019 and know they are well prepared for the next steps on their journey.

New Altar Servers

Over the past several weeks, a new group of altar servers has been assigned to both Sunday and daily Masses. We thank these children, and their experienced co-servers, for volunteering to help at Mass. Not only does this help the priest, it usually helps the children develop a better and deeper understanding of the Mass. • We also thank Janet Gill for training the children in this ministry. Boys and girls entering 6th grade and older at the Parish School and in the Catholic Faith Formation program are encouraged to participate. • For more information, call the Parish Office at 916-452-4136 extension 2.

Parish Study Group

We are discussing Jesus of Nazareth: From the Baptism in the Jordan to Transfiguration by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. The assignment for Tuesday, May 14 is Chapter 9, Pages 287-318. We meet from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information call Mary Anne Smith at 530-676-7874.

"Second Sunday" Social: Cancelled for May

Due to Mothers' Day, the "Second Sunday" Social for May has been cancelled. Mark your calendar for the next Social on Sunday, June 8 immediately following the 11:00 am Mass. • All parishioners are welcome, regardless of the Mass they attend. Walk over to the Parish Hall for coffee and donuts along with fun and fellowship.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

Easter 2020 will be on April 12! Will you be ready? Are you, or someone you know, interested in becoming a Catholic? Call RCIA director Rita Spillane at 916-452-4830 to explore the possibility of becoming a Catholic or renewing the practice of your Catholic faith.

Youth Group

The next youth group meeting will be on Wednesday, May 29. The group will celebrate its graduates (from both 8th grade and high school) with an Graduation/End of the Year Party. • If you are a student in grades 8 through 12, please consider joining us in the future. All meetings are held in St. Anthony's Hall from 6:30-7:30 pm. • If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Sunderman at psunderman@sacredheartschool.net.

Altar Society News

Members are invited to attend the Altar Society meeting to be held on Friday, May 17 at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall.

Rose Sale

After all Sunday Masses today, Mothers' Day, roses will be sold, with the profits going to the Sacramento Life Center. Please consider purchasing a rose and help support the Life Center's valuable work.

New Parish Website

The parish has developed a new website with the help of our new webmaster Carson Gross. We encourage you to visit it and give us your feedback. You may find the new site at <https://sacredheart.church/> (no www necessary).

Religious Education 2019-2020 Registration

This weekend, there will be an opportunity to sign-up children attending a non-Catholic school in grades Kindergarten through 8th grades for the Parish's Faith Formation Program. Registration forms and other program information will be available after all Masses in the vestibule. • Starting Tuesday, September 3, classes will be held from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm every Tuesday at Sacred Heart Parish School, 856 39th Street. • The fees for classes are as follows: \$75 for one child and \$100 for two or more children. There are additional per child fees for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. • If you have any questions regarding the program, please do not hesitate to contact Tila Madrigal, Religious Education Coordinator, at 916-947-2683 or by email at tilamadrigal@gmail.com.

Lenten Collection

The students at Sacred Heart Parish School collected nearly \$2,500.00 for Catholic Relief Services through the Rice Bowl Project during Lent this year. Many students sacrificed their snack money, did extra chores at home and in their neighborhood and also used some of their savings to gather such a generous collection. It is our hope to help the hungry in the world by making this donation.

Family Mass Next Weekend

Next Sunday, the 9:30 am Mass will be the last Family Mass of the school year. Following the Mass, there will be a reception to honor and thank Mrs. Kim Paquette and Mrs. Debra Mosbrucker. Mrs. Paquette is retiring after teaching Kindergarten for 19 years, although she has been part of this community for over 25 years as her two boys attended the school. We are grateful for her dedicated service that has always gone above and beyond expectations. Mrs. Mosbrucker, our second grade teacher, is also retiring. She has had a long and successful career in the Dioceses of Sacramento and Wisconsin. She has had many roles such as PE teacher, Principal at St. Philomene and teacher of many grade levels. • We are grateful for their dedication and long standing commitment to Catholic Education. • You are invited to join us after Mass in the school cafeteria to celebrate these two wonderful teachers.

Baptism Preparation Class for Parents / Godparents

A baptism preparation class is offered the third Monday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. To attend you must sign up by calling the church office at 452-4236 ext. 2. At the class, the necessity and importance of baptism are explained as are the obligations and duties of parents and godparents. Baptisms take place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month after the 11:00 am Mass (around 12:15 pm). Parents and godparents must attend a preparation class. For more details, please call the parish office.