

FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Easter*

MAY 3, 2020

The shepherd calls his own sheep
by name and leads them.

John 10:3

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturdays—4PM or by appointment

Baptism

Class required for parents and godparents held the last Friday of month. Call the parish office two weeks prior to schedule. Baptismal sacrament given the last Saturday of the month at 11AM or by arrangement.

Marriage

Please contact Fr. Basile Sede at least 6 months before the desired wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick

The primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which a person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties of serious or prolonged illness. Please call and email the parish office to request anointing.

Parish Office Hours

During the Covid-19 Outbreak, please send an email to olccharlotte@charlottediocese.org with any questions.

Pastor: Rev. Basile Sede

Secretary: Colleen Kudela

Maintenance: Joseph McGuire

Music: Erick Massey & Michelle

Wylie



Mass Schedule

All Masses have been canceled until further notice

Tune into our website on Sundays for Mass with Father Basile Sede

SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES May 3, 2020

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).

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4;
Jn 10:11-18
- Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
- Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
- Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
- Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
- Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
- Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19;
1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

Today's readings invite us to recognize our need for one who ensures our safety, nourishes us, and leads us to peace and security, like sheep who rest in the care of a good shepherd. Such a shepherd will protect and save the sheep, even from the most deadly of predators. Today, we ponder the incredible news that Jesus accepted death on the cross in order to open the gates of eternal life with God for us. Through his resurrection, Jesus protects and saves us from the power of sin and death. We need only accept his love and live as God's people in this life, relying on the Lord who is the door to new life for us and for all.

JESUS SAVES

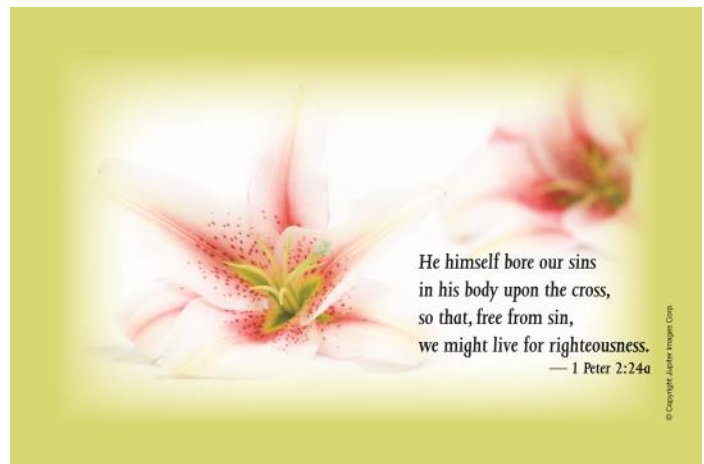
Be honest with yourself. Have you ever gone astray? Have you ever given in to temptation or weakness? Do you sometimes feel that you need someone to help you get your life on back on track? Most people could answer yes to any of these questions. As people of faith, we know that Jesus understands the struggles we face and gave his life to save us from our human frailty. The Lord knows that we need help in order to live as God's people in the world. There are people and powers that seek to mislead us, who offer a way that may for a time be appealing, even though it does not lead to the true way of life, love, and peace. We can be readily dissuaded and distracted from the ways of holiness. We easily lose our way, lured by the trappings of material possessions, wealth, or social status. Jesus is our only real way, the door that leads to meaning and peace in this earthly time, and to life everlasting.

Parish News

Please note that since we cannot attend Mass it is important for our Church that we continue to tithe during this difficult time.

All meetings and all face-to-face meetings are canceled effective immediately until further notice. Ministry leaders should utilize Zoom platform for video conference for meetings.

Please contact your Ministry Leaders with any questions or to see if you will meet with an online streaming platform.



****PLEASE NOTE THAT MASS INTENTIONS ARE SAID BY FATHER BASILE DAILY IN HIS CHAPEL EVEN IF THERE IS NO MASS****

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

Birthday Blessings for Bill Hubbard requested by Stan Fri

For the Nwatchou Family requested by Stephane Nwatchou

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020

Repose of the Soul of Kristin Heid requested by Stan Fri

Mass Intentions - Please contact the office or email olccharlotte@charlottediocese.org to offer Masses for your loved ones: praying for the deceased, birthdays, anniversaries and other events. Every Mass should have an intention.

TODAY'S READINGS

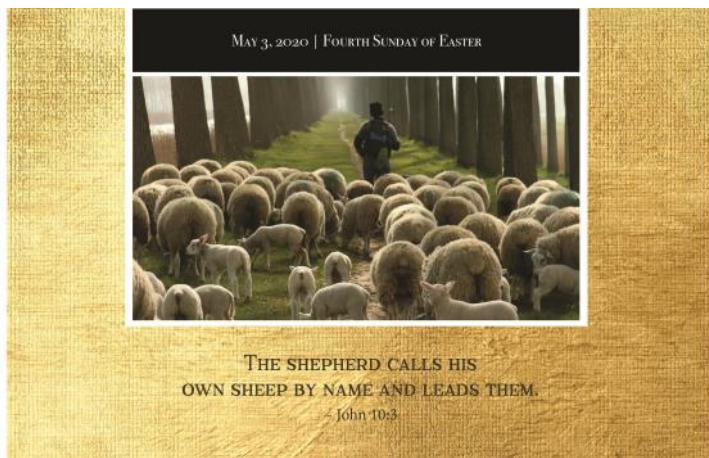
First Reading — All peoples called by God will receive the gift of the Spirit if they repent and are baptized (Acts 2:14a, 36-41).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — Once we were like straying sheep; but now we have been returned to the shepherd, our guardian (1 Peter 2:20b-25).

Gospel — The shepherd leads the sheep out into pastures of abundant life (John 10:1-10).

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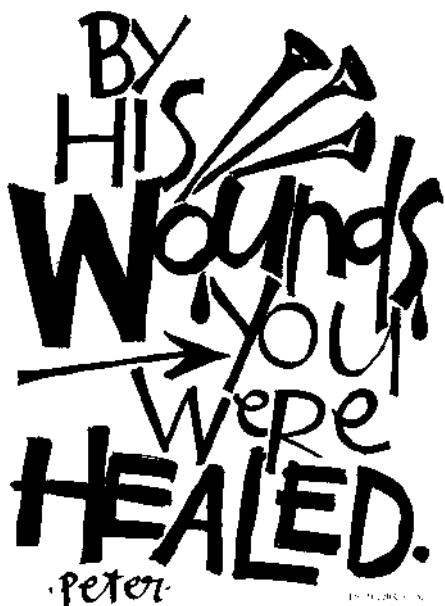


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May 3, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Easter

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. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



PRAYER LIST

Larry Bass
Deborah Bond
Mr. Joseph Castro
Mrs. A. Connors
Florine Dennis
Robert Douglas
Fr. Jim Goode
Theresa Greenley
Alan W. Jones
Cassandra Lambert
Sammuel Lambert
George Lewis
Vilma Males



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Edward Marsh Jr.
John McDowell
Sr. Bessie McCarth
Patricia North
Robin Plummer
Julius Rose, Sr.
Janice Rucker
Lee Anne Rucker
Angela Smith
Jake Suggs
Diane Taylor
OLC Parishioners

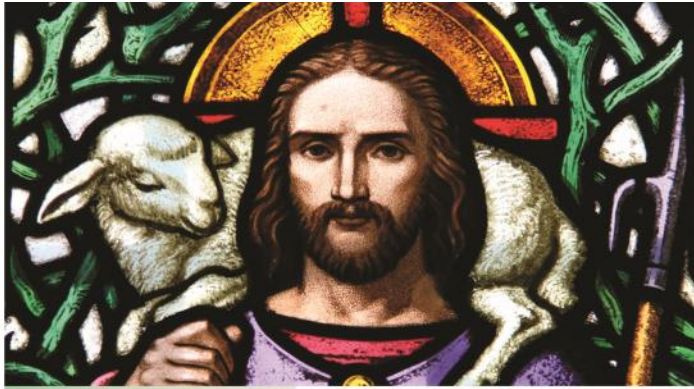
Please notify the Parish Office to have yourself or a family member placed on the Prayer List for the New Year. Names will appear through the calendar year. You can email your request to olccharlotte@charlottediocese.org or call the parish office.



St Martin de Porres Outreach Ministry

The food pantry operates two days per week giving food to those in need. If you need assistance with food, or know someone who does, please call 704-817-8813. We are open on Tuesday from 10:00AM - 12:00PM for appointments only.

Interested in joining the food pantry team? Please contact Deborah Wadsworth at 704-231-7956.



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John 10:3

THE ONE WHO KNOWS US BY NAME

Today's readings tell about the confusion and fear that followed Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. In Acts, the people ask, "What are we to do?" after they are reminded that they were part of the death of Jesus, who was Lord and Christ. In First Peter we are reminded of Jesus' innocence. He did nothing to deserve the suffering and death that he experienced for us. Both the psalm and First Peter introduce the image of Jesus as shepherd. John's Gospel talks about Jesus as shepherd but not in the usual way. We recognize this shepherd's voice because he calls each of us by name. The confusion and fear we too often feel is calmed by the voice of the One who knows us by name.

WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

The readings describe that time when confused and frightened followers of Jesus looked to the apostles to tell them what to do after the Crucifixion and Resurrection. The answer seems simple. They must believe that Jesus, whom they crucified, is both Lord and Christ, both God and human. They must acknowledge their complicity in his death and seek forgiveness. They must be baptized. In First Peter the standard for their behavior is Jesus' behavior. Jesus, though free from sin himself, bore our sins and returned no insult or threat. Peter introduces the image of the shepherd who is the guardian of us who have gone astray. The Gospel emphasizes not the shepherd's leadership but that we are called by name.

LISTEN FOR YOUR NAME

The emphasis in John's Gospel is not on the leadership of the shepherd. The focus is specifically on the voice of the shepherd. We listen for the shepherd who calls us by name. We are not called to follow passively. We are called to recognize our name when it is spoken. We are to listen so that we can hear the voice of the One who knows who we truly are—not the external, transient realities like "I am a doctor" or "I am a mother." Our real name known to our Creator is much more than the roles we fill or the work we do. If my name is who I truly am, then I must listen for the One who calls me "forgiven" and "merciful" and "beloved." For this is my true name. This is my true nature.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 2:1, 4a, 36–41

Psalm 23:1–6

1 Peter 2:20b–25

John 10:1–10

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