



St. Mary's Catholic Church



4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd.” - Jn 10:17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

P.O. Box 70
Malta, MT 59538
office@SaintMarysMalta.org

April 25, 2021

Fr. Felix: (406) 946-2195
Office: (406) 654-1311
www.SaintMarysMalta.org
Fr.felixnayak@yahoo.in
Fr. Felix Nayak- Pastor

Mass Schedule and Intentions

4/26: Malta - To Be Announced

4/27: Malta - 5:30 PM: Repose of Maria & Bill LaFond ^{r/b} Darlene & Bruce Cummings

4/28: Malta - 8:30 A.M.: Fortin Family ^{r/b} Lana Fortin

4/29: Malta - 8:30 A.M.: Repose of Bill & Travis Bennatt ^{r/b} Darlene & Bruce Cummings

4/30: Malta - 8:30 A.M.: Lois Waters ^{r/b} Lana Fortin

5/1: Malta - 4:00 P.M.: Repose of Mike Morrow ^{r/b} Julie & Gary Howell

5/2: Saco - 8:30 AM: Sue & Curt Kron ^{r/b} Darlene & Bruce Cummings

Malta - 10:30 A.M.: For all Parishioners;

Dodson—12:30 PM: Ulrich Family ^{r/b} Lana Fortin

Confession Schedule

Fr. Felix will be in the Confessional at St. Mary's Church **Friday's 9:00-10:00, Saturday from 11:00 A.M.—Noon;** and by appointment.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday from 9 to 10 AM after Daily Mass.



Contact Fr. Felix for Home Visits, Distribution of the Sacraments, Home Blessings and Counseling of any type.



Knights of Columbus
Council 2124

Parish Council of Catholic
Women

Meets **First Tuesday** of the month

Meets **Second Sunday** of the month

Daily Scripture Readings

4/25: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations; Acts 4:8-12; Psalms 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 John 3:1-2 John 10:11-18

4/26: Monday in the 4th week of Easter; Acts 11:1-18; Psalms 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; John 10:1-10

4/27: Tuesday in the 4th week of Easter; Acts 11:19-26; Psalms 87:1-7; John 10:22-30

4/28: St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest; Acts 12:24—13:5; Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8; John 12:44-50

4/29: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church; Acts 13:13-25; Psalms 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27; John 13:16-20

4/30 St. Pius V, Pope; Arbor Day; Acts 13:26-33; Psalms 2:6-11; John 14:1-6

5/1: St. Joseph the Worker; Acts 13:44-52; Psalms 98:1-4; John 14:7-14

5/2: 5th Sunday of Easter; Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-32; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

New to the Parish?

Welcome! We're glad you will be joining us. If you would like to register with the parish, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket. You may bring it by the parish office or send it to us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

You may also use this form for a change of address. Thanks!

Sacraments

Confessions: See page 2 of this week's bulletin for schedule or by appointment.

Baptism: Normally celebrated at weekend Masses. Parental sessions are required.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact Fr. Felix as soon as possible for anointing.

Marriages: Six month couple preparation period required. Please meet with Fr. Felix before scheduling marriage date.

Please Pray For

Weir Family, Our Lady of Lourdes family, Merlyn Metz, Lary Poulton, Sarina Venable, Dallas Green, Missy Boos, Corrine Hould, Anna Clouse, Chayten Pippin, and those from our area serving in the military.

For the repose of the souls of Mikey Nevriy, Paul Kunze, Dale Bruckner, the Poor Souls in Purgatory, and comfort and peace for their families.

Anyone who needs to have prayers said for someone can call Jean Niebur at 654-2822 or Dianne Salsbery 654-4675. Names will be listed in the bulletin for one month unless specified.

Everyday Stewardship

Confidence in Princes

Have you ever confided your problems to a friend, only to get the answer, “have you prayed about it as much as you’ve talked about it?”

Like all good advice, it can really irritate the recipient at first. Here I am, vulnerable and wounded, unloading my problems, and this joker tries to load them right back up and ship them off to Someone with a higher pay grade.

But again, like all good and irritating advice, it rings true if you sit and think about it.

Sure, venting is helpful. We all need that friend or family member who can listen to our problems. But if we ever start to think that person can solve them, it’s a good sign that we’re losing perspective.

Are you looking to the world for an answer? Are you looking in the mirror, expecting to find a solution to your problems? Are you expecting happiness, peace, contentment or justice to come from any place other than God?

“It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes,” the Psalms tell us. Well, I’ve never put much confidence in princes. But when it comes to problems, I often find myself telling God to take a step back — “I’ve got this.”

It’s tough to pray about any problem as much as you talk about it. We want so badly to tackle the issue ourselves. But I’ll let you in on a secret: it doesn’t matter what the question is, we don’t have the answer. Take it to the One who does.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Thank you for all your prayers and financial support! Although we’re not “passing the basket”, we still need your generous donations. You can drop off your donations at the baskets in the front of the church, mail them to Box 70, Malta, MT 59538.

***There is no longer online giving. Direct deposits from your account into your parishes account is available at Bank of Malta and FSB . Please contact Mariah or Brenda for routing numbers* 301-0936, 654-1311**

Pope Francis’ Intention

Fundamental Rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Fr. Felix

EASTER IV (B): ACT 4: 8-12; I JN 3: 1-2; JN 10:11-18

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, the fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday.

Today's first reading describes St. Peter's healing and preaching ministry. The healing of the cripple and the evangelical work by St. Peter resulted in his arrest by the Temple guards. The passage tells us that in the trial before the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:5-22), St. Peter was empowered by the Holy Spirit to bear witness to the Son of God. St. Peter explained that he had healed the cripple in the name of Jesus, whom the Jews had despised and rejected but whom God had made the cornerstone of his faith. In imitation of the Lord who had always cared for the sick and the lowly, St. Peter was moved to reach out, touch, and heal the cripple. Then St. Peter made the amazing statement: "Salvation is to be found through him alone."

St. John in today's second reading reminds his people that they should remember it is their privilege to be called the children of God. He clarifies that we are not merely called the children of God; we are God's children in actuality. It is by grace, through baptism, that we become God's children. The more we know and love the God we believe in, the more we will strive to act and live as God's children thus becoming like Him. The culmination of all our privileges as children of God is when Christ appears, we shall see him "as He really is," and we shall be like him.

In the Old Testament, the image of the Shepherd is often applied to God as well as to the leaders of the people. The book of Exodus

calls Yahweh a shepherd. Likewise, the prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel compare Yahweh's care and protection of His people to that of a shepherd. "He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against His breast and leading the mother sheep to their rest." (Is. 40:11). Psalm 23 is David's famous picture of God as The Good Shepherd: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack. In green pastures you let me graze; to safe waters you lead me."

Introducing himself as the good shepherd of his flock, Jesus makes three claims in today's Gospel: 1) just as the Palestinian shepherds knew each sheep of their flock by name, and the sheep knew their shepherd and his voice, so Jesus knows each one of us, our needs, our merits and our faults. The knowledge talked of here is not mere intellectual knowing but knowledge that comes from love leading to care and concern for others. He loves us as we are, with all our limitations, and He expects us to receive and return his love by keeping his words. He speaks to us - at every Mass and through: The Bible, our pastors, our parents, family, friends and events of our lives. "God whispers to us in our pleasures, he speaks to us in our consciences, and he shouts to us in our pain!" 2) He gives eternal life to his sheep by receiving us into his sheepfold through Baptism. He strengthens our faith by giving us his Holy Spirit in Confirmation. He supplies food for our souls by the Holy Eucharist and by the divine words of the holy Bible. He makes our society holy by the sacraments of matrimony and the priesthood. 3) He protects his sheep by placing them in the loving hands

mighty Father. Without him to guide us and protect us, we are easy prey for the spiritual wolves of this world: that includes Satan, as well as the seven deadly sins of pride, avarice, envy, gluttony, anger, lust and sloth. Jesus adds two more roles to those of the good shepherd. He goes in search of stray lambs and heals the sick ones. Jesus heals the wounds of

our souls by the sacrament of Reconciliation and strengthens us in illness and old age by the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Let us pray for the grace that, first, we become the faithful sheep of the good shepherd and, second, we become the good shepherd to all who are under our care, Amen.

MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday—Saco - 8:30 a.m.

Malta - 10:30 a.m.

Dodson - 12:30 p.m.



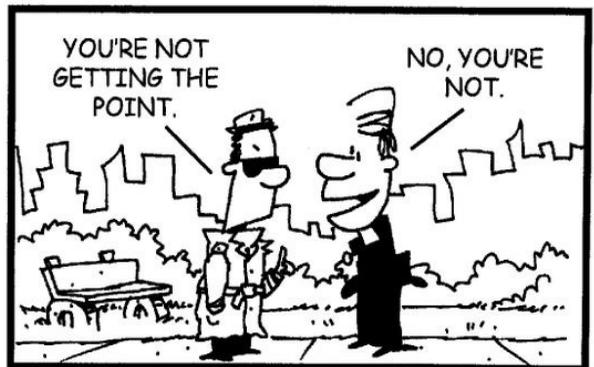
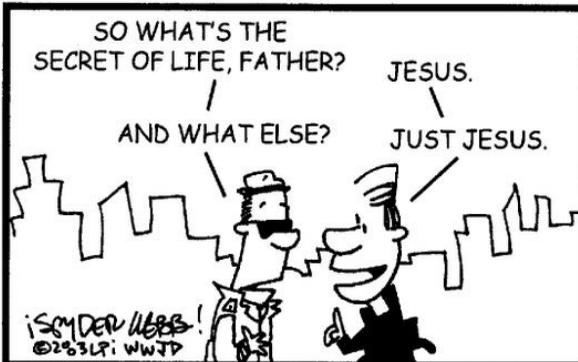
Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to possess You within my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Gospel Meditation

4th Sunday of Easter

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shep-

herd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures.

Mass Intentions

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of having Masses celebrated for those we offer up in prayer. The Mass is the ultimate form of prayer, and each Mass is celebrated for an intention. We ask \$10.00 per mass intention.

Please consider having Masses celebrated for family and friends on special occasions

The Need for Faith

I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your descendants...and they shall spring up like grass amid waters, like willows by flowing streams.

Isaiah 4:3-4

and anniversaries, as well as those who are in need of prayers. Masses are also encouraged in memory of those loved ones who have died, especially on the anniversaries of their deaths. Please contact Fr. Felix for more information.

We also quench the thirst of Jesus by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. I see some of you just flop into the chapel. You are just there, that is all. There is not the zeal to quench His thirst for your by a personal meeting with Him face to face. Renew your zeal to quench His thirst. Mother Teresa 1977

Sacrificial Giving for 4-25-2028

	4-25	Needed	Direct Deposit
Malta:	\$1,466.00	\$3,879.78	\$25.00
Dodson:	\$240.00	\$416.18	\$0.00
Saco:	\$325.00	\$470.96	\$50.00

Finance Council

Charlie Mears 654-7006, cmears@itstriangle.com

Regina Webb 319-491-7607, auntregina@gmail.com

Lance Hould 406-539-5772, lanceh_99@hotmail.com

Mike Ereaux 658-2613 (H), 654-7803 (C), mfe7195@itstriangle.com

Scott King 654-7302, sbking1959@gmail.com

Lana Fortin 654-4811, lanafortin03@gmail.com

Please send bulletin announcements to office@SaintMarysMalta.org by Thursday Morning. Thanks!

- **Sunday, April 25th.** A Cake Reception will be held honoring Kaden Bishop as he officially becomes Catholic and all who have completed the retreat. All parish members and guests are invited and encouraged to attend immediately after Mass to welcome and congratulate Kaden and our youth.
- **Last Day of Religious Education....April 28th**
- **Sunday, May 9th.** A Cake Reception honoring high school seniors and all Mothers as they share this special day will be hosted by PCCW. All parish members and guests are invited and encouraged to attend immediately after Mass. Please come celebrate together!
- **Saturday, May 15th.** A Cake Reception honoring all children completing their First Sacraments with Bishop Warfel will be held immediately following 4PM Mass. All families and parish members are welcome and encouraged to congratulate our youth on this special occasion.

Parish Council

Alora Snider— 399-1675, alora_lynn_09@hotmail.com (Malta)

Shawn Bleth— 654-1370, shawn.bleth@gmail.com (Malta)

Cliff Merriman— 654-4391, merrimanclifford@gmail.com (K of C)

Wilma Mavencamp—654-1346, maven100@itstriangle.com (PCCW)

Tom DePuydt—674-7060, 4bard@itstriangle.com (Saco)

Leona Kienenberger—383-4459, leona_kienenberger@yahoo.com (Dodson)

Nancy Ereaux—390-1229 ©, 658-2613 (H), mfe7195@itstriangle.com

Word of Life from the USCCB

April 25th

“Current laws in our country fail to protect the lives of unborn children. ... People of good will must boldly stand

up against this intrinsic evil [of abortion], especially when it is occurring on a massive scale, implemented in law and funded, in some instances, by the government.”

Weekly Reflection from Priests for Life

Laying down our lives

The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. This theme is found also in the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) On the road from Jerusalem to Jericho, a man fell in with robbers. A priest and a Levite came by, but did not stop to help. Despite their knowledge of the Law and Prophets, they walked right by. Why?

One of the reasons may be that they were afraid. The road from Jerusalem to Jericho is a dangerous road. Because of its numerous steep curves, it lends itself to attacks by robbers who can easily hide not too far from their victims. Perhaps the priests and Levites who passed by that man asked themselves, "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me? Maybe the robbers who attacked him are still here. Maybe they're hiding just around the bend. This is a dangerous road. I better keep going."

Sometimes we ask the same question. If, for example, I speak up too loudly about the victims of abortion, what will happen to me? Will I face persecution, will I encounter opposition, will I lose popularity if I get involved in a cause like this?

And then the Good Samaritan came along, and he reversed the question. He didn't ask, "If I help this man, what will happen to me?" The Good Samaritan asked, "If I do not help this man, what will happen to him?" And that's the question for us. If I do not address this evil, what will happen to the unborn? If I do not get involved, what will happen to those who are vulnerable, to those who are marginalized our society, those who are oppressed, those who have no one to speak for them?

Diocese of Great Falls-Billings Office of THE BISHOP P.O. Box 1399 * Great Falls, Montana 59403 * (406) 727-6683 www.diocesegfb.org

Date: April 22, 2021

To: All

From: Bishop Michael Warfel

Thanks to all those who have tried to follow COVID related protocols to date. They may be an annoyance but have played a role in lessening the impact of the coronavirus on behalf of the common good.

The following are adjustments to existing protocols for the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings:

If a county health department does not require face coverings or restrictions on capacity, neither are these restrictions required at parishes in those counties. If county health departments do require masks and spacing, these restrictions are required at parishes also. (Check with your county health department).

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days continues to be dispensed but attendance is strongly urged. Opportunities are available for Mass during the week. Parishioners should consider this option if there is concern for gathering on a Sunday with a larger attendance.

Parishioners are to be reminded of the importance of receiving the Eucharist, if at all possible, (the Easter Duty) and making a good confession (the Sacrament of Penance) during the Easter Season. Parishes throughout the Diocese provide ample opportunities for the Sacrament of Penance.

Parish gatherings are allowed following the guidance of local county health departments. (It is important to be mindful of those who may be vulnerable and who have underlying conditions which may include the parish priest. Each parish church should have masks available at the entrance as well as sanitizers).

The invitation by the celebrant “Peace with you” and the people’s response, “And with your spirit,” should be made. The physical sign of peace among the assembly is not to be offered but the practice of turning towards others with a simple nod of the head as a sign of solidarity and respect may be offered as a sign of peace.

MT

Bishop's Livestock Brand