



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 7, 2017

ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH

TODAY IS FOOD SUNDAY! Our baskets are out for Simple Supper and the Food Pantry at Immaculate Heart Parish. Your generosity is appreciated.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES 2017 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN- Whether it's a program serving people who are homeless in Portland, reuniting broken families in Salem, helping pregnant mothers living in poverty to get back on their feet in Eugene, protecting the dignity of refugees and immigrants statewide, or providing emergency assistance to thousands in Western Oregon, Catholic Charities is there. Your generosity allows Catholic charities to provide meaningful help to the most vulnerable in our community. Envelopes are available in the pews and in this weeks' bulletin. Please mail your gift directly to Catholic Charities or return it to church next weekend. Thank you.

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL - We have extra copies of the *Joy of the Gospel*, written by Pope Francis and used as a study aid by our Lenten Study groups this year. Suggested donation is \$8.00.

UPDATED/CORRECTED PARISH DIRECTORIES - We have limited copies of an updated directory available in the gathering area - suggested donation is \$20.

ST ELIZABETH GOLF SCRAMBLE - Sunday June 25 at Red Tail Golf course in Beaverton. Save the date and plan on joining us! Registration forms are available in the gathering area. Contact Shawn Duffy with any questions.

HOSPITALITY FOR NEXT WEEKEND - May 13th & 14th :
9:00 AM - Sharon Finley 11:00 AM - Jana Davis & Alice Fay.
Please come early. If you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make sure you find a substitute. Thank you!

COLLECTION FOR LAST WEEKEND: \$3,924.00
Catholic Home Missions: \$1,627.00 Thank you!

The image of the good shepherd has nothing to do with saccharine sentimentality. Shepherds were important figures in the Palestinian landscape. They bore total responsibility for the flocks on which their people depended. They saw to it that the sheep found adequate grazing and water in a land that could be harsh and forbidding. They kept the animals safe from wild predators and human marauders, sometimes at the cost of their own lives. If the shepherds were unfaithful, the sheep could not long survive. It is no wonder that the people of the Old Testament cast God himself in the image of the good shepherd, sustainer, and protector of the flock of Israel.

The church found the perfect fulfillment of this image in the risen Christ, who had laid down his own life to become the very source of life for his people. He nourishes his flock with the word and the bread of life. In the mixed metaphors of today's gospel, he is the gate through which they pass to the safety of the sheepfold and the shepherd who defends them from all threats of evil.

In the First Letter of Peter, Christ the shepherd is called the "Guardian of your souls." The Greek word used is episkopos, more commonly translated "bishop." Although Christ is no longer visibly present to us as he was to his first hearers, he continues to nourish and to preserve his people through the Church's ministers. On Good Shepherd Sunday, then, we give thanks for the gift of all the good and faithful shepherds who lay down their lives in daily service to the Lord's flock.



LITURGICAL READINGS

- Today: Fourth Sunday of Easter. Acts 2:14a, 36-41/ Psalm 23/ 1 Peter 2:20b-25/
John 10:1-10.
- Monday: Acts 11:1-18/ Psalm 42 and 43/ John 10:11-18.
- Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/ Psalm 87/ John 10:22-30.
- Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a/ Psalm 67/ John 12:44-50.
- Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/ Psalm 89/ John 13:16-20.
- Friday: Acts 13:26-33/ Psalm 2/ John 14:1-6.
- Saturday: Our Lady of Fatima. Acts 13:44-52/ Psalm 98/ John 14: 7-14.
- Next Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter. Acts 6:1-7/ Psalm 33/ 1 Peter 2:4-9/
John 14: 1-12.

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

Baptism and Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

Marriage: Six months' notice required.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. James M. Kolb, C.S.P., Pastor

Elizabeth Duncan, Parish Assistant

Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

During her visit to the United Nations several years ago, Mother Theresa was approached by a diplomat who said, "I am not a Catholic, Mother. But I want to know: how should I pray." The frail little nun took his burly hands in hers and spread out five of his fingers on one hand. "When you pray," she said, "Think about the many blessings you have received; then, at the end of the day, count out on each finger the words spoken to you by Jesus: You.. did.. this.. for.. me." The diplomat left holding up his hand as though it were a trophy and saying: "You did this for me." In this simple prayer, Mother Theresa made the Resurrection seem real. What she meant was that the love and peace of the Good Shepherd is present to us in the many moments of compassion that bless our lives: in kind words, in the listening ear, in generous actions. Jesus is also present in the blessings we extend to others. The Good Shepherd of today's gospel guides us every day in our journey to eternal life.

