

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 17, 2016

*"I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth."
— Acts 13:47b*

THE SHEPHERD'S FLOCK

In Christian art, the earliest depictions of Jesus Christ were not of his crucifixion or of his resurrection. The first known renderings of Jesus show him as the Good Shepherd, the image put before us in today's readings. In the Gospel passage Jesus reveals that he is the shepherd and his followers are his "flock."

In the first and second readings, we are told more about the flock. The passage from Acts assures us that both Jews and Gentiles are called to follow Jesus. It is faith, not birthright, that makes us part of the company of believers. In the passage from the book of Revelation we learn that the flock that follows this Lamb of God will also be washed in his blood. They will endure a time of trial before they enjoy eternal life. Be assured of the promise, we are told, but know there is a price to be paid.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Jews angrily reject Paul and Barnabas' preaching. They then turn their energies to the Gentiles (Acts 13:14, 43-52).

Psalm — We are his people, the sheep of his flock (Psalm 100).

Second Reading — John envisions a great white-robed multitude standing before the throne and before the Lamb. (Revelation 7:9, 14b-17).

Gospel — My sheep hear my voice; they follow me. I give them eternal life (John 10:27-30).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$6,394.00	\$5,826.00
Number of Families contributing	136	111
Total Pledge for 2016	\$172,351.00	\$185,388.00
Pledged to Date (14 Weeks)	\$49,765.00	\$54,370.00
Received to Date	\$43,445.80	\$39,515.80
Envelopes Outstanding	\$6,319.20	\$14,854.20

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2016
\$216.00	\$2,957.00

Twenty-five ladies made a contribution last week.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

2016 Parish Goal	\$23,330.00
Amount Received to Date	\$1,831.00
Amount Outstanding	\$21,499.00

Nine people made a B.A.A. contribution last week.

HALL RENOVATION FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2016
\$155.00	\$3,405.00

Six people made a Hall Fund contribution last week.

PARKING LOT totaled \$6.00.

POOR BOX \$185.00.

33 **CHILDREN** contributed \$119.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mass was 215, 7:00 P.M. Mass was 95 and Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass was 315.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A farmer was taking three of his donkeys for sale to the market. On the way he saw a river and decided to have a dip. Since he had only two ropes to tie the donkeys to a tree, he looked around wondering how to tie the third one. He saw a sage and sought his help if he could give him a rope to tie the third donkey. The sage did not have a rope but had a suggestion.

He told the farmer, "Let the third donkey see you tying the other two donkeys to a tree. Then you pretend to tie this one also".

The farmer did as he was told and went for a dip in the river. Coming back, he thanked the sage and saw that the donkeys stood exactly at the same spot where he had left them. He untied the two donkeys and patted the third one to start moving. After going a little distance, imagine his surprise when the third donkey stood still at the same spot. Cajoling, kicking or talking didn't help with the donkey, it refused to move. The farmer went back to the sage, who told him, "Untie the third donkey".

"But", protested the farmer, "I have not tied him". The sage asked, "You know that. But does the donkey know that". Sure enough the farmer went back and pretended to unite the donkey. The donkey moved immediately as though released and walked over to join the other two donkeys.

We are all, also tied up by too many imaginary ropes.... Which are really non-existent. The only truth is there are no boundaries in real life and anyone can stretch to any extent.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. Nonsense Jay and Family in loving memory of Hody's Bridget Marie on the 15th Anniversary of her death;
2. and a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

CONGRATULATIONS to Eddie Owen Riley and Gwen Riley for making the all A Honor Roll.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The second collection this weekend will be for Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Please be generous.

THANK YOU to two Parish Family members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite, St. Joseph and the Infant of Atocha; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite for the needy and St. Jude and St. Philomena; and two members for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite

WATCH THE ROAD There is a beautiful anecdote given by Msgr. Arthur Tonne clarifying the message of today's Gospel. Several years ago a bus driver in Oklahoma reached an unusual record. In 23 years he had driven a bus over 900,000 miles without a single accident. When asked how he had done it, he gave this simple answer: "*Watch the Road*".

JOKE OF THE WEEK During a college exam, the professor found a student peeking at a classmate's answers.

"How can you cheat so blatantly?" The professor shouted. "You have already stolen more than at look your classmate's paper!"

"Don't blame me, sir," replied the student. "If his handwriting weren't so bad, I could have gotten it all at one glance."

MEN vs WOMEN

Any married man should forget his mistakes – there's no use in two people remembering the same thing forever.

A man will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he wants. A woman will pay \$1 for a \$2 item that she doesn't want.

A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't. A man marries a woman expecting that she won't change and she does.

A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man.

THINK FOR A WHILE

Before you think of saying an unkind word. Think of someone who can't speak.

Before you complain about the taste of your food. Think of someone who has nothing to eat.

Before you complain about your children. Think of someone who desires children but is barren.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: For all the suffering souls & the souls nearest to Heaven in honor of St. Joseph.

Tuesday: In honor of St. Kateri, St. Expedite, St. Joseph and the Infant of Prague.

Wednesday: In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.

Thursday: In thanks for Edward Joseph Riley on his 14th Birthday.

Friday: In loving memory of Kate Hun on 6th Anniversary of her death.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Thursday: St. Anselm

Friday: Earth Day; Passover begins

Saturday: St. George; St. Adalbert

I MADE YOU

"On the street I saw a small girl cold and shivering in a thin dress, with little hope of a decent meal.

I became angry and said to God:

"Why did You permit this?"

Why don't You do something about it?"

For a while God said nothing.

That night He replied quite suddenly:

"I certainly did something about it.

I MADE YOU!

Grace E. Easley

READERS

Sat. Apr. 16th, 4:00 P.M.
Grace & Mary Theresa

Sat. Apr. 16th, 7:00 P.M.
Jay & Mary Melissa

Sun. Apr. 17th, 10:00 A.M.

Jimmy Joseph & Rose Marie

Sat. Apr. 23rd, 4:00 P.M.
Kathy Boo & Ann T.

Sat. Apr. 23rd, 7:00 P.M.
Jay & Mary Melissa

Sun. Apr. 24th, 10:00 A.M.

Jimmy Joseph & Rose Marie

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday Dominique

Tuesday Christina

Wednesday Grace

Thursday Rachel

Friday Rosie Cat

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 P.M.

Front

Front Left

Left Cup

Front Right

Right Cup

Sick

April 16th

Bridget Ann

Mary Regina

Catherine Ann

Rose Melissa

Ann T.

Rita Weaver

Saturday 7:00 P.M.

Front

Cup

April 16th

Sharon

Jay

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

April 17th

Pete Man's Nora

Rose Marie

April 24th

Pete Man's Nora

Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday Mary Cat

Tuesday Pete Man's Nora

Wednesday Ann T.

Thursday Betty Jo

Friday Bridget Ann

A CHRISTIAN IS:

A mind through which Christ thinks.

A voice through which Christ speaks.

A heart through which Christ loves.

A hand through which Christ helps.

PRAYER CORNER

Live Eternally in Me

So act, good Jesus, that, in my relationships with whatever neighbor and in all I do for the furthering of Your Father's glory and the salvation of others, I form myself on Your pattern; that I be a genuine reflection of your moderation, gentleness, humility, patience, graciousness, tireless zeal, in a word, of all Your virtues; and, in order to engrave them in my soul, live eternally in me.

Amen.