



ST IGNATIUS  
& ST LUKE'S  
3 May 2020

## THE SHEPHERD AND THE DOOR

*Over the three-year Sunday lectionary cycle, the Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday of Easter unfolds the entire passage from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John which is termed the Good Shepherd Discourse, from which the popular name of this Sunday is taken.*

*In this Year A, we hear the first section of that discourse which Our Lord is addressing to the Pharisees who had come to engage him.*

**Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber; but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens;"**

In traditional shepherding there were two ways in which a shepherd might pasture his sheep at night to keep them from wandering off in the night and to guard them from being picked off by predators, human or animal, who would snatch them under cover of darkness. Nearer a town, or when several flocks were pastured together, a pen or a sheepcote might be present. The door was fastened from the inside with sticks or bars by a porter, who remained with the sheep during the night, and opened for the shepherds in the morning.

**"the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."**

A good shepherd is personally involved with all his sheep. His closeness with the individual sheep is clear in verse 3 when it says he calls them by name. From Nathan's story in 2 Samuel 12, we know that sheep were sometimes given the status of pet. A shepherd is also involved enough with his flock that they know his voice. In those days multiple flocks would sometimes be brought into the sheepfold for the night. The next day each shepherd in turn would stand in the middle of the fold and call his own out. It was not a matter of the exact call or words used, but the sheep responded primarily to the distinct tone of the shepherd's voice.

**This figure Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came**

**before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not heed them. I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."**

If in the countryside, a shepherd might take brush and bushes and construct them in a "u" shape or some other formation depending on what was already at hand. He would then place thorny branches on top of the brush to both inhibit the sheep from jumping out and from wild animals and thieves jumping into the enclosure to hurt or kill the sheep. The only way in and out of the pen was through a space he would leave open. The shepherd himself would lie across the opening, literally becoming the door in and out of the sheepfold. His vigilance was the sheep's protection.



## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Jacqueline Chancio, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Victoria P.; M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

*Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list. **Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.***

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

## MASS READINGS THIS WEEK

**3 May** *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41; Psalm 23: 1-6;

1 Peter 2: 20b-25; John 10: 1-10

**4 May** *Eastertide Feria*

Acts 11: 1-18; Psalm 42: 2-3 & 43: 3-4; John 10: 11-18

**5 May** *Eastertide Feria*

Acts 11: 19-26; Psalm 87: 1b-7; John 10: 22-30

**6 May** *Eastertide Feria*

Acts 12: 24—13: 5a; Psalm 67: 2-3, 5-6, 8; John 12: 44-50

**7 May** *Eastertide Feria*

Acts 13: 13-25; Psalm 89: 2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; John 13: 16-20

**8 May** *Eastertide Feria*

Acts 13: 26-33; Psalm 2: 6-11b; John 14: 1-6

**9 May** *Eastertide Feria*

Acts 13: 44-52; Psalm 98: 1-4; John 14: 7-14

**10 May** *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

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

1 Peter 2: 4-9; John 14: 1-12

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, 2 May**

*Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*  
special intention [S. White]

**Sunday, 3 May**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter, called Good Shepherd Sunday*  
Pro populo

**Monday, 4 May**

*The English Martyrs*  
Baraquiel and Jay Maraam + [Lily M. Quinones]

**Tuesday, 5 May**

*Eastertide Feria*  
Anne Ames White

**Wednesday, 6 May**

*Eastertide Feria*  
Msgr. William J. O'Donnell +

**Thursday, 7 May**

*Eastertide Feria*  
the intentions of the Holy Father

**Friday, 8 May**

*Eastertide Feria*  
Msgr. William J. O'Donnell +

**Saturday, 9 May**

*Eastertide Feria*  
George F. Hickey, Sr. + [George F. Hickey Jr.]

**Sunday, 10 May**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*  
Pro populo

Fr. Vidal will be saying private masses daily until the coronavirus protocols permit public celebration once more. Mass intentions will therefore be covered.

### St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*

Jackie Chancio

Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville

Clifford Woods

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*historic*  
**ST IGNATIUS**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

### **Rev. John Vidal**

Administrator, St. Ignatius  
Pastor, St. Luke's

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Randy King - *Co-chair*

Joseph Chancio • Rosemary Collier

Fran Doyle • James Guinivan

Ada Okafor • Elizabeth Shivone

Connie Somerville

Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*

Susan White - *ex officio*

### St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney - *Co-chair*

Nicole Crawford • Mario Enzler

David Lewis • Franco Madan

Susan White - *ex officio*

Karen King - *ex officio*

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