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*A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust*

Bishop Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L.



April 21, 2024

**Rev. Dick Anthony Cortado
Administrator**

dcortado@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Masses in Masontown

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ..8:00 am
Saturday6:00 pm
Sunday..... 8:00 am & 11:30 am

Confessions: Saturday 5:00-5:30 pm

Adoration: First & Third
Fridays - 4:30 to 6:00 pm

Masses in Footedale

Tuesday & Thursday8:00 am
Saturday:4:00 pm
Sunday.....9:30 am

Confessions: Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm

Adoration: Second & Fourth
Wednesdays - 12:30 to 2:00 pm

Office Hours: Monday through
Friday - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Bulletin Articles: The deadline
for placing articles in the bulletin
is Monday at Noon.

New Parishioners, Welcome!

Please register as soon as possible.

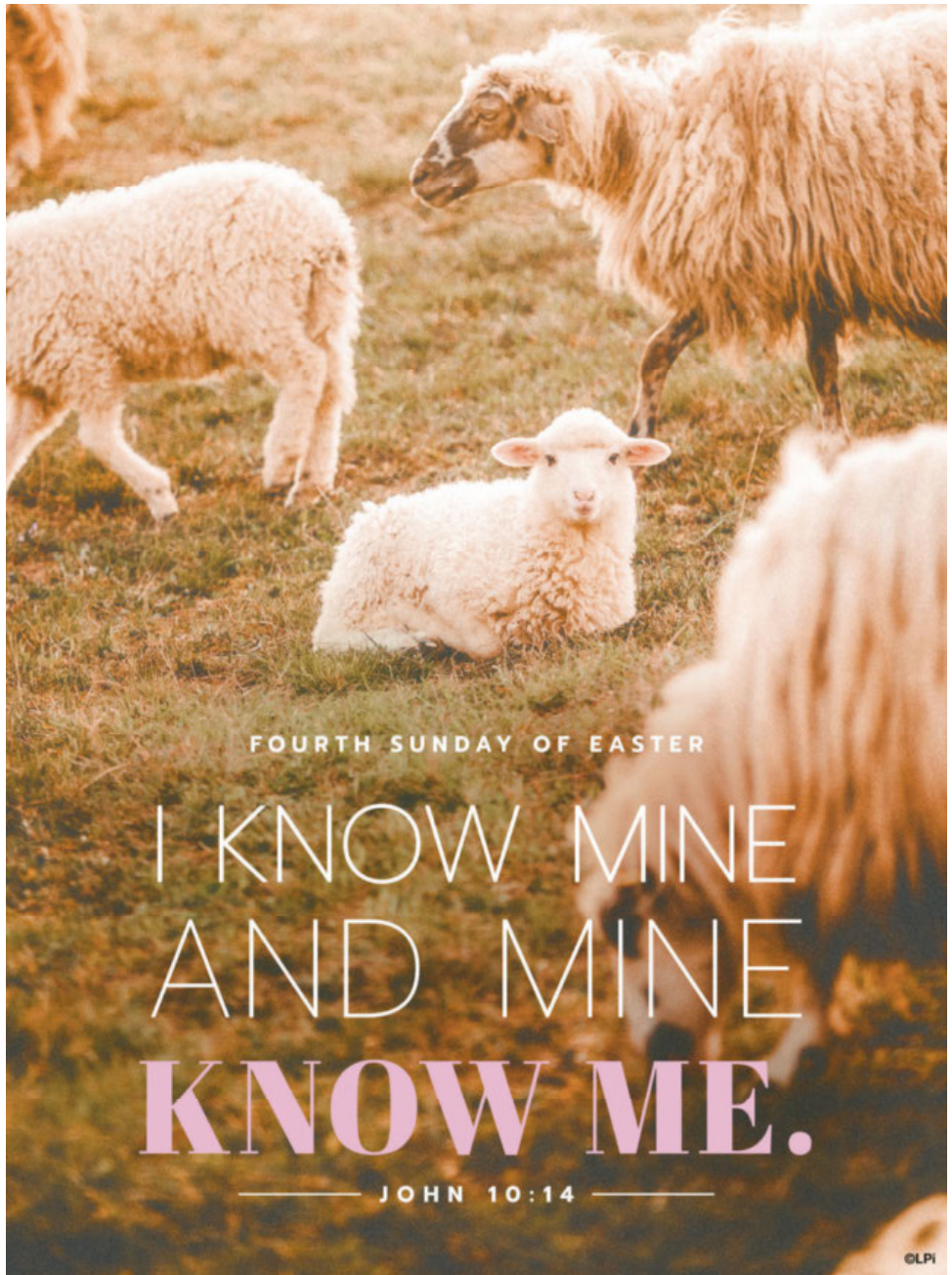
Communion to the Homebound is
provided on a regular basis. Call the
Parish Office to be added to our list.

Sacrament of Baptism: By
appointment. Prior to your baby's
Baptism, you must be a registered,
practicing member of this parish.

Sacrament of Marriage: Requires
parish membership by at least one of
the parties for six months prior to
making arrangements for marriage.

Weddings should be scheduled
one year in advance.

Prayer Chain: To request prayer,
please call Patty 724-245-9746
or Valeria 724-583-9460



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I KNOW MINE
AND MINE
KNOW ME.

JOHN 10:14



Thoughts from Father Anthony - Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year B

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Jesus is the Good Shepherd

This middle Sunday of Easter season is traditionally celebrated as Good Shepherd Sunday. We lift up that particular image of Jesus and the way of thinking about God's care for us. We hear the deeply comforting words of Psalm 23. We are reminded that Jesus not only protects us in our darkest hour but that He freely laid down His life for us. What greater love can be imagined isn't it?

This image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is one that is well known and so it should be. When we think of Him in this image it brings to our minds all kinds of images which recall the ways in which our Lord cares for us. In His care, people will be safe and they will be contented. His claim is that He is God come to His people, as promised, to be their shepherd. He is the fulfiller of the long hopes of God's people.

As a background, why Jesus used this image of the Good Shepherd? In Palestine the shepherd brought the sheep into the sheepfold every night. It was a circular stone wall with an opening or door where the sheep entered. Once the sheep were inside for the night the shepherd slept in that opening or door all night. The sheep could not get out without stepping over the shepherd's body which meant they would not get out at all during the night. Jesus is the gate and anyone who enters through Him will be safe and will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. Others steal and kill and destroy but Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

Scriptures describe the good shepherd and his relation to his sheep well. Notable is the readiness of the good shepherd to defend the sheep with his own life. Two threats, from robbers and wild beasts, face a good shepherd everyday. He prepares himself to face these two dangers. He makes sure that both do not take any of his sheep. The relationship between the good shepherd and his sheep is so close and committed that Jesus thought it best to use them to show how the Father and He love us.

One author of a book, said that Jesus could have called Himself the Good Manager but He chooses to be called the Good Shepherd. Why? It is because a good manager is one who manages well. It is not that the manager is lacking in zeal but a manager, more often than not, is a hard worker. In fact a manager is so overwhelmed with works at times that he can hardly manage.

He made some descriptions of a shepherd in comparison to a manager: **First**, the shepherd has time or makes time for his sheep. While a manager will find ways and means to manage his time, the shepherd is committed to be really present all the time, if not, most of the time. For a true shepherd, presence is something that is non-negotiable and cannot be delegated. **Second**, a shepherd gives quality time. The manager, precisely because he is in the business of managing, will sometimes go to the extent of managing even people, their feelings and their perceptions. He tries to "make for lost time" but sooner or later, his lack of commitment and dedication will show. The Good Shepherd goes about His task with no stress and in peace precisely because he knows and his people know that he is really there for them. **Third**, the shepherd works overtime. A manager is very calculating and exacting of time. For a manager, time is a precious commodity that is seen in terms of productivity and output. His constant battle cry is accomplishing the most, with the least effort and within the shortest time. He will rarely go for overtime. The shepherd sees time also as a precious commodity but in terms of input and love. He does not take short cuts. He waits patiently and he does not mind working overtime. He really doesn't have a battle cry. He only has a song: "What is time without love? What is love without time?" **Lastly**, the shepherd will be there "till the end of time." A manager is concerned about projects, deadlines, return on investments, quotas and timetables. He is for the "short time" only. A shepherd is committed for the long haul. His project is for a lifetime. His deadline is eternity. His return is investment out of this world and His timetable is forever. He is for "the long time." He is for daily dying to self. He is for forever.

Let us become good shepherds. Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence pastors, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials, bosses, employer, administrators, politicians and managers are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time, talents, health and wealth for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. Parents must be especially careful of their duties as shepherds, becoming role models for their children by leading exemplary lives. We pray that we may listen to the voice of Jesus as He calls, that we may enter the sheepfold through Him and be safe and have life and live it to the fullest.

Meditation based on today's Gospel, John 10:11-18

Today we are reminded that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, committed to caring for his sheep through every danger, difficulty and trauma. He told His disciples that He would lay down His life for our sins, He conquered death and raises us to eternal life with Him. Let us allow the risen Lord to guide us to the idyllic pasture of salvation.



Celebrated annually on Good Shepherd Sunday, this special day is set aside to invite the great family of Catholics worldwide to be concerned about the need for religious vocations. Looking at the tired crowds following Him, Jesus said: *“The Harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; therefore, pray the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers into His harvest.”* (Mt 9:37-38)

Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- † Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, those both living and dead.
- † Keep Father Anthony and all parish priests in your prayers throughout the week.
- † Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- † Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God’s call.



IDENTIFYING FAITHFUL YOUNG LEADERS

Do you know when you see a young Catholic and think, “Wow, he would be a great priest!” or “She would make a great sister!” Now you can let the Vocations Office know by submitting a form on the website.

GreensburgPriest.org/Called

What happens when you submit a name?

1. Father Bandura will send them a letter of encouragement.
2. The Vocation Office will invite them to events.
3. The Vocation Office will offer gentle support as they discern their vocation.

Thank you for being the voice of Christ!

The final Children’s Mass for this Faith Formation Year takes place at 9:30 am this morning in Footedale. The children will perform a song from last year’s Vacation Bible School before Mass.



Earth Day - April 22

God created the earth and called it “good.” During the Easter season, we celebrate a reverence for all life. Let us all be good stewards of the earth!

Thursday, April 25, is the feast of Saint Mark, the evangelist.

Mark’s gospel is simple and direct. It challenges the reader to share in Jesus’ sufferings and is filled with details that help us to understand the human side of Jesus. Mark’s symbol is a



winged lion. The lion is a desert animal and Mark’s gospel begins with the story of John the Baptist in the desert.

Mark was baptized by Saint Peter then they both traveled to Rome where Mark served as Peter’s secretary.

Mark also traveled with Saints Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey. During Paul’s two prison terms in Rome, Mark helped him to continue his work. Tradition holds Mark as the first bishop of Alexandria; he is patron of notaries. Saint Mark, pray for us!

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Parish Sympathy is expressed to the family of
† **Alice (Bobincheck) Richnafsky**
who was buried Tuesday, April 16. May God
grant to her eternal life and comfort her family.



Hoagies

Youth Ministry will offer hoagies for purchase following the Masses in Footedale on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28. The hoagies will be made by the youth and sell for \$5 each.

The hoagies are being prepared by the students under the direction of ServSafe Certified, Carletta Fronczek, to whom we extend our grateful thanks.

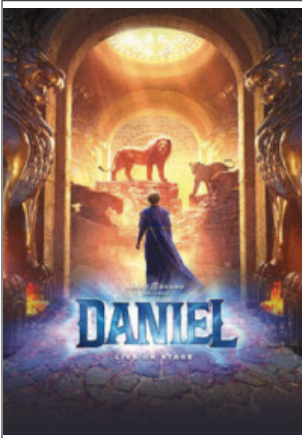
Upcoming Events / Save the Dates!

Rosary Walk and May Crowning
Sunday, **May 5**, 2:00 pm in Footedale

Ascension Thursday, May 9
Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation will be celebrated at Noon in Footedale and at 6:00 pm in Masontown

Mass Honoring our 2024 Graduates
Sunday, **May 19**, 9:30 am in Footedale

Confirmation - Thursday, May 23
Please pray for the five candidates of our parish who will be confirmed by Bishop Kulick at Saint Joseph Church in Uniontown



Our parish will sponsor a trip to see a performance of **DANIEL** at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster Tuesday, **July 9**.

Cost of \$195 per person includes bus transportation, show ticket and dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord.

Reservations with payment due by June 1; checks are payable to Budget Charter, Inc. Contact Rosemary 724-245-8333.

Save the Date - 2024 Diocesan Pilgrimage

Mark your calendar and plan to join in a Diocese of Greensburg pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Saturday, **September 21**, led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick.

This will be the first Diocesan pilgrimage to our magnificent National Shrine since 2006 and is sure to be a very holy and special experience. Information on the itinerary, transportation and cost will be announced soon.

The Practice of Stewardship

To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hands who run off, "leaving the sheep to be snatched and scattered by the wolf." See John 10:12

Thank you for the following memorial donations:

Saint Agnes Cemetery

In memory of **Elaine T. Rockwell** by
George Parish and Rick & Denise Bobincheck

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

In memory of **John F. Marmol Sr.**
by Colette Freiberg

The **Faith Formation** students and **Youth Ministry members** would like to thank everyone who donated a basket, purchased tickets at the Lenten Fish Dinners and donated eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. You have been so generous to us and we truly appreciate it!

The **Saint Francis of Assisi Christian Mothers** would like to thank all the volunteers who donated their time, efforts and skills toward the Lenten Fish Dinners and Bake Sale and all those who came and supported us. We could not have done it without you. All of your work is greatly appreciated. May God bless you. Patty Stavish, President

The **Knights of Columbus** extend their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to *everyone* who supported the Lenten Fish Dinners. Special thanks to those who gave of their time and talents to help prepare and serve the dinners.

Stewardship of Treasure

April 14: \$5,186; loose \$514; monthly \$1,715; children \$8; online \$300; Additional Easter \$110 totaling \$7,833

Our parish is grateful for your support!

Jesus the Good Shepherd knows that real love is an action, not an idea. His sacrifice is the proof of His love for His flock. Let us remember to love one another as the Good Shepherd loves us: not just in words but in actions, in choices, in deeds.

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MASS SCHEDULE ©LPI

Saturday, April 20 -- Vigil: 4th Sunday of Easter
 4:00 pm-F *Dominick & Valeria Galluzzo 50th*
 6:00 pm-M *Agnes DiGregorio Sopko (Dtr Anna Stuchal)*

Sunday, April 21 -- 4th Sunday of Easter
 8:00 am-M *John & Donna Chatlak (Lisa Chatlak)*
 9:30 am-F *Ann (Radovich)Palaisa (Vincent Palasia)*
 11:30 am-M *Pro Populo*

Monday, April 22 -- Easter Weekday
 8:00 am-M *Phil Griffith (Mother & Family)*

Tuesday, April 23 -- Saints George & Adalbert
 8:00 am-F *Edward & Martha Baron (Johanna Gaggiani)*

Wednesday, April 24 -- Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen
 8:00 am-M *Frances Oravets (Barry/Robin Krofcheck)*
 12:30-2:00pm-F *Adoration / Confessions*

Thursday, April 25 -- Saint Mark, Evangelist
 8:00 am-F *Mary Ann Kordella (Sons, David/Frank Jr.)*

Friday, April 26 -- Easter Weekday
 8:00 am-M *Marino & Lucy Galluzzo (Dom/Valeria)*

Saturday, April 27 -- Vigil: 5th Sunday of Easter
 10:00 am-F *First Eucharist*
 3-3:30 pm-F *Confessions*
 4:00 pm-F *Betty Weido (Ed & Dorothy Molnar)*

5:00-5:30 pm-M *Confessions*
 6:00 pm-M *Pro Populo*

Sunday, April 28 -- 5th Sunday of Easter
 8:00 am-M *John & Anne H. Kundrick (Janis)*
 9:30 am-F *Walter Suba Jr. (Nadia & Joe)*
 11:30 am-M *Jerry Solomon (Caroline Marella)*

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10
 Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30
 Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a; Jn 12:44-50
 Thursday: 1 Pt 5:5b-13; Mk 16:15-20
 Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6
 Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14
 Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8



Question of the Week:

In what specific way can I lay down my life this week for someone who needs what I can give them?



Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, April 24, in Footedale

12:30-1:30 pm: Adoration & Confessions
 1:30-1:45 pm: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena
 1:45-2:00 pm: Benediction



The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. John 10:11-18

Today is called Good Shepherd Sunday because the gospel readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter, always from John, deal with shepherds and sheep. Because Jesus knows God as a loving and merciful Father, He shows us the way through the darkness. He is the good shepherd who looks after the needs of His flock rather than His own interests. He protects us from harm at the cost of His own life. Jesus not only tends our flock, He looks after all God's children, even when we don't recognize them as our brothers and sisters. One day, we will stand face to face in a world without fences and will be surprised to see how much we resemble each other. Until then, we cannot let the darkness of the world blind us. With Christ to guide us, we dwell as one flock with one shepherd who leads us safely home.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Please pray for the fourteen young people of our parish who will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time on Saturday, April 27, at 10:00 am in Footedale.

† Lord Jesus, bless all those who are receiving You in Holy Communion for the first time. May each one of them know Your love and mercy in a personal way. May all Your people open their hearts to receive You that they might be transformed by Your love. Amen.

Memorial Candles burn this week in loving memory of or for the special intention of:

† **Sanctuary** - *First Eucharist Class*♥
of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

† **Blessed Mother** - *Augustine Aello Sr.*
 requested by wife, Edith and daughter, Barbara Rhoades

Catherine Shimshock (Birthday Remembrance)
 requested by Eugene, Roseanne & Family

† **Saint Joseph** - *Frank Novasky*
(Birthday Remembrance)

requested by daughter-in-law Sheilah

† **Sacred Heart** - *Steve & Anna Sandrosky*
 requested by LuAnn & Mary Lou Drzazgowski



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