

Living the Gospel



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SL ShareLife

St. John the Evangelist Church

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Message from the Pastor

The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you all!

We celebrate this Sunday the Fourth Sunday of Easter referred to as the Sunday of the Good Shepherd since Christ fulfills this prophecy of the prophet Ezekiel. The First Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. It presents the answer that St. Peter and St. John gave to the authorities after they have healed a paralytic in the Temple of Jerusalem. They proclaimed that this healing happened in the name of Christ crucified and risen from the dead. They argued that since He has destroyed death, He has the power to heal this man. The name of Christ signifies the power that Christ has in Himself to give fullness of life to whoever invoke His name with faith. We are all called to approach with trust and confidence this saving power of Christ in whatever difficulty we may find ourselves. The Second Reading is from the First Letter of St. John. It underlines the importance of being a child of God. All of us have been baptized and are adopted children of God. However, we do not live fully as children of God since we commit sins and we are proud, get angry, are impatient. Through His Death and Resurrection, Christ has made possible that in our daily actions we can indeed act as children of God. A son and daughter of God is the one who acts and loves like God. After His Resurrection, we have been given the Spirit of the Risen Christ who enables us to carry good deeds of holiness. The Gospel, from St. John, gives us the beautiful parable of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. He is the One who guides us, nourishes us, and gives His life for us. As a shepherd, Christ knows each of our struggles and worries and He provides for us. As the sheep listen to the voice of the shepherd to find security, we are all called to listen to the loving voice of Christ who bring us to green pastures. He is the One Shepherd whom we must follow since He has given His life for us, so that we may live to the fullest. Let us listen with open hearts to the Good Shepherd who loves us and knows our struggles and brings us to path of peace, hope and fullness of life!

To listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd in our lives and find fullness of life, I really encourage to come to the preaching of the Good News that is taking place in our Church. It is every Monday and Thursday at 7:30pm at the Church. You do not need to register to come, just attend and experience the joy of the Resurrection in your lives!

May God continue to fill you with hope and peace during the Easter Season!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis Homily for Third Sunday of Easter B (April 18, 2021) On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, called Good Shepherd Sunday, the Gospel (Jn 10:11-18) presents Jesus as the true shepherd who defends, knows and loves his sheep.

The “mercenary” is the opposite of the Good Shepherd, the one who does not care about the sheep because they are not his. He does the job only for pay and is not concerned about defending them: when a wolf arrives, he flees and abandons them (cf vv. 12-13). Instead, Jesus, the true shepherd, defends us always and saves us from so many difficult situations, dangerous situations through the light of his word and the strength of his presence that we always experience if we want to listen, every day.

The second aspect is that Jesus, the good shepherd, knows – the first aspect: defend; the second: he knows his sheep and the sheep know Him (v. 14). How beautiful and consoling it is to know that Jesus knows us one by one, that we are not unknown to Him, that our name is known to him! We are not a “mass”, a “multitude” for Him, no. We are unique individuals, each with his or her own story, he knows us with our own story, each with his or her own value, both because they have been created and have been redeemed by Christ. Each of us can say: Jesus, knows me! Each one of us: Jesus knows me! It is true, it is like this: He knows us like no other. Only He knows what is in our hearts, our intentions, our most hidden feelings. Jesus knows our strengths and our defects, and is always ready to care for us, to heal the wounds of our errors with the abundance of his mercy. In Him, the image the prophets had provided of the shepherd of the people of God is completely fulfilled: Jesus is concerned about his sheep, he gathers them, he binds their wounds, he heals their ailments. We can read this in Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (cf Ez 34:11-16).

Therefore, Jesus the Good Shepherd defends, knows, and above all loves his sheep. And this is why He gives His life for them (cf Jn 10:15). Love for his sheep, that is, for each one of us, would lead him to die on the cross. For this is the Father’s will – that no one should be lost. Christ’s love is not selective; it embraces everyone. He Himself reminds us of this in today’s Gospel when he says: “And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd” (Jn 10:16). These words testify to his universal concern: He is everyone’s shepherd. Jesus wants

everyone to be able to receive the Father’s love and encounter God.

And the Church is called to carry on this mission of Christ. Beyond those who participate in our communities, there is the majority, many people, who do so only at particular moments or never. But this does not mean they are not God’s children: the Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, and he gave his life for everyone.

Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves us, everyone. May Mary Most Holy help us to be the first to welcome and follow the Good Shepherd, to cooperate in the joy of his mission.

Development & Peace

DPCC: This Year, let’s work toward Reaping our Rights

This year, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada’s Create Hope: Reaping our Rights campaign calls you to stand with small-scale farmers and peasant communities who feed the world while caring for the Earth. Do this by donating to ShareLife next Sunday.

Established in 1967, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada.

We address the root causes of poverty, oppression, and inequality by working with partners in the Global South and by mobilizing Canadians in the common struggle for justice and dignity. We champion women and social movements as key agents of lasting change.

Our transformative work is possible thanks to the generosity and support of our members and Canadians who stand by us. Give generously to ShareLife, Development and Peace Caritas Canada in Toronto is part of this network.

Join the movement of over 12,000 members and help us bring our campaigns to life in your community. Visit devp.org/membership.

For more information, contact Estela Rios at emr0001@hotmail.com

APRIL 21, 2024



**Word of Good News
For Youth & Adults**
Come and discover the love that
God has for you!
Starting April 15, 2024
Mondays & Thursdays 7:30pm
In the church, COME AND SEE!

Confirmation Candidates
Evening of Reconciliation in the Church

Tuesday April 30th
Candidates being Confirmed June 1st
7:00pm-8:00pm

Thursday May 2nd
Candidates being Confirmed May
26th
7:00pm -8:00pm

**St. John the Evangelist
Day of Reflection and Spiritual
Renewal**
For all Parishioners 55+
Manresa Centre, Pickering,
Ontario
Thursday, May 23, 2024
From 9:30 am to 3:00 PM
Father James V Kelly S.J.
Manresa Retreat Spiritual Centre
Our Facilitator
His talk, in two parts
**THE POWER OF PENTECOST
REGISTRATION TAKES PLACE
AFTER ALL MASSES**
May 4-5, 11-12
**\$50.00 INCLUDING LUNCH AND
SNACK**
Payable when registering

**CWL Members and Ladies of the
Parish**

Our next CWL general meeting is
scheduled for Thursday, April
25th, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. in the main
room of the Parish Centre. If you
require more information, please
contact Lynne Childerhouse at
905-431-6582 or
lchilderhouse@hotmail.com.



Masses For The Week

Sat Apr 20 – 5:00pm
+Patrick Fitzpatrick
req. by His Wife & Family

Mon Apr 22 – 8:20am
+Andrew Marioselva
req. by His Family

Tues Apr 23 – 8:20am
+Clorinda & Clemente Garritano
req. by Nina & Family

Wed Apr 24 – 7:00pm
+Tereso & Crispina Abaloyan
req. by Emerita Vallesterio & Family
Intention for the Veltri Family
req. by Nina & Family
+Patrick Fitzpatrick
req. by Mary & Dave Chown
+James Clarke
req. by The Maher Family
+Bryan Rivers
req. by Eugene Rivers
+Cecile
req. by Ranjit & Family

Thur Apr 25 – 8:20am
+ Edgar Talabis
req. by Lorna Talabis

Fri Apr 26 – 8:20am
+Catherine
req. by Yesu



**Invest in our Church's future by
giving to ShareLife**

Your kindness and devotion enables St. Augustine's Seminary, along with the Office Of Vocations and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary to provide an excellent formation for our seminarians as they pursue a life of service. This past year, you invested in our Church's future by supporting 58 seminarians at St. Augustine's

Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary. This Sunday, April 21st, we celebrate the 61st World Day of Vocations. There has never been a better time to support and pray for our seminarians, wherever they may be on their journey. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate. THANK YOU!



Society of St.
Vincent de Paul,
St. John the Evangelist
Conference

**BUNDLE WEEKEND
May 4/5, 2024**

A truck will be parked in St. John Parish parking lot over the weekend May 4th & 5th accepting gently used/new clothing, coats, linens, towels, bedding, textiles, drapery, shoes/boots.

We CANNOT accept furniture, appliances, mattresses, used baby equipment, furniture, books, dishes, construction material or video tapes.

**Please bring your items to the truck
after mass Saturday at 5pm, Sunday
9am or 11am or 2:00 pm in Spanish.**

Daughters of St. Paul Book Fair
April 27/28, 2024
Pauline Parish Book Fair
The Daughters of St. Paul will hold a Book Fair in the parish centre on April 27/28 after all masses. A selection of books for children, youth and adults including bibles, bible stories, storybooks, spirituality, prayer, faith formation, parenting and the lives of the saints. Please tour the book fair in the parish centre after mass.

**MARCH FOR LIFE
Thursday May 9, 2024**
A bus departs from Holy Family
Parish to Ottawa at 6:45am.
Tickets \$35/adult
Call Gwen 905-259-8504


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