

Holy Family Parish
National Catholic Church
1921 Eden Park Boulevard
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Fourth Sunday in Easter-Good Shepherd
SPECIAL HOME SERVICE AND
PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS
May 3, 2020

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements (six months in advance), please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678. 0566. **Office Hours:** Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at bsleczkowski@aol.com

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Continuing our Discipleship

FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

PENITENTIAL RITE

ACT OF CONTRITION

O God, from the depth of my heart I am sorry for sinning against You. Through my sins I have turned away from You, displeased You and offended You. I promise to confess my sins, to do penance and with Your grace to amend my life by following You closely and keeping Your commandments.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Ezekiel 34: 31, Psalm 79: 13

C: You, My sheep, you are the sheep of My pasture, and I am your God, says the Lord God, Alleluia!

R: Then we, Your people and the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; through all generations we will declare Your praise, Alleluia!

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with out end. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to His people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You; we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of + God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray. *[pause briefly]* Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of Your people; strengthen us through Your risen presence. May we walk with You each day and follow You in humble trust for You are the Good Shepherd, You call us by name and lead us. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Acts 2: 14,36-41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call." He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day. The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul. R:

He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side. With your rod and your staff that give me courage. R:

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. R:

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come. R:

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:20-25

Beloved: If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When he was insulted, he returned

no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed himself over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamations

John 10: 14

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

John 10: 1-10

Jesus said:

“Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers. “Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So, Jesus said again, “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly. The Word of the Lord.

Commentary on Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14-36-41

This is the conclusion of Peter's speech last Sunday. To understand the reaction of the crowd today it would be good to read the whole account in Acts 2:14-36. The concluding line of Peter's speech is important because the two titles “Lord” and “Christ”, which we rather take for granted, were extremely dramatic words to use about a man who had been crucified 50 days previously. Perhaps

you could slow down to emphasize them in reading. Do not lose the clarity in the second paragraph - be careful with the sentence “The promise that was made, /pause/ is for you, and your children, and for all those....” Read the final line very deliberately: it is still marvelous that so many people turned to the way of Jesus so suddenly: say “three thousand” almost with a sense of awe.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4-9

We hear a lot of Saint Peter in Easter but what wonderful things he has to say! Today is a poetic passage on the meaning of the Passion perhaps you could compare it with the “Songs of the Suffering Servant” in Isaiah. The first sentence is like a proverb: it jumps in rather abruptly, so leave a good pause after announcing the reading, and emphasise the words “bearing punishment patiently” so that the meaning is understood, The rest of the reading goes on to explain why we should live like this: “[You should bear suffering patiently] because Christ suffered for you”. Mentally underline the phrase “He was bearing our faults” The last line is very much a “here and now” phrase: You (= the baptised congregation) had gone astray...now you (the congregation) have come back (by baptism and its renewal).

Gospel Reading John 10: 1-10

Our Gospel reading can be a fusion of two parables. The first is a picture of a sheepfold into which two parties seek to enter, an intruder and the shepherd himself. This parable refers to the fake shepherd of Israel. The second parable concerns the relationship between the sheep and the shepherd. You can fuse these parables together. Jesus as seen by the author of John’s Gospel identifies with both the gate and the shepherd. Both make the same point. The Gospel also shows the love of the Shepherd to the sheep. In other words. Jesus loves us.

Reflections

This Sunday is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday. Once more we heard the words of the great psalm: “The Lord is my Shepherd” for our responsorial. There is a story told that one day Jesus came upon a shepherd who was overcome with sorrow. “Why are you so sad, Jesus asked.” “Because I have lost one of my sheep, the shepherd replied, and though I have looked all over for it, I have not found it. It may be that the wolf has already

devoured it.” Then Jesus said, “wait here. I will look for the sheep myself.” Then Jesus went into the hills. An hour later, he returned with the sheep. Putting it down at the shepherd’s feet he said: “From this day on you must love this sheep more than any other in your flock, for it was lost and now has been found.” Our lesson from the second reading, Peter reminds us that we had all gone astray like sheep. But we now have come back to Christ, the shepherd and guardian of our souls. This should remind us that we are all precious to Jesus because He had to go to the trouble of looking for us and finding us.

NICENE CREED

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by

the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary, AND BECAME MAN.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son, He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. I

acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

GENERAL INTERCESSION

Celebrant: The Lord is the shepherd who knows each one of his flock by name. Let us offer our prayers to God, trusting in his personal love for us.

L: Our response is, “Lord hear our prayers”

L: That our Holy Church may extend the victory of the risen Christ by serving those who walk in the valley of darkness, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That the Lord will raise up more priests and deacons to be shepherd of God's people, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That our Holy Mother Mary continues keeping our parish and our families in her intercession leading us to her Son Jesus let us pray to the Lord.

L: That our young people understand the word to honor as God has described in the commandments that he gave us to love a moral and fruitful life, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That we eradicate Covid-19 so that we may return to weekly worship and true normalcy in our society, let us pray to the Lord

L: That the dead may pass through the gate of the sheepfold and rejoice with the shepherd and guardian of their souls, especially all the deceased members of the LoBue and Bianchi family and Thomas Muse who we remember this morning.

Celebrant: Most gentle Father, you guide us along the right path; your Son is always there, beside us. Comfort us by granting these prayers, through Christ our Lord.

OFFERTORY VERSE

I will appoint over you shepherds after My own heart,
who will shepherd you wisely and prudently. Alleluia.

Jeremiah 3: 15

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Almighty Father accept this oblation and grant a loving, wise and courageous spirit to all who pastor, minister and teach in Your name. Through all their words and deeds, they may seek Your glory and the increase of Your kingdom. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior.

COMMUNION VERSE

Let me live to praise You, may Your edicts give me help. I have wandered like a lost sheep; seek out Your servant, for I do not forget Your commands. Alleluia. Psalm 119: 175-176

PRAYER AFTER SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us pray. [pause briefly] Lord Jesus Christ, You so shepherd Your people that they shall not want. Lead us peacefully to Your green pastures and refresh us beside Your still waters. For us who have shared in the Holy Banquet restore our souls when we go astray and always lead us in the paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

PRAYER IN TIME OF NATIONAL ANXIETY

Let us pray. I come to You, Lord, in this time of uncertainty and confusion that has gripped our nation. I pray that our leaders and representatives in government are filled with Your peace, strength and courage. May your gifts of wisdom and understanding, fortitude and counsel be sought and utilized by them for the well-being of our country. By their belief and trust in You may they provide capable leadership, promote unity and peace, and be attentive to the concerns of our people. May Your Church provide support and comfort; and help strengthen our hope for peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE ANGELUS
ASKING THE INTERCESSION OF OUR
BLESSED MOTHER



V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary ...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to your word.

Hail Mary...

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary ...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. O Lord, we ask You, pour forth Your grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His passion and cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. In the name of the Father and of the Son of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

This Week

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Easter 4

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

+Deceased members of the LoBue & Biancki Family Int.

Claudia LoBue; +Thomas Muse (2nd Ann.) Int. Karyn Muse

Sunday, May 10, 2020

Easter 5

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

Prayers for the Mothers of our families both living and dead.

These are the recommendations from the Prime Bishop and the Bishops of the church. The Church doors will be open for all the celebrations, but it is recommended to stay home or keep a social distance if attending the liturgy.

Until the sanctions from the Covid -19 Virus is lifted and we return to normal activities, there will only be one Sunday Mass to be celebrated at 9:00 A.M. The 11:00 A.M. will not be celebrated. Again, it is recommended to stay home.

Fourth Sunday Easter Word Search

E	R	U	T	S	A	P	E	D	R
D	E	E	P	H	H	E	N	L	E
R	P	E	T	L	I	A	C	O	E
E	E	A	L	N	G	E	E	F	P
H	E	I	R	I	E	K	F	P	E
P	K	S	R	A	E	C	V	E	L
E	E	B	A	P	B	O	K	E	A
H	T	E	E	F	I	L	F	H	E
S	A	F	H	C	E	F	E	S	T
E	G	R	E	G	N	A	R	T	S

SHEEPFOLD THIEF BRIGAND
 SHEPHERD FLOCK GATEKEEPER
 STRANGER PARABLE PASTURE
 STEAL KILL LIFE



Graduates

Although we are at a quarantine lockdown, Holy Family still wants to honor the 2020 High School and College Graduates. Please send Fr. Bruce your name and a list of awards and school achievements.



2020 Convo Update

Due to the uncertainty when Mercyhurst University will be reopened, it was decided during the organizing committee teleconference meeting last Sunday. that the 2020 National Youth Convocation scheduled this July will be postponed until next year.

Parish Stewardship

These have been difficult days for many of us. Some have been laid off from their jobs. Hopefully we get back to our normal lives and importantly back to worship, hearing the Word of God and receiving the Holy Eucharist. Easter just wasn't the same this year. We missed our rituals and liturgies. Due to the current mandates issued in our country and state, our parish lost valuable fundraising events which are necessary to our everyday expenses. Even though you haven't been able to worship each Sunday, home worship bulletins have been made available on our website, and your weekly financial donations are needed. Continue to fill each weekly envelope as if you were attending Mass every Sunday. You can send in your donations through the mail or hold onto them until we resume our Sunday obligations. This is also a part of our discipleship, stewardship. Most importantly though, be safe and follow the guidelines so we can eradicate this contagious virus. Let us keep praying for each other for we are all family.

Polish National Union of America



Contact Henrietta Kleckner Branch 132 Secretary @ 724.863.6715 for information and applications.

The month of May is dedicated to our Holy Mother. May our Holy Mother during these trying times intercede for our families and parish. Pray this Litany each day during the Month of May in lieu of the Wednesday services.



Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary

C: Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy; **R: Have mercy on us.**

C: Christ hear us. Christ graciously hear us. God, the Father of Heaven: **R: Have mercy on us.**

C: God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, God, the Holy Spirit, Holy Trinity, One God, **R: Have mercy on us.**

C: Holy Mary, Holy Mother of God, Holy Virgin of virgins, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Mother of Christ, Mother of divine grace, Mother most pure, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Mother most chaste, Mother inviolate, Mother undefiled, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Mother most amiable, Mother most admirable, Mother of our Creator. **R: Pray for us.**

C: Mother of our Savior, Mother of good counsel, Virgin most prudent, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Virgin most venerable, Virgin most renowned, Virgin most powerful, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Virgin most merciful, Virgin most faithful, Mirror of justice, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Seat of wisdom, Cause of our joy, Spiritual vessel, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Vessel of honor, Singular vessel of devotion, Mystical rose, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Tower of David, Tower of ivory, House of gold, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Ark of the Covenant, Gate of Heaven, Morning star, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Health of the sick, Refuge of sinners, Comforter of the afflicted, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Help of Christians, Queen of Angels, Queen of Patriarchs, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Queen of Prophets, Queen of Apostles, Queen of Martyrs, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Queen of Confessors, Queen of Virgins, Queen of all Saints, **R: Pray for us.**

C: Queen conceived without sin, Queen of our nation, Queen of peace, **R: Pray, for us.**

C: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord, **R: Spare us, O Lord.**

C: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord, **R: Graciously hear us, O Lord.**

C: Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, **R: Have mercy on us.**

C: Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us, **R: Have mercy on us.**



The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom comes. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of death. Amen.

Doxology

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

ANTIPHON: “Under Your Protection”

Under your protection, under your protection, we would refuge take, Blessed mother of our Savior. Mother we entreat you, Mother we entreat you, turn not from the need of your children.

But from all evils about us, But from all evils about us, Mother ever protect us. Virgin most gracious, gracious and most blessed.

O Mother, O Mother, O Mother dearest, Mother who pleads for us, Thou who prays for us, Mother, our help and comfort. With thy Son, now pray, unites us, Unto thy Blessed Son, pray entrust us, Unto thy blessed Son, pray commit us, O Mother. O Mother, O mother dearest, Mother who pleads for us, Thou who prays for us, Mother, our help and comfort.

C: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R: **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Closing Prayer

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord God, unto us Thy servants, that we may rejoice in continual health of mind and body; and, by the glorious intercession of blessed Mary ever Virgin, may be delivered from present sadness, and enter into the joy of Thine eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thank You

The McKeesport Intersection sent a thank you note to our parish's PNU Branch 132 Lenten "Roll Away the Stone of Hunger" and to the SAMBS for the Chocolate Easter Eggs. The organization was very grateful for the donations since their food supply was dwindling due to the current events. PNU Branch 132 would like to thank all the parishioners who responded to the food drive and SAMBS thanks all who supported their Easter Egg Sale.

Ongoing

The youth are still collecting toiletries and Dave Kost is still collecting used clothing. They can be brought to the parish at your convenience.



**With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember**

Memorial Day

Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated on Monday, May 25th at 10:00 A.M. in the parish worship center instead of the parish cemetery this year.

Food For Thought

Since we did not have the Palm Sunday Breakfast and we will not have our annual Mother's Day Breakfast and possibly Father's Day breakfast cancelled; maybe when we are all able to once again gather together as a Church family, a welcome back breakfast could be planned? Just a thought.