



Welcome to

# HOLY FAMILY PARISH

APRIL 30, 2023 – 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER 2023 - YEAR A

Email: [contact@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:contact@holyfamilymh.ca) ~ Website: [www.holyfamilymh.ca](http://www.holyfamilymh.ca) ~ Phone 403-527-6933

Facebook: Medicine Hat Holy Family Parish ~ YouTube: Medicine Hat Holy Family Church

Office Hrs. Monday to Friday - 8:30am – 12:00pm & 1:00pm to 4:30pm. Closed on Holidays.

## CLERGY AT HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Fr. Iqbal Khurshid & Fr Naveed Arif  
& Deacon Robert Risling

## RECONCILIATION...

Friday 9:30am–10:30am. & Saturday 3:30–  
4:45pm. Or by Appointment

## MASS TIMES... MONDAY to FRIDAY at 9:00AM

FIRST SATURDAY OF MONTH at 8:30AM, SATURDAY at 5:00PM

SUNDAY at 8:30AM, 10:30AM & 6:00PM

## THE CHAPEL IS OPEN

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:30am - 4:00pm

ADORATION FRIDAY 9:30 – 10:30am

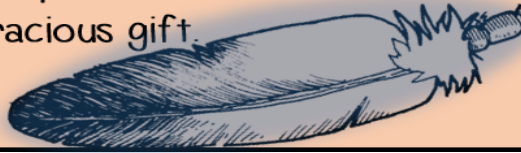
Knights of Columbus - Kirby Peterson

Catholic Women's League – Cathy Koch

Parish Pastoral Council Chair - Gary Heinbecker

Parish Finance Council Chair - Cheryl Pocsik

We acknowledge that Treaty 7 territory,  
on which we stand, is the ancestral land  
of the Indigenous peoples and is common  
home to everyone in virtue of God our  
Creator's gracious gift.



## *"I Am the Gate."*

Doorways and gates can protect those within.  
This is the image of Jesus today – gate and  
protector, shepherd, and guide. Let Psalm 23  
fill our prayer every day this week.

- † Because I am protected by the Good  
Shepherd, whom will I protect this week?  
How will I do it?
- † On what right paths will I let myself be  
guided?
- † What goodness and kindness will shine through  
my thoughts and actions this week?

## † Masses & Mass Intentions †



Saturday, April 29

5:00pm ~ Joe Wagner †

Sunday, April 30

8:30am ~ Holy Family Parish  
10:30am ~ Byron Martin †  
6:00pm ~ Mary Buscholl †

Monday, May 1

9:00am ~ Joe & Rose Biko

Tuesday, May 2

9:00am ~ Dale Irvine †  
6:30pm ~ Healing Mass

Wednesday, May 3

9:00am ~ Mildred Braat & Family

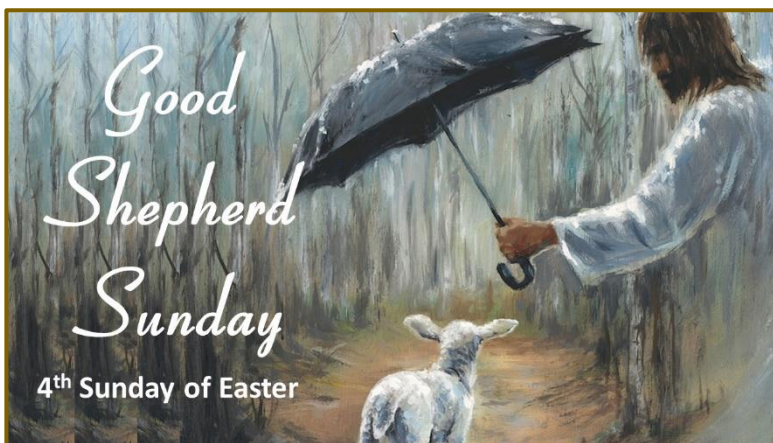
Thursday, May 4

9:00am ~ Arlene Hagel

Friday, May 5

9:00am ~ Jim Buscholl †

# APRIL 30, 2023 – 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER 2023 - YEAR A



## OPERATING FINANCES

MARCH 1-31, 2023

Operating Budget 2022	\$ 63,984
General Envelope Collection	\$ 46,139
Loose Collections	\$ 2,800
Future Development	\$ 2,561
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 6,183
<b>\$ 57,683 - Budget Vs Actual</b>	<b>-\$ 6,301</b>

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 4,338
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,434
World Mission	\$ 25
Clergy Retirement	\$ 55
Mission Mexico	\$ 215
CARO	\$ 80
Holy Land	\$ 20
Seminary Fund	\$ 55
Ukrainian Relief	\$ 10
Loonies for Lent	\$ 5,292

*Thank You for your Generous Contributions*

Average Weekly Attendance	880
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## Mark your Calendars!

- April 29 ~ 10:00am ~ Hope Room  
Benedictine Group Meeting
- April 29 ~ 2:00-4:00pm ~ HFP Hall  
CWL Spring Tea
- May 1 ~ 6:30pm ~ Faith Room  
Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting
- May 2 ~ 6:30pm ~ HFP Church  
Healing Mass ~ Come be Anointed.
- May 2 ~ 6:30am ~ Hope Room  
Catholic Women's League Executive Meeting
- May 3 ~ 8:00am ~ HFP Church  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Mother Of Perpetual Help  
Novena
- May 3 ~ 9:30am ~ Faith Room  
Bible Study
- April 3 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room  
RCIA
- May 6 ~ 10:00am ~ Hope Room  
Benedictine Group Meeting
- May 6 ~ 11:00am ~ HFP Church  
Confirmation Mass followed by a Reception in the  
HFP Hall
- May 7 ~ 9:30am & 11:30am ~ HFP Hall  
Parish Breakfast ~ Come One, Come All

December 31, 2023 - Goal \$70,938

total to date \$17,196

which is 24%

\$53,742 to go.

**Together IN ACTION**  
Annual Bishop's Appeal

Please Give Generously ~ Thank You!

## Sacramental Preparation Confirmation Mass

Rehearsal

Friday, May 5 at 6:30pm

Mass

Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am  
Followed by Reception in Hall





# SPRING TEA & BAKE SALE

HOLY FAMILY PARISH HALL  
HOSTED BY THE CWL

April 29th 2:00 - 4:00  
Adults - \$5.00 ~ Children - \$2.00  
5 & Under are Free


Door Prizes, Raffle, Good Food  
& Good Fellowship



# HEALING MASS

"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY  
AND BURDENED..."

FIRST TUESDAY EACH MONTH AT 6:30PM MAY 2, 2023



The First Wednesday of each  
Month the Legion of Mary  
will host the  
Mother of Perpetual Help  
Novena  
Before Mass at 8:00 AM




## 12 Hour Adoration

Friday  
May 5th, 2023  
9:30am - 9:30pm  
Reconciliation  
9:30 - 10:30am  
& 8:00 - 9:30pm  
All parishioners welcome and encouraged to attend

"From the Eucharist  
comes strength to live  
the Christian life and  
zeal to share that life  
with others"  
John Paul II

Sign up for half hour  
time slot if your able  
to spend time with our  
Lord



## First Saturday Mass

The 1st Saturday of  
each Month  
8:30 AM



## PARISH BREAKFAST

MAY 7, 2023  
@ 9:30AM & 11:30AM

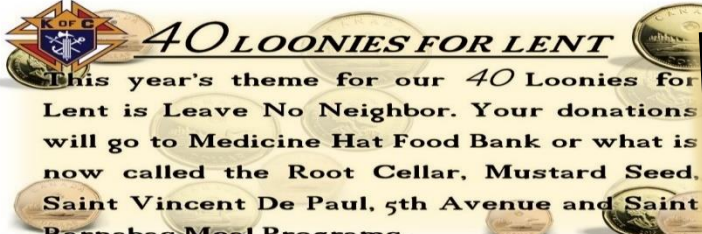
Cost is \$10 per adult, \$5 for youth and under 6 free

Sausage Omelets  
Hash Browns  
Toast  
Fruit



## 40 LOONIES FOR LENT

This year's theme for our 40 Loonies for Lent is Leave No Neighbor. Your donations will go to Medicine Hat Food Bank or what is now called the Root Cellar, Mustard Seed, Saint Vincent De Paul, 5th Avenue and Saint Barnabas Meal Programs.



## Loonies to date

# \$ 12,117


## Living Rosary

Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 at 6:00pm

- 1st Decade - Knights of Columbus
- 2nd Decade - CWL
- 3rd Decade - Pastoral Care Ministry
- 4th Decade - Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
- 5th Decade - Filipino Community

Everybody Welcome,  
the more the "Mary" er!

Holy Family Parish

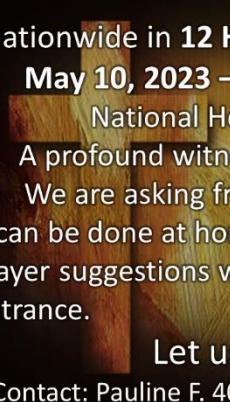



## Nationwide in 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care

May 10, 2023 - 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at HFP  
National Hospice Palliative Care Week  
A profound witness to the sanctity of human life.  
We are asking from you for 1 hour of your time.  
It can be done at home or church, alone or in groups.  
Prayer suggestions will be available at the church entrance.

Let us pray in solidarity.

Contact: Pauline F. 403-526-4125 or Diane B. 403-977-9536



## St. Patrick's Church Grocery Card Raffle



Tickets are \$5.00 each  
2 Prizes of \$1000. Gift Cards from  
South Country Co-Op



Draw Date is June 25, 2023

All Money raised is kept Local for Community Outreach

Tickets available before & after Masses at Holy Family  
Parish April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> and May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

Any questions... Call Bill Helfrich at 403-502-6237



The Catholic Women's League

We thank you for your donations to  
our bottle drive held last weekend.  
Your donations help support our  
local charities.

PS... we plan on  
another one in  
September

**FUNDRAISING**



### TASTE OF THE WORLD

A Taste of the World will give you an appetite to explore not only through food but through connectivity with different people of various cultures and background. Everyone is unique and different but as St. Paul says "For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us".

Therefore, Parish Pastoral Council would like to invite everyone of you to join and participate in this wonderful and exciting event happening in our Parish Community.

**When:** June 10<sup>th</sup> starting with the Holy Mass at 5pm followed by the Taste of the World @ 6:30pm.

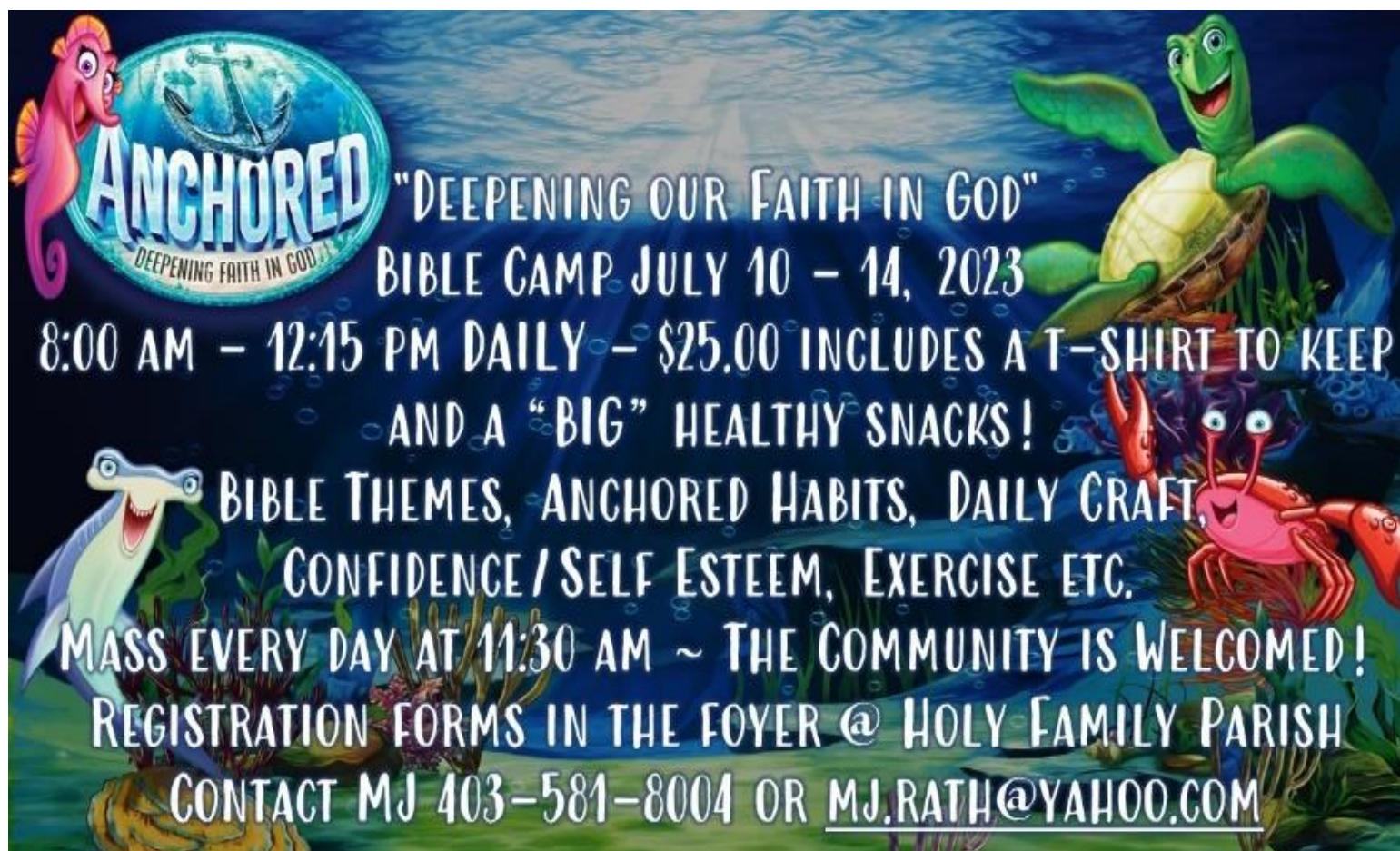
**Where:** Holy Family Parish Hall

#### What is expected?

- cooking only for 15-20 people.
- Wear your own traditional outfits.
- Prayers of the Faithful will be in the local language.
- Traditional dance or music.

Please contact Gary Heinbecker: [tasteoftheworld2023@gmail.com](mailto:tasteoftheworld2023@gmail.com)





**ANCHORED** "DEEPENING OUR FAITH IN GOD"  
**BIBLE CAMP JULY 10 – 14, 2023**  
**8:00 AM – 12:15 PM DAILY – \$25.00 INCLUDES A T-SHIRT TO KEEP**  
**AND A "BIG" HEALTHY SNACKS!**  
**BIBLE THEMES, ANCHORED HABITS, DAILY CRAFT,**  
**CONFIDENCE / SELF ESTEEM, EXERCISE ETC.**  
**MASS EVERY DAY AT 11:30 AM ~ THE COMMUNITY IS WELCOMED!**  
**REGISTRATION FORMS IN THE FOYER @ HOLY FAMILY PARISH**  
**CONTACT MJ 403-581-8004 OR [MJ.RATH@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MJ.RATH@YAHOO.COM)**



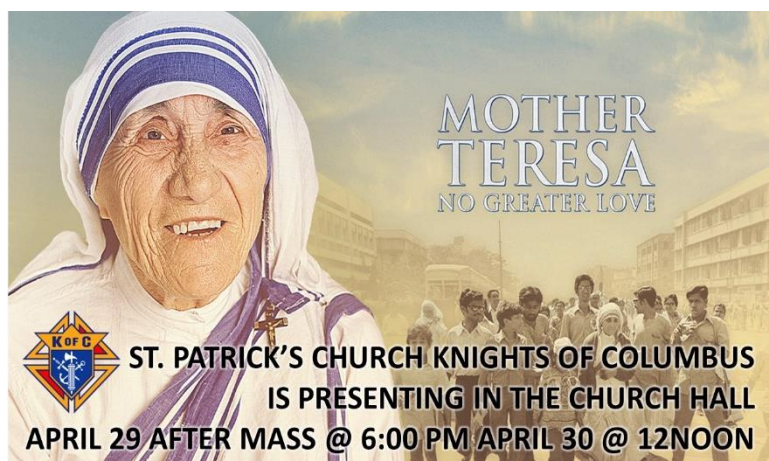
### Vincentian Corner

Our **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** group continues to work to assist those in dire need within our community. The requests we receive vary in nature: rent, security deposit, transportation, food, and utilities are some of the most frequent and immediate needs of our neighbours. We have had an increased number of calls for help with utilities, and the monthly amounts are increasing quite a bit.


DID YOU KNOW that the City of Medicine Hat has a **COMMUNITY WARMTH PROGRAM**? Many of us can make a difference to help those struggling to house, feed, clothe and raise a family with limited income, without feeling any shortfall in our own needs. You can phone the city to request an amount be added to your monthly utility bill. The extra funds are used throughout the year to assist those who struggle to pay their utility bills. Any amount can make an impact – whether you can afford \$2 or \$25 a month, it all adds up. Requests are considered seriously, and the same customers are not assisted more than once throughout the year. Tax receipts are issued by the Salvation Army for your donations. Just as we would expect, the decisions on how to use this Community Warmth Program are not taken lightly. Please consider helping our fellow Hatters in donating to this worthy cause.

We sincerely thank you for supporting us so generously. Please know that you are in our prayers and that we sincerely appreciate your donations. Without you, we could not do the work we do within our community. God bless you!





**MOTHER TERESA**  
NO GREATER LOVE

 **ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
IS PRESENTING IN THE CHURCH HALL  
APRIL 29 AFTER MASS @ 6:00 PM APRIL 30 @ 12NOON

St. Patrick's Parish  
*Spring Mother's Day Tea*  
May 13, 2023 1:30-3:30pm \$3.00/each



All money collected will be donated to the Nurture Pregnancy Centre here in Medicine Hat.  
Everyone is Welcome.

MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## 21st ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY JUNE 9th, 2023

**Registration Fee: \$150 per golfer**

**1:00 p.m - Shotgun Start**  
Cottonwood Coulee Golf Course  
Medicine Hat, Alberta

Register by calling 403-502-8351

Registration closes June 1, 2023

Register Early! Only 120 spots!  
Entries will be accepted on a first come, first paid basis

Together in support of community children and the education process!



**Please join us for a relaxing afternoon of golf with other business and community participants!**

**Cost is \$150/person**

**Info. Call (403) 502-8351**

**This is a wonderful opportunity to support Catholic Christian education in your community.**



**GrACE** stands for Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education.

The mission of GrACE is to inspire, invigorate and embolden the spirit of Catholic education to unite, engage, educate, and communicate with one voice

on its behalf.

GrACE invites all those committed to Catholic education, through the unity of the Holy Spirit, to be advocates and witnesses for our schools' successes and their future.

We are looking for some feedback on the following questions:

- **Why do you support Catholic Education?**
- **Share about a positive experience that you have had with Catholic Education**
- **What good news story regarding Catholic Education in our division can you share about?**

Please email your responses to [contact@holymh.ca](mailto:contact@holymh.ca)

or drop off a hard copy of your responses to the church office by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

We appreciate your feedback and your continued prayers for Catholic education.

Heather Irvine and Kathy Glasgo



Celebrate

# Mother's Day

And support the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society

Saturday May 13th, 2023 @ 5PM

The Clubhouse Restaurant at Paradise Valley  
90 Gehring Road SE, Medicine Hat

Make your reservation  
by calling 403-526-3330

**\$120**  
PER TICKET



## Prayers for Souls of the Faithful Departed

Pray the rosary with the Legion of Mary.

Mother's Day, May 14th, from 3:00 - 3:30pm

Hillside Cemetery Catholic Section

There will be an altar for Mary for flowers.

Bring your own lawn chair if needed.

For more information...

Karen-Anne [kacherwono@shaw.ca](mailto:kacherwono@shaw.ca) or

Cora [jpcblanchette@telus.net](mailto:jpcblanchette@telus.net)

Sunday 10:30am Mass on

YOUTUBE

Medicine Hat Holy Family Church

Live Stream

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q)

**You Tube**

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2 Enter our parish name or zip code

3 Enjoy the content you want

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**NOBODY** is going to ask you for gift  
cards, or bit coins! **NOBODY!!!**  
If you get an email or a text, **PLEASE**  
**DO NOT RESPOND** to it,  
**JUST DELETE IT!**

*Faithfully*  
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

[catholiccyyc.ca/Faithfully](https://catholiccyyc.ca/Faithfully)

Faithfully keeps you updated with what's  
happening in and around our Diocese!

E-transfer  
ONLINE GIVING



[accounting@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:accounting@holyfamilymh.ca)

Listen to Mass on your phone...  
Download the "Audio Fetch" app.  
Our Network is: HFP\_LIVE  
The Password is: Liv3HFP\*







4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A

April 30, 2023

## THE TRUE GOOD SHEPHERD

Every year fourth Sunday during Easter is celebrated as Good Shepherd Sunday to highlight the qualities and attributes of Jesus who is our Good Shepherd who died for his sheep. Last Sunday we reflected on the story of two disciples leaving Jerusalem with sadness and brokenness as they had witnessed the cruel death of the Saviour. They were walking with no hope as they took the long journey of rough roads. However, something unusual happened when they noticed that someone else was also walking with them. They involved him in the conversation as a stranger but that was the moment when they realized that their hearts were burning within them. I do believe in our sadness, brokenness and loneliness, the Lord walks with us to strengthen us.

We continue our faith journey to grow in a mutual relationship with the Lord during this Season of Easter. The Season of Easter is a season of cherishing the gift of life and mystery of resurrection. We sing the hymn of Alleluia because we believe He is truly risen from the dead. We are people of resurrection and that's our song. This we are invited to reflect on the qualities of the Good Shepherd and also our relationship with the Good Shepherd.

St. Gregory the Great while reflecting on the qualities of the Good Shepherd, invites everyone to listen to his voice who keeps calling us to listen to his voice. "I am the good shepherd. I know my own— by which I mean, I love them — and my own know me. In plain words: those who love me are willing to follow me, for anyone who does not love the truth has not yet come to know it. My dear brethren, you have heard the test we pastors have to undergo. Turn now to consider how these words of our Lord imply a test for yourselves also. Ask yourselves whether you belong to his flock, whether you know him, whether the light of his truth shines in your minds. I assure you that it is not by faith that you will come to know him, but by love, not by mere conviction, but by action. John the evangelist is my authority for this statement. He tells us that anyone who claims to know God without keeping his commandments is a liar. Consequently, the Lord immediately adds: As the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my



sheep. Clearly, he means that laying down his life for his sheep gives evidence of his knowledge of the Father and the Father's knowledge of him. In other words, by the love with which he dies for his sheep he shows how greatly he loves his Father.

Again, he says: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them; they follow me, and I give them eternal life. Shortly before this he had declared: If anyone enters the sheepfold through me, he shall be saved; he shall go freely in and out and shall find good pasture. He will enter a life of faith; from faith he will go out to vision, from belief to contemplation, and will graze in the good pastures of everlasting life.

So, our Lord's sheep will finally reach their grazing ground where all who follow him in simplicity of heart will feed on the green pastures of eternity. These pastures are the spiritual joys of heaven. There, the elect look upon the face of God with unclouded vision and feast at the banquet of life for ever more. Beloved brothers, let us set out for these pastures where we shall keep joyful festival with so many of our fellow citizens. May the thought of their happiness urge us on! Let us stir up our hearts, rekindle our faith, and long eagerly for what heaven has in store for us. To love thus is to be already on our way. No matter what obstacles we encounter, we must not allow them to turn us aside from the joy of that heavenly feast. Anyone who is determined to reach his destination is not deterred by the roughness of the road that leads to it. Nor must we allow the charm of success to seduce us, or we shall be like a foolish traveler who is so distracted by the pleasant meadows through which he is passing that he forgets where he is going".

Good Shepherd Sunday invites us each year to rediscover, with ever new astonishment, how Jesus defined himself, reading it again in the light of his passion, death, and resurrection. "The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep"; these words are wholly fulfilled when Christ, freely obeying the will of the Father, is immolated on the Cross. The significance that He is "the Good Shepherd" thus becomes completely clear: He gives life, He offered his life in sacrifice for us all: for you, for you, for you, for me, for everyone! And for this reason, He is the Good Shepherd!

There was once a Shakespearean actor who was known everywhere for his one-man shows of readings and recitations from the classics. He would always end his performance with a dramatic reading of Psalm 23. Each night, without exception, as the actor began his recitation - "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. the crowd would listen attentively. And then, at the conclusion of the Psalm, they would rise in thunderous applause in appreciation of the actor's incredible ability to bring the verse to life.

But one night, just before the actor was to offer his customary recital of Psalm 23, a young man from the audience spoke up. "Sir, do you mind if tonight I recite Psalm 23?" The actor was quite taken back by this unusual request, but he allowed the young man to come forward and stand front and center on the stage to recite the Psalm, knowing that the ability of this unskilled youth would be no match for his own talent. With a soft voice, the young man began to recite the words of the Psalm. When he was finished, there was no applause. There was no standing ovation as on other nights. All that could be heard was the sound of weeping. The audience had been so moved by the young man's recitation that every eye was full of tears. Amazed by what he had heard, the actor said to the youth, "I don't understand. I have been performing Psalm 23 for years. I have a lifetime of experience and training - but I have never been able to move an audience as you have



tonight. Tell me, what is your secret?" The young man quietly replied, "Well sir, you know the Psalm... I know the Shepherd."

Do we know the Good Shepherd? Do we listen to his voice as he listens to ours? And there are many other questions we can ask ourselves as we reflect on our call to serve the Lord. There are so many ministries in our Church we join to serve the Lord. He is a humble Good Shepherd who leads us into the green pastures and anoints with our head his own blood which he shed on the Cross to remind us that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for someone. Jesus being our Chief Shepherd invites each of us to play the role of a shepherd. How are we to shepherd our families, communities, and societies? Whenever I look at the media, I feel the world is losing hope and going under the deep and thick fog of fears.

Once nobody was on the beach before dawn. The shore was completely desolate, and a sailor was drawn to it with his own life being desolate. As he was trying to make good time, a sudden storm blew up off the coast. He tried to keep his boat stable but couldn't keep the boat away from the notorious shoals that jutted out from the shore. He barely got himself to the life raft before everything else he owned—his clothes, his money, his livelihood as a sailor—was wrecked. All he had was a blanket some rescue workers gave him when he washed up shivering on the beach. His boat got wrecked into pieces however some people offered him their help to reconstruct his boat, but he refused because there was nothing left pay them for the work. Life was nothing but fear and hopelessness. What is the point of trying to start over anyway? he thought, gazing out at the ocean. He decided to come to the site of the wreck. He had strange feeling that he would find something here, but of course there was nothing left behind. Everything was gone.

Maybe that was not the real reason that he had come out here in the dark. In the morning he saw a splash in the water, a dolphin maybe, or even a whale. He got up from his place on the sand and walked toward it over the hard-packed mud. He got into the water to see but the water level started growing and by the time he came close to it he was completely submerged in the water and as he was about to sink, he heard someone calling his name. He looked around but there was no one. He struggled to come up from the water and saw a figure standing at the beach looking like a figure from the Bible but as he came closer, he saw a fisherman standing with his fishing gear. "Let me help you," the fisherman said, keeping his voice very calm. He must have realized what he had just almost witnessed. "I can help you. Please. Let me help." Help, he thought, but he could not say it. His teeth were chattering too badly to pronounce the words. He led the man to the beach and sat him down on a piece of driftwood. "You shouldn't have pulled me out," said the man. "I didn't," he said. He saw that the fisherman was right. He was not even wet. "You walked out of that water of your own free will. Or with the help of a power greater than yourself." It was true. In that instant, he fully realized what he had almost done.

Isn't it true that our Good and True Shepherd holds our hands and pulls us out of all problems and says "Come to me all that are weary and carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. However sometimes we lose our hope and trust in him. St. John reminds and warns us about our failure to trust and believe in God's power: "I know your works, your toil, and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not and have found them to be false. I also



know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember then from what you have fallen; repent and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God” (Rev 2:2-7).

Today more than ever, we need to listen to the voice of God among all the voices of the world inviting us to abandon our faith and just be part of the world. Holy Father Pope Francis opens our hearts to listen to the voice of Good Shepherd who shows us the proper way to enter the sheepfold through the Door. “The fourth Sunday of Easter, which we celebrate today, is dedicated to Jesus the Good Shepherd. The Gospel says, “The sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep, by name”. The Lord calls us by name, calls us because he loves us. But the Gospel then tells us, there are other voices not to be followed: those of strangers, thieves and robbers who want evil for the sheep. These different voices resonate within us. There is the voice of God, who speaks kindly to the conscience, and there is the tempting voice that leads to evil. How can we recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd from that of the thief, how can we distinguish God's inspiration from the suggestion of the evil one?”

There is always freedom and free will for us to choose whatever is best for us (Please read Deuteronomy 30:9-20 & Sirach 15). We can learn to discern these two voices: in fact, they speak two different languages, that is, they have opposite ways of knocking on our hearts. They speak different languages. As we know how to distinguish one language from another, we can also distinguish the voice of God and the voice of the evil one. The voice of God never forces us: God proposes himself; he does not impose himself. Instead, the evil voice seduces, assails, forces: it arouses dazzling illusions, tempting emotions that are fleeting. At first it flatters us, it makes us believe that we are all-powerful, but then leaves us with emptiness inside and accuses us: “You are worth nothing”. God's voice, on the other hand, corrects us, with so much patience, but always encourages us, consoles us: it always nourishes hope. The voice of God is a voice that has a horizon, instead the voice of the evil one leads you to a wall, it takes you to a corner. (Please read Jeremiah 17:5-14 & Psalm 100).

Another difference. The voice of the enemy distracts us from the present and wants us to focus on the fears of the future or the sadness of the past – the enemy does not want the present –: it brings back the bitterness, the memories of the wrongs suffered, of those who hurt us, so many bad memories. Instead, God's voice speaks to the present: “Now you can do good, now you can exercise the creativity of love, now you can renounce the regrets and remorse that hold your heart captive.” It enlivens us, it brings us forward, but it speaks of the present: now!

Holy Father continues to say “In addition: the two voices raise different questions in us. What comes from God will be, “What is good for me?” Instead, the tempter will insist on another question: “What do I want to do?” What would I like: the evil voice always revolves



around the self, its impulses, its needs, everything and immediately. It's like the whims of children: everything right now. The voice of God, on the other hand, never promises cheap joy. It invites us to go beyond our self to find the true good, peace. Let us remember evil never gives us peace, it puts frenzy first and leaves bitterness after. That's the style of evil.

Finally, the voice of God and that of the tempter, speak in different "environments": the enemy prefers darkness, falsehood, gossip; the Lord loves sunlight, truth, sincere transparency. The enemy will say to us: "Close yourself in on yourself, for no one understands you and listens to you, do not trust others!". Good, on the other hand, invites us to open up, to be transparent and trusting in God and in others. The prophet, Jeremiah, states God's intentions for God's people. "Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.... I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them... I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land." Even Prophet Ezekiel (34) presents the image of a shepherd but warn people to be careful whom they follow. Psalm 23 gives us a beautiful image of shepherd with these words: "The Lord is my Shepherd and there is nothing I shall want".

The Heart of the Good Shepherd tells us that his love is limitless; it is never exhausted, and it never gives up. There we see his infinite and boundless self-giving; there we find the source of that faithful and meek love which sets free and makes others free; there we constantly discover anew that Jesus loves us "even to the end" to the very end, without ever imposing. The Heart of the Good Shepherd reaches out to us, above all to those who are most distant. There, the needle of his compass inevitably points, there we see a particular "weakness" of his love, which desires to embrace all and lose none.

One day a traveler was walking through a part of Italy where a great many sheep were pasturing. Near the top of a hill, he saw a little shepherd boy who was lying on the ground while a flock of sheep and lambs were grazing around him.

As he came nearer, he saw that the boy held a charred stick in his hand, with which he was drawing something on a flat rock. The lad was so much interested in his work that he did not see the stranger. The stranger bent over him and looked at the picture he had made on the rock. It was the picture of a sheep, and it was drawn so well that the stranger was filled with astonishment. "What is your name, my boy?" he said.

The lad was startled. He jumped to his feet and looked up at the kind gentleman. "My name is Giotto," he answered. "What is your father's name?" "Bondone." "And whose sheep are these?"

"They belong to the rich man who lives in the big white house there among the trees. My father works in the field, and I take care of the sheep." "How would you like to live with me, Giotto? I would teach you how to draw pictures of sheep and horses, and even of men," said the stranger. The boy's face beamed with delight. "I should like to learn to do that... oh, ever so much!" he answered. "But I must do as my father says." "Let us go and ask him," said the stranger. The stranger's name was Cimabue. He was the most famous painter of the time. His pictures were known and admired in every city of Italy. Bondone

was surprised when Cimabue offered to take his little boy to Florence and teach him to be a great painter. "I know that the lad can draw pictures wonderfully well," he said. "He does not like to do anything else. Perhaps he will do well with you. Yes, you may take him." In the city of Florence little Giotto saw some of the finest pictures in the world. He learned so fast that he could soon paint as well as Cimabue himself.

One day Cimabue was painting the picture of a man's face. Night came on before he had finished it. "I will leave it till morning," he said; "then the light will be better." In the morning, when he looked at the picture, he saw a fly on the man's nose. He tried to brush it off, but it remained there. It was only a painted fly.

"Who has done this?" he cried. He was angry, and yet he was pleased.

Little Giotto came out from a corner, trembling and ashamed. "I did it, master," he said. "It was a good place for a fly, and I never thought of spoiling your picture."

He expected to be punished. But Cimabue only praised him for his great skill. "There are few men who can draw so good a picture of a fly," he said. This happened six hundred years ago, in the city of Florence in Italy. The shepherd boy became a very famous painter and the friend of many famous men.

Let us pay attention to the voices that reach our hearts. Let's ask ourselves where they come from. Let us ask for the grace to recognize and follow the voice of the Good Shepherd, who brings us out of the enclosures of selfishness and leads us to the pastures of true freedom.

Do we listen and follow the Good and True Shepherd?





# DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

Fourth Sunday of Easter | Good Shepherd Sunday



## Evening Prayer with Bishop of Aleppo, Syria & Bishop McGrattan - May 5

In solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Aleppo, Syria, join an evening of prayer with Bishop Joseph Tobji, Maronite Bishop of Aleppo, Syria, Bishop McGrattan, and priests from Calgary oriental churches and the Diocese of Calgary. When: **Friday, May 5 at 7 pm**, at St. Mary's Cathedral. All are welcome!

## Good Shepherd Sunday

The fourth Sunday of Easter is the World Day of Vocations, also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." Let us pray for men and women to answer the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life, or secular institutes. Please also consider donating a special collection for the education of our seminarians and those in the permanent diaconate program.

## Journeying Together: Hope & Healing for those mourning the loss of a child | May 5&6

Two-day workshop for those mourning the loss of a child through miscarriage or stillbirth. Lunch and refreshments included; childcare available. **Friday, May 5** (7 pm to

9 pm) session offers an evening of healing prayer, adoration, and reflection; **Saturday, May 6** (9:30 am to 3:30 pm) session is an all day workshop consisting of talks, round table discussions, and support. [Register online](#), or call 403-218-5521 or 403-218-5548.

## Healing Life with Mary and Mercy - May 6

Sisters of Divine Mercy invite you to discover your beauty and identity in Christ through Divine Mercy and Mary. There will be Mass, opportunity for confessions, Conference and Adoration. When: Sat, May 6 at 10:30 am to 3:30 pm, Divine Mercy Centre. Register at [sistersofdivinemercy.org](https://sistersofdivinemercy.org) or call 587-755-1019

## Marian Art Exhibition at St. Martha's, Lethbridge

St. Martha's Parish in Lethbridge will showcase nine paintings of the Holy Mother by local artist Jim Robinson **throughout the month of May**. This exhibition is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and protection of the unborn. Proceeds will support the Lethbridge & District Pro-Life Society. [More info](#)

## 2022 Impact Report of the Diocese of Calgary

The Diocese of Calgary is pleased to announce the release of the 2022 Impact Report, which highlights the fruits of your generosity and of our work together over the past year. Read the Impact Report at [catholicyc.ca/2022impactreport](https://catholicyc.ca/2022impactreport)

## Career opportunities

- Bookkeeper (Full-time) - CPC, Calgary
- Senior Accountant (Full-time) - CPC, Calgary
- Admin. Assistant (Part-time) - Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore
- Family Faith Coordinator - All Saints, Lethbridge

Please visit [catholicyc.ca/careers](https://catholicyc.ca/careers) for more information and application details.

## Restoring the Feminine Heart Conference - May 26/27

Beloved Daughters Ministry invites you to their women's conference, offering a time of rest and renewal, with speakers Heather and Jake Khym. When: **Fri-Sat, May 26-27** at St. Luke's, Calgary. [Register now](#)

## Our Lady of Victory Camp in Summer (OLVC)

If you have a child in grade 4-12, Our Lady of Victory Camp (OLVC) this summer has a place for them. Consider sending them to camp where they can swim in the lake, gather around the campfire, play epic games, and grow in their faith during one of four weeks of camp this summer. Contact 587-447-2837 or visit [www.olvcamp.com](https://www.olvcamp.com)



## Subscribe to Faithfully

If you haven't already, please subscribe to the [Diocesan publication Faithfully](#) - to keep you updated with what's happening in our Diocese. Get a snapshot of faith at work in the lives of everyday people in our Diocese and find opportunities to spread the Good News of Christ beyond the walls of our churches. Subscribe at [catholiccyyc.ca/faithfully](http://catholiccyyc.ca/faithfully)

- **Kid's challenge this week:** Living life to the full doesn't mean having all the latest toys or the coolest clothes or the biggest house. We are called to be the best person that we can be, living our lives well and having the chance to use all our gifts and talents for the good of all. This week, think about the gifts and talents you have. What are you good at? Do you always make the most of the gifts that you have? Do you always try to be the best person you can be? (CAFOD)
- [Colouring page this Sunday](#)
- [Kid's Bulletin this Sunday](#)
- [Sunday Connection this Sunday](#) (Gr. 1-8)
- Children's Liturgy of the Word this Sunday
  - [Children's Liturgy sheet for leaders/parents](#) (CAFOD) | [Illustration](#)
  - [Children's Liturgy of the Word with Miss Heidi](#) (Catholic TV)

- Visit the [Diocesan Event Calendar](#)

Follow us on Social Media

- [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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- Weekly reflections can be found here:
  - [Vatican News](#) | [The Sunday Website](#)
  - [Sunday Connection](#)

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- Daily and Sunday Mass Prayers & Readings: [CCCB Daily Readings](#) (pick the desired date)

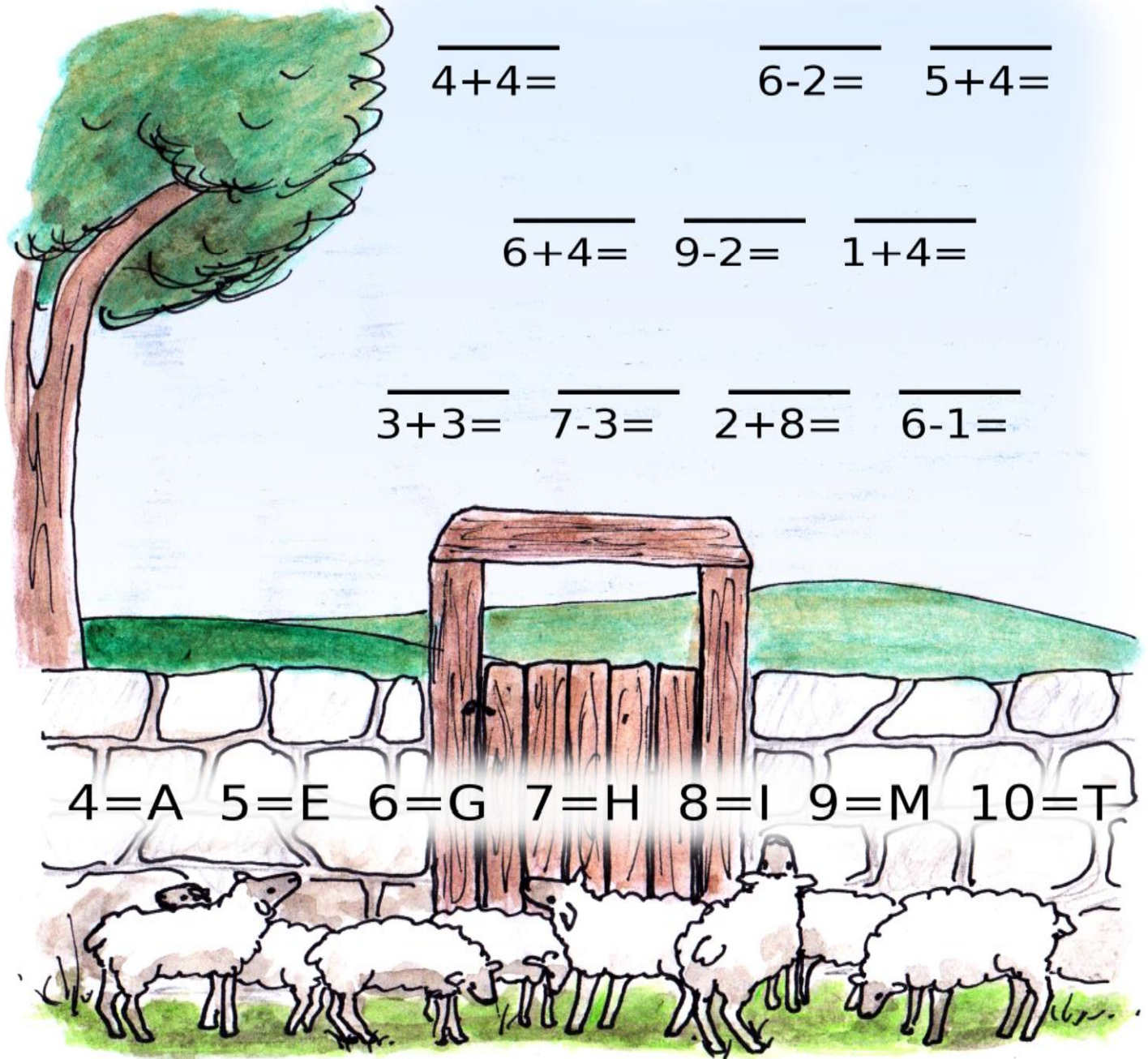
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- Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses: <https://www.catholiccyyc.ca> | TELUS Optik TV Ch. 877 (choose Diocese of Calgary tile logo). For other online Masses, visit [Salt+Light TV](#), [Shalom World TV](#), [EWTN](#) and [Vision TV](#)

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- - [Sacraments & Liturgies](#)
- - [Spiritual Resources](#)
- - [Sacrament Preparation](#)
- - [Online Formation Opportunities](#)

# The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30th, 2023



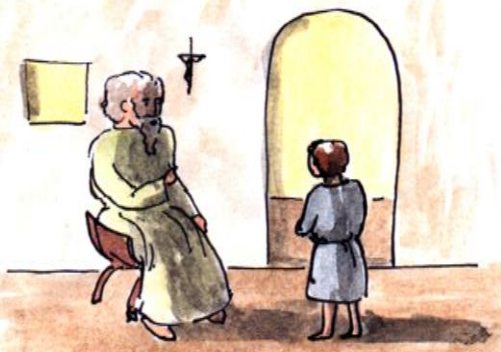
What did Jesus say about the sheepfold?  
Figure out the math questions  
and then fill in the blanks  
with the letters the numbers represent.



# Saint Hilary of Arles

## May 5

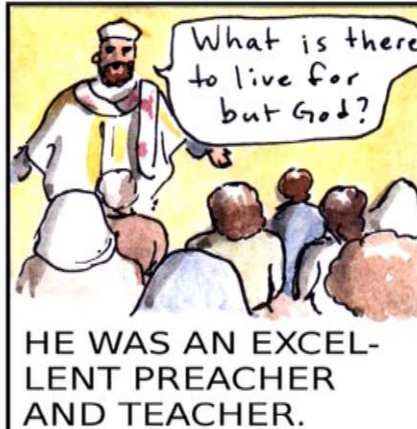
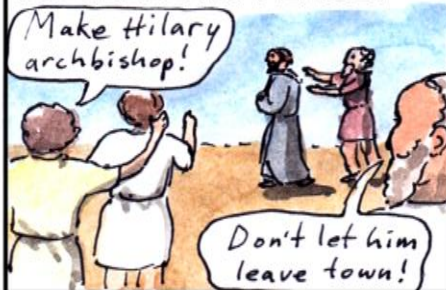
HILARY OF ARLES WAS BORN TO A WEALTHY FAMILY IN NORTHERN FRANCE IN 401. HE RECEIVED A GOOD EDUCATION.



ST. HONORIUS OF ARLES, A RELATIVE, WAS ARCHBISHOP. HE GOT HILARY TO JOIN THE MONASTERY AT LERINS.



WHEN THE ARCHBISHOP DIED THE PEOPLE CHOSE HILARY TO TAKE HIS PLACE.



EVEN THOUGH HE WAS MUCH YOUNGER, HILARY WAS PUT IN CHARGE OF MANY BISHOPS.



HE MADE SOME MISTAKES IN HIS DIRECTION OF THE BISHOPS, SO POPE ST. LEO TOOK AWAY SOME OF HIS POWER.



SAINT HILARY OF ARLES IS AN EXAMPLE TO US THAT GOD SOMETIMES WANTS YOUNG PEOPLE TO HAVE IMPORTANT JOBS. SAINT HILARY WAS YOUNGER THAN THE BISHOPS HE WAS IN CHARGE OF BUT HE WAS HUMBLE ENOUGH TO RULE THEM WELL. ALSO, WHEN HE MADE MISTAKES HE ACCEPTED THE CONSEQUENCES.



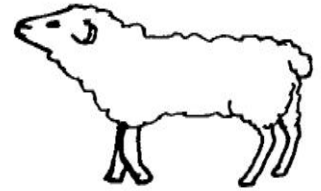
# Fill-in-the-Blanks

The letters in squares fit into the spaces at the bottom.

GATEKEEPER  
REALIZE  
SPEECH  
ENTERS

HIS  
WILL  
YOU  
AMEN

THIEF  
DRIVEN  
CLIMBS  
VOICE

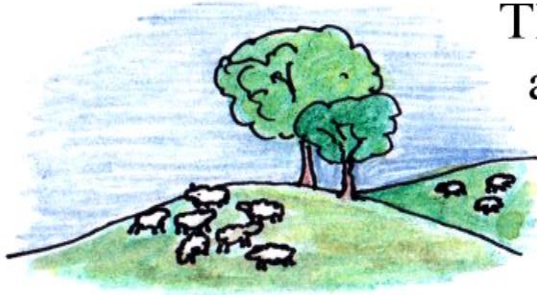


Jesus said: "Amen, <sup>12</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, I say to  
<sup>9</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, whoever does not enter a sheepfold  
through the gate but <sup>11</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ over  
elsewhere is a <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ and a robber.  
But whoever <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ through the  
gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The  
\_\_\_\_\_ <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ opens it for him,  
and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd  
calls <sup>10</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ own sheep by name and leads  
them out. When he has <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ out  
all his own, he walks ahead of them, and  
the sheep follow him, because they  
recognize his <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. But they will  
not follow a stranger; they <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ run  
away from him, because they do not  
recognize the voice of strangers."  
Although Jesus used this figure of  
<sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, the Pharisees did not  
\_\_\_\_\_ <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ what he was trying to  
tell them.

The sheep    1 2 3 4    5 6 7    8 9 10 11 12



# The Good Shepherd



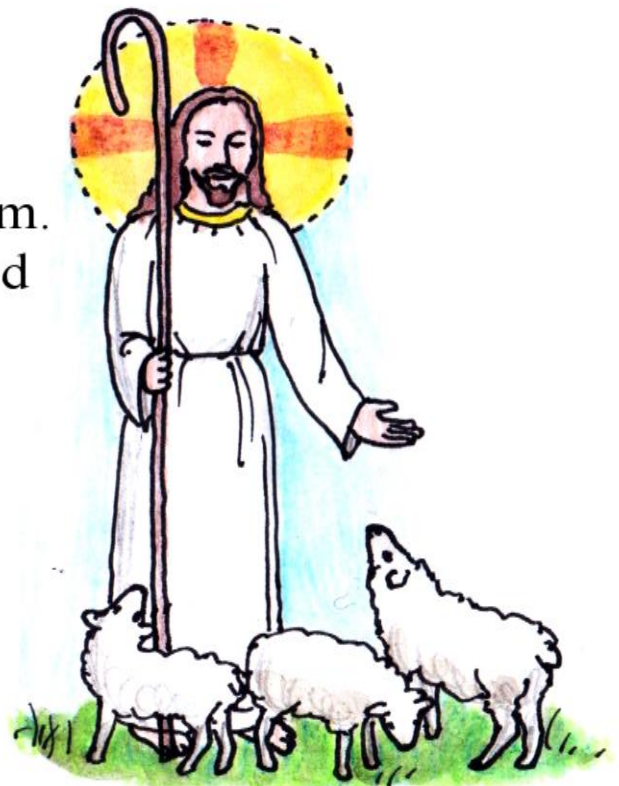
The readings in today's Mass talk about Jesus the Good Shepherd.

In Jesus' time, and still in some parts of the world today, there would be flocks of sheep grazing in the pastures. The shepherds were the people who looked after the flocks and made sure none of the sheep got lost or hurt or attacked by wild animals.

The Church is the flock of Jesus, and He is the Good Shepherd. He guides the people in the Church so that their souls will not be hungry- He gives us grace, just like a shepherd makes sure his sheep have lots of grass to eat!

Like the shepherd protects the sheep from danger, Our Lord also protects us from harm. In the "Our Father" we ask God to deliver us from evil. When our souls are hurt by sin, the Good Shepherd heals us with forgiveness in Confession.

Answer to puzzle on front page:  
I am the gate.  
Answer to Fill-in-the-blanks:  
know his voice.



# Retreat Centers in Southern Alberta

## AN "OASIS" IN THE HEART OF CALGARY

FCJ Retreat & Conference Centre is seen by many as a spiritual home where God feels very present both in the building and the surrounding landscape, and every year welcomes thousands of visitors to a unique experience of warm hospitality and deep spirituality.

Our hope is that those who come to the FCJ Centre will encounter God, whether in prayer, in the Word, in the silence and the beauty; and that this encounter will touch many other lives too.



Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre is nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains where are all welcome in the name of Christ. The Franciscan Friars of Canada, inspired by the vision and example of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, have served here since 1949.

We offer silent retreats and spiritual direction. We also serve those in the 12 Step Program through weekend and evening Serenity retreats. We listen to 5th steps. We host groups and individuals seeking a place of quiet and stillness in an often-hectic world. We can accommodate up to 50 people (46 rooms/50 beds). We have one large and one small meeting room, a library and chapel. We can accommodate most dietary restrictions. There are approximately 500 acres to explore.

Our retreats are organized through a group of dedicated volunteer Captains that oversee the registration. Please see our retreats page for more information.

We have strong ties with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary; other Christian Churches, schools, and organizations; as well as others not affiliated with any particular faith but who are in accord with our mission of peace, healing and prayer. We value the many loyal friends and benefactors that have supported us in our ministry for over 70 years.

Martha Retreat Centre, situated on the edge of the beautiful Lethbridge coulees, is a ministry of the Martha Retreat Centre Society, which was established in 2018. Originally founded by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Martha of Antigonish, Nova Scotia in 1968, the Centre continues to be supported by and aligned with the mission of the Sisters of St. Martha: inspired by God's graciousness, we strive to hear, embrace and respond to the cry for gospel hospitality.







# Scams Alert

There are many scams going around masquerading as your clergy (priests, deacons or lately, the bishop).

Please exercise caution when responding to email messages. If you receive unusual emails, check the sender's email address to see whether it is the person's genuine address. Even if the sender's address looks correct, always verify suspicious emails by phoning the sender. There have been many similar scams reported by several parishes in our diocese and across Canada.

Note that these scams do not stop at emails. Those in social media should stay vigilant when responding to friend requests or to other compelling posts requiring a response. There are many fake Twitter, Facebook and other social media accounts trying to impersonate people you know and our church leaders. Some scammers may take the time to build a relationship with you to gain your trust, before trying to extort money or other things like gift cards.

Please exercise vigilance when you are being charitable. Use the channels you are most familiar with and avoid becoming victims of a scam.

**NOBODY is going to ask you for gift cards, or bit coins from the church! NOBODY!!!**

**All our email addresses only end in @holyfamilymh.ca never a @gmail account.**

**If you get an email or a text, PLEASE DO NOT RESOND to it, you can forward it to [contact@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:contact@holyfamilymh.ca) so it can be sent to the diocese.**