

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

3rd May 2009

GOSPEL: John 10: 11-18

My friends, today is called Good Shepherd Sunday because the Gospel is about Jesus the Good Shepherd. Jesus tells us that **His** sheep will heed his voice.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd is risen! He who laid down his life for his sheep, who died for his flock, he is risen, alleluia.

JESUS, GOOD SHEPHERD FOR EVERYONE

When Jesus proclaimed his willingness to lay down his life and to take it up again for the sake of the flock entrusted to him by God, he offered a noble example for all pastors. His teaching challenges those who care for others to approach their service with a wholehearted altruism that will hold nothing back for the sake of the other.

Jesus' altruism also extended beyond his fellow Israelites to include "other sheep that do not belong to this fold" but who also "hear my voice." During the ministry of the earthly Jesus, these "other sheep" were the sinners, tax collectors, prostitutes and pagans who were regarded as unsalvageable by the leaders and pastors of his day. Nevertheless, Jesus reached out to lead and care for them.

As the church has grown and spread throughout the world during all these centuries, Jesus' other sheep have taken on many different identities. They are the poor, the marginalised and disadvantaged. They are the unwanted needy whose hungers and homelessness continue to witness to the selfishness and apathy and even the disdain of many of us.

They are the unwelcome immigrants whom we fail to recognise as brothers and sisters on the same journey toward the same home under the leadership and protection of the same shepherd.

They are the refugees who seek asylum and are turned away. These other sheep are Palestinian and Jew, Muslim and Sikh, Hindu and Methodist, Catholic and Lutheran, Orthodox and Reformed.

All these sheep have value, and they have the right to belong to one flock with one shepherd.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Grant spiritual comfort and healing to the sick, especially:

Jason Price, Fr Peter Thompson Cm, Brian Scanlan, Lionel West, Geoff Bray, Paul Moate, Eileen Carroll, Lyle Jansen, Maureen Burke, Kath Robinson, Gary McLinden, Paul Trotman, Mary Hamilton, Lillian Roberts, Norm & Joan McLaurin, Kevin Hynes, Mihovil Katalinic, Vin Griffiths, Juanita Jervois, Norina Spinelli, Bishop Brennan, Nancy Gibson, John Hunt, Rob Deller, Mary McNamara, Ria Stumpe, James Williams, Mary Cooper, Monette Fealy, Annette Hoffman, Lionel Jansen, John McManus, Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Melda McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Luke Heffernan, Rosel Free, Reece

Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Charles Francis, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, Ben Harper, Bess Harris, Patricia Bourke, Effie Ray, Joseph Doran, Nicholas Hetherington, Sandra Varrasso and Marie Cook.

Grant eternal life to:

Enid McDowell, Eileen Brown, Jelka Kovacevic, Pat Esler (Wagga Wagga), Don McDonald, Elsie Dale, Noel Carrol and all our dear ones deceased.

Anniversaries:

All our loved ones whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Lorraine Hill, Bill Livsey, Rose & Harry Livsey, Mary & Bill Kotthoff, Eileen, Gus, Kerry, Patrick, Bonnie & Patricia Roche, Noel & Peter Rothe, Philip Smith, Victor Bruce, Lil Munk, Frank Kelly, Henry Wynter, John Dallinger, Malcolm Nicholson, Sr Helen Shorthall RSM, Sr Monica Esler, Brian Esler, Dan Moore, Alice Plunkett, Clare Flynn & the Flynn Family and all our dear ones deceased.

LORD HEAR US

BAPTISMS

Last weekend we welcomed into God's church the following newly baptised:

KYE HIGGINS

SEAN KEYS

JETT MALONEY

GABRIELLA CIRILLO

FOR YOUR DIARY

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection this weekend at all Masses for Vocations and Education of Priests.

DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

A day of Prayer and Reflection will be lead by Prayer Companions from the Week of Guided Prayer Team on Monday 11th May 2009 at 10.00am for 10.30am until 2.30pm in St Patrick's Hall Supper Room, Albury. BYO Lunch, morning tea provided.

RSVP: Irene Bowyer by 4th May Ph (02) 6023 5670.

MASS WITH SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING THE SICK

At St Patrick's Church on Thursday 7th May at 10.30am. Confessions 10.00-10.30am.

MARY'S JUNIOR LEAGUE

Mary's Junior League will meet on Wednesday 6th May from 3.30pm-5.00pm for children under 12 years of age. For details, please call Anna on 6023 3838.

PALMS AUSTRALIA

Palms is holding a Focus Workshop on 23rd and 24th May at The Hermitage, Mittagong, NSW for anyone who has thought about volunteering overseas. For further information please contact Benjamin Oh on 02 9518 9551 or ben@palms.org.au

150 YEARS OF THE GOULBURN MERCY CONGREGATION

October 2009 will mark 150 years since the Mercy Sisters arrived in Goulburn from Ireland. The Sisters are hoping that friends and co-workers, ex-students and those they have cared for will be able to join them for celebrations from Thursday 22nd October until Sunday 25th October 2009. Please see the noticeboard for more information.

COFFEE MORNING

A Combined Churches Coffee Morning will be held on Friday 8th May at 10.00am in St Patrick's Hall Supper Room. The cost is \$5.00 and proceeds will go to Jindera Rural Care.

SCHOOL OF ST JUDE

Gemma Sisia, Founder and Director of the School of St Jude, Tanzania, will speak at a dinner function on Monday 18th May. The event will begin at 6.30pm in the Waratah Room, Commercial Club. The cost of tickets is \$27.50 per person, with drinks at bar prices. For tickets and details, please contact Leasa Brown on (02) 6043 1346, 0409 827 531 or email: leasabrown@gotalk.net.au

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE VISIT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona is privileged to be able to have the pilgrim statue at their parish on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd May 2009. A Marian Procession will commence at 5.30pm with the Rosary prior to Mass. Following Mass, a DVD presentation of the Message of Fatima will be shown in the Marian Centre. BYO shared tea. Following the 9.30am Mass on Sunday, the DVD will again be shown. All welcome.

YOU WANT YOUR MARRIAGE TO BE THE BEST

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Celebrate Love - a two-day retreat for newly married and 'very married' couples that empowers you to create a mutually satisfying, deeply tender and powerfully sensual marriage. Thurgoona 30th and 31st May.

www.celebratelove.com.au Ph. 02 9662 7272.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP FOR 18-35YRS

A weekly discussion group for 18-35yr olds meets weekly on Wednesday nights at 7.00pm in the upper room of St Patrick's Hall.

Contact Miriam Kirley on 0400 419 981 or email mizmim@gmail.com
John Burton 0400 574 958 or Marcus Shaw 0418 463 952.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH - SCHOOL FETE

The Holy Spirit Parish and School will hold their annual fete on Sunday 3rd May. The fete will run from 11.00am until 3.00pm in the school grounds, on the corner of Mutsch & Prune Streets, adjacent to Holy Spirit Church.