

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 2021



Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

April 26-May 2nd, 2021

These Mass offerings will be celebrated by Fr. Lorenzo during his private Masses.

Monday, April 26th

No Mass

Tuesday, April 27th

7:00pm—†Agripina Gemora

Wednesday, April 28th

7:00pm —†Agripina Gemora

Thursday, April 29th

7:00pm—†Agripina Gemora

Friday, April 30th

7:00pm—†Agripina Gemora

Saturday, May 1st

5:00pm —†Agripina Gemora

Sunday, May 2nd

10:00am—Community of Our Lady of Assumption

12:00Noon—†Agripina Gemora

5:00pm —†Inocencia Samonte

7:15pm —†Narcisa Ismael

Something to ponder.....

Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep. J(ohn 10:11-18)



The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.

Light a Prayer Candle



Sanctuary Lamps

Offerings

You can offer a sanctuary candle for your deceased loved ones, thanksgiving, Etc.



Let us pray!

For those who are sick members of our parish and those who love and minister to them.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING PROGRAM

The Archdiocese of Toronto has established a Pre-Authorized Giving Plan (PAG) to assist you in your support of the work of Our Lady of Assumption, through your regular parish offerings (this does not include special collections). The Plan is administered through the Office of Development of the Archdiocese of Toronto and tax receipts will be issued for all offertory gifts. Enrollment forms available at the parish office.



You can work wonders!

First Collection \$2,067.25

Thank you for your generosity!

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
FOR VOCATIONS
April 25, 2021**

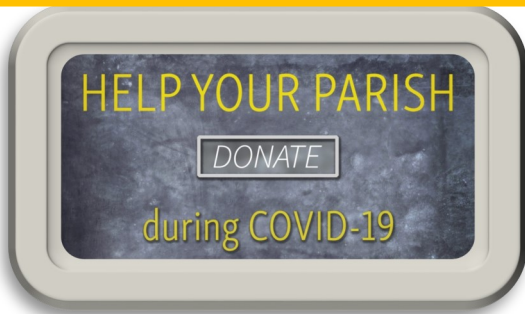
Support vocations through ShareLife

When you support ShareLife, you help educate our future priests.

Your gift to ShareLife is investing in our Church's future by supporting 54 seminarians at St. Augustine's Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary in the current academic year.



PLEASE CONNECT US THROUGH OUR WEBSITE



DONATION ONLINE: Consider switching your support of the parish to Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG forms are available in the parish office and through parish website) or credit card, or single monthly donation through the "DONATE now" button at : www.archtoronto.org. Please call the parish office for information at 416-291-9422

Offertory Collection

Sunday Regular Collection: \$ 4,376.50
PAG (April) \$2,107.00
Donate Now (April 10) \$270.00

Thank you for your generous hearts!

PUBLIC NOTICE

Friday, April 16th, the provincial government announced further restrictions in an attempt to minimize the transmission of Covid-19, given the alarming increase in new cases over the past 10 days. The new measures have a direct impact on places of worship as part of an extended stay-at-home order, which will be in place until at least May 20, 2021.

- Parishes must restrict attendance inside the church to **10 people**, including priests hearing confessions or a staff member/volunteer required to monitor capacity restrictions. Due to these measures, **public Masses must be temporarily cancelled**. Priests are asked to celebrate private Mass daily for the intentions of parishioners and for those suffering from Covid-19.
- Parish offices should continue to operate at Phase 1 – Parish Offices Closed/Significant Operating Restrictions. Only essential staff in the office. Employees should work remotely wherever possible. **Parish offices closed to the public - limited essential appointments only.**

Thank you for your ongoing vigilance in implementing these health and safety measures during this critical period and for adapting to this difficult situation once again. Please continue to pray for all those who are sick and those caring for them.

Saint Michael the Archangel, pray for us.

**ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO,
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PRESENTS
WEBINAR EVENT - ESTATE PLANNING FROM A
CATHOLIC PROSPECTIVE**

Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 10 am.

Content includes:

- How to protect your loved ones with a proper Will
 - How to ensure your wishes are legally protected
 - About Powers of Attorney
 - Estate Trustee selection
 - Finding lawyers and estate planning advisors
- Presentation will be conducted in English with Chinese translation

