

LOWESTOFT CATHOLIC PARISH -OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA & ST NICHOLAS

Presbytery: 19 Gordon Road, Lowestoft, NR32 1NL **Tel:** 01502 572453

Parish Priest, Rev. Paul Chanh, 07414 735102 (text message only)

email: paulchanh@yahoo.com

www.ourladylowestoft.com <http://www.catholiceastanglia.org>

Deacon: Rev. Stephen Pomeroy

Sat 24 April	5.00 pm	OLSS Mass (Open to the Public)	Jose Ximenes dec'd
Sun 25 April Fourth Sunday of Easter	09:00 am 10:30 am	Saint Nicholas Mass (Open to the Public) OLSS Mass (Open to the Public)	Priest's Intention People of the Parish
Mon 26 April		No Masses	
Tues 27 April	11:45 am 12:15 noon	Rosary OLSS Mass (Open to the Public)	Priest's Intention
Wed 28 April	9:15 am	OLSS Mass (Open to the Public)	Priest's Intention
Thu 29 Apr	9.15 am	SN Mass (Open to the Public)	Priest's Intention
Fri 30 Apr	11:45 am 12:15 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Chaplet of The Divine Mercy OLSS Mass (Open to the Public)	Elizabeth Summerville dec'd
Sat 1 May	5.00 pm	OLSS Mass (Open to the Public)	Priest's Intention

LIVE RELAY OF MASS TO THE STELLA MARIS HALL - IN OPERATION LAST SUNDAY

Last Sunday at the 10:30 am Mass we had to use the live relay in the Hall for the second time because Our Lady's was full. This is likely to happen frequently from now on. It needs someone with a laptop and a Facebook account. Tony is the only person available for this at present. If he is not available it will mean turning people away when the church is full.

We must have people other than Tony who can do this when necessary. Tony would show volunteers how to do it. If you could help, please see him or Father Paul.

SAD TO REPORT

Last Sunday, someone stole the offertory collecting bag on the Hall side of Our Lady's when leaving Mass. We have now introduced a more secure system. A black box will be on the table by the glass doors for your Offertory and this will be the only receptacle for offertory donations.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The usual papers are attached.

YOUNG PERSON'S LITURGY

The 'Icthus' publication is attached.

COMMENTRY SIDE OF BULLETIN & VARIOUS EXTRAS

The usual documents relating to this Sunday are attached.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ABOUT THIS TIME:

Malcolm Gibson, Teresa Corcoran (Sr Veronica), Rosina Grummitt, Albert Feeney, Annetta Denmark, Colin Harvey, Mavis Victoria Green, Maria Lowry, Anne Gayfer, Terence Stowar, Jean Konopacki, Margaret Hamer, Andrew Guild, Peter Bostock.

FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF GOD'S GIFTS – TIME, TALENTS, TREASURE

The attached letter from the Bishop gives details of the above initiative for the Diocese which concentrates on Parish growth and development. It is being rolled out with groups of Parishes, starting this year, but our Parish will join with others later.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE MASS -ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

This year's Marriage and Family Life Mass will be both live and livestreamed at the Cathedral on Saturday June 12th at 11am. Certificates will be available for those celebrating significant wedding anniversaries in 2020 and 2021 (anniversaries of one year, five years and every multiple of five years thereafter). Please register to attend the event and/or for a certificate online at:

<https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-mass-registration/>

There will be a collection at the Mass for those who wish to help the Marriage and Family Life Commission in their work.

GIFT AID - THE GOOD WAY TO GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH

Gift Aid is an arrangement that allows charities, including churches, to reclaim tax on donations made by a taxpayer. It covers weekly giving as well as one-off donations. This means that every donation you make is worth 25% more to your Church, at no cost to you. For example, if you donate £20, we will be able to reclaim £5 on your donation from the government, meaning the Church gets £20 from you and £5 from the government.

If you're already paying tax on earnings, pensions or income/capital gains from investments, the government simply gives back to the Church some of the tax you have already paid. We don't need to know your personal details such as income, nor your National Insurance number. Your donations will qualify as long as they're not more than 4 times the tax you have paid in that tax year (6 April to 5 April).

All you have to do is complete a simple form called a Gift Aid Declaration with your name and address. Please help us to make the most of this scheme to benefit our Church. Please see Tony Walmsley or Marie Risebro for a form.

KITTIWAKES

The Kittiwakes are back with us and are busy reserving their nesting sites on the ledges of the church tower. Our stalwart outdoor cleaners: Dick and Ann Whale and Marie Risebro have started their weekly clean-up after the Wednesday Mass. Our thanks to them.

Sunday 25th April: Fourth Sunday of Easter “The Good Shepherd”

Gospel: John 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. When the hired man, who is not a shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away; so the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. The hired man runs away because he is only a hired man and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them. There are other sheep which belong to me that are not in this sheep pen. I must bring them, too; they will listen to my voice, and they will become[a] one flock with one shepherd.

“The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life, in order that I may receive it back again. No one takes my life away from me. I give it up of my own free will. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it back. This is what my Father has commanded me to do.”



Gospel reflection: What do you remember from today's reading?

Jesus calls himself the good shepherd, who carefully looks after his sheep. When he says sheep, Jesus means us, because he cares for us and for all people around the world.

If a wolf came to attack the sheep in a field, someone who did not care about them would run away, and the sheep would scatter. But Jesus loves his sheep so much he is prepared to die to save them from danger!

Sometimes it can be very difficult to stop someone or something that we do not like or that we know is wrong. There are many things that happen in the world that are not right.....Wars, food and water shortage, sickness, low wages, poor housing

Jesus wants us to follow his example. He asks us to care for all our brothers and sisters around the world, no matter whom they are or where they come from. He wants us to pray and work for peace, justice and fairness.

Jesus loves everybody the same

PRAYERS: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

We know that Jesus is our shepherd who cares for us and listens to us, and so we pray together:

We pray for world leaders: that they may follow Jesus' example and love and care for their people. Lord, hear us...Lord graciously hear us

We pray for all members of our global family: that we may see that God loves us all equally and treat each other as we would wish to be treated. Lord, hear us... Lord graciously hear us

We pray for our parish, family and friends: Schools and Colleges and all who work and learn in them. We pray too for the sick and all who care for them. Lord, hear us... Lord graciously hear us

Closing prayer: Loving God, help us to love and care for all your people throughout the world and to work together to make the world a better place. Amen.

Activity: Enjoy the picture colouring, worksheets and craft making sheep!



In the time of Jesus the Shepherd went along first and the sheep followed.

Jesus is our Shepherd and we follow him.

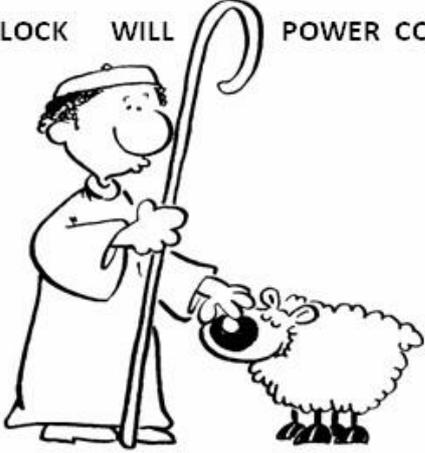


Write a prayer here to share with your family



Enjoy doing this Word search

S	R	L	F	O	W	O	R	D	S	GOOD	SHEPHERD	SHEEP	WOLF
N	P	E	E	H	S	C	E	S	C	VOICE	ABANDONS	FATHER	LEAD
O	D	P	W	D	I	R	H	D	A	FLOCK	WILL	POWER	COMMAND
D	E	E	A	O	I	E	T	N	T				
N	A	E	V	H	P	F	A	A	T				
A	L	S	C	H	F	I	F	M	R				
B	A	L	E	I	F	L	G	M	E				
A	T	R	I	O	O	D	O	O	G				
R	D	L	L	W	I	V	O	C	S				
S	R	E	T	T	A	C	S	D	K				



Make some sheep pictures

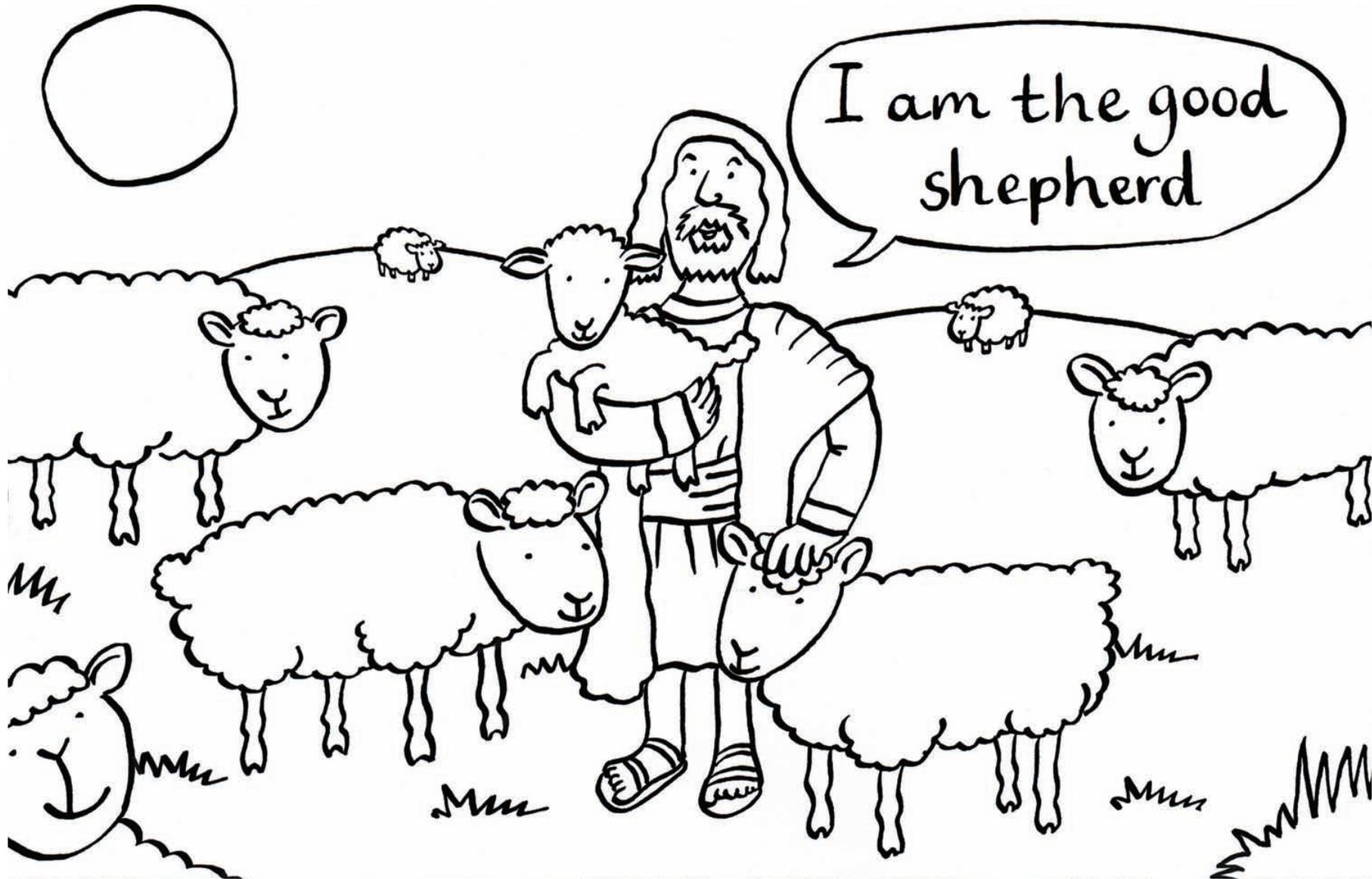


Enjoy colouring this poster



The Good Shepherd

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Gospel: John 10:11-18



Find more resources at cafod.org.uk/families



Sunday 25 April 2021

John 10:11-18

4th Sunday of Easter

My name is _____

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

Jesus tells the people that he is the good shepherd and he will protect his sheep.

I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU!

You are one of Jesus' sheep.

He will always look after you.



5	10	15	20	25	30
25	4	8	9	16	24
20	5	10	15	23	29
1	3	9	30	19	21
4	7	20	25	17	14
5	10	15	13	12	11



Find a path together by colouring the circles with numbers you can divide by 5.

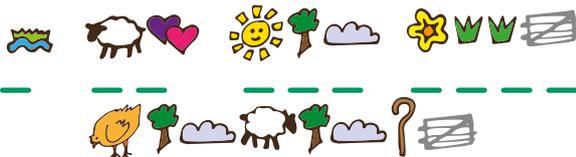
Follow the sheep

Even if we are naughty sometimes or we get lost, the Good Shepherd loves and looks after us.



Code

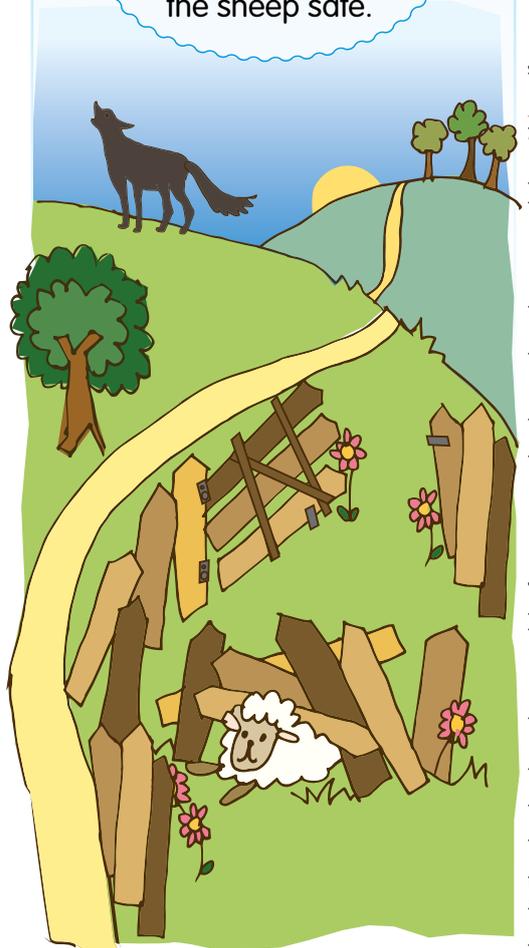
Jesus says



a = e = h = m = p = t =
 d = g = i = o = s = r =

Being safe

Circle four things the shepherd needs to sort out to keep the sheep safe.



A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd and I am one of your sheep. Thank you for loving and looking after me. Amen.

Answers: Jesus says "I am the good shepherd". The shepherd needs to mend the fence, rescue the sheep, close the gate and chase the wolf away.

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 25 APRIL 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year B



What is God going to say to you today? Are you ready to listen?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before...

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



FIRST READING ACTS 4:8-12

People are questioning Peter about a man he has healed. They know it was kind of Peter, but don't know how he did it. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter has the courage to tell everyone. It is all through Jesus. Although

Jesus has been rejected by lots of people, it is through his death and resurrection that we are all saved. The healed man shows that we can all look forward to being made whole and enjoying the fullness of life.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Jesus Christ the Nazarene is the name of our saviour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 117

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

Or Alleluia!

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.



SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:1-2

God loves each one of us very much. We don't have to work hard or prove ourselves in any way to earn God's love. We are God's children and God loves us no matter what. We don't know what is

going to happen in the future, but our life with God is looking good! We are growing to be even more like Jesus as we put into practice our love for other people. God has great things in store for us!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. We are all God's children and we are loved very much.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!

We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.



DO YOU KNOW?

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. God calls us to love others in many different ways, according to our gifts and talents. We pray that we are all open to hearing God's call. In particular, we pray today that people will hear the voice of Jesus the good shepherd calling them to the priesthood and religious life.



THINK

Jesus is the good shepherd, the ideal shepherd. He doesn't just tell us, his sheep, what to do; Jesus shows us by example how to put other people first. Sheep followed their shepherd and we follow Jesus. We trust Jesus because we know just how much he loves us.



GOSPEL JOHN 10:11-18

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St John.

We belong to Jesus. Jesus says we are like the sheep who belong to the shepherd. The sheep matter so much to the shepherd that he lives out on the hillside with them, keeping them safe from wolves and every danger that threatens them. Jesus is the best

of shepherds, who will give his life to protect his sheep. Just as a shepherd knows each one of his sheep, Jesus knows each one of us. Every one of us is special to Jesus. We can't go wrong if we listen to Jesus and follow in his footsteps. Jesus will lead us to safety.

STAND to LISTEN to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?



PRAY

"I am the good shepherd."

Think about the things that frighten you or that you feel are dangers in your life. Talk to a grown up and talk to God. Know that Jesus is always with you, giving you courage.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please bless anyone who is listening to your call to become a priest, nun, sister or monk. Help us all to be generous in our response to you. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. Here is a prayer you could say privately.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think of a time when you were felt lost and alone and then remember a time when you felt cared for and safe. Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for showing me by your example what real love means. Help me to follow you more closely each day. Amen.



IXΘΥΣ

is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:

- I (Jesus)
- X (Christos)
- Θ (Theou/God's)
- Υ (Uios/Son)
- Σ (Soter/Saviour)

redemptorist
publications

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FSC
logo



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.



later, in 1808, it relocated to this hillside near Durham; by the middle of the nineteenth century, as restrictions on Catholics in Britain were eased, its influence was established, and by the early years of the twentieth century it was the most important Catholic centre in the north of England.



The jewel in Ushaw's crown is the chapel of St Cuthbert, originally designed by Augustus Pugin, famous for his work on the Houses of Parliament; but later it was redesigned by Dunn and Hansom (of the cabs fame): it has the air of an ancient cathedral, with its oak choir stalls and stunning stained glass windows. Like Eton College, Ushaw had its own game that was played only here, having been imported from its French history, called "Cat"; it is remembered in many photographs dotted around the college. The place has the feel of a cross between a palace and a monastery; there are endless beautiful long cloisters, many of them looking out over the colourful gardens – tulips in the spring, rhododendrons later in the summer.

Today as well as touring the chapels and seeing the beautiful interiors – there are three libraries, a theatre and several refectories – there are opportunities to connect with the cultural life of modern-day County Durham, as local artists have workshops on the estate. A restaurant and cafes, as well as spaces where you can have a picnic, make Ushaw a wonderful place for a day out.

For more information, or to plan a visit, see www.ushaw.org

Mass text

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 4:8-12

PSALM Psalm 117

RESPONSE **The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.**

Or **Alleluia!**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **R.**

2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 John 3:1-2

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 10:11-18

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 9:26-31
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8



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THE CHURCH'S POWERHOUSE TOWN

In the middle of the nineteenth century, Pope Pius IX described a place he had never visited but had often heard about; it resembled, he said, a small town, imbued entirely with Catholicism. The place was in the north of England, a few miles outside the ancient city of Durham; it was a school and seminary preparing boys and young men for a life in the priesthood.

Pius was certainly correct in his description: today it still feels like a small town, a five-hundred-acre estate set in fields amidst spectacular scenery, with many buildings dotted around a huge mansion. In its heyday these buildings included a bakery, a junior as well as an adult seminary, a farm, a dairy, and no fewer than twelve separate churches and chapels. It even had its own gasworks – there was, after all, plenty of power needed to run such a large set-up; the schoolboys and seminarians alone totalled around five hundred at its prime, on top of which was a large staff ranging from the rector, teachers and professors to the many farm and domestic workers.

A visit today is a poignant reminder of what might be called the "glory days" of Catholicism in England; it seems almost unbelievable now that such a vast and thriving enterprise existed, but at that time there were large numbers of Catholics in the north of England where their numbers had been swollen by the arrival of many workers from Ireland. Times have changed, but what's heart-warming about Ushaw today is that, having closed as a seminary in 2011 due to a reduced number feeling the call to the priesthood, it has now been reinvented as a visitor attraction and museum. It stands as a tribute to another era of Catholicism in Britain, but it's forward-looking, and is establishing itself once again as a vibrant centre of life in the north-east.

Ushaw's origins are rooted, like so much of the Catholic story in the UK, in the Reformation. For many years afterwards, because Catholicism was outlawed, men could not be trained as priests; and so seminaries moved abroad. One of the most successful was Douai in France, which had been established in 1568 and which trained many of the men who returned to minister to Catholics in Britain, often to die for their faith. But at the end of the eighteenth century Douai itself had to close, since Catholicism was under threat in France because of the revolution. A few years

Catholic heritage in Britain



On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Joanna Moorhead visits the former seminary of Ushaw in Durham.



25 APRIL 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK IV

SUNDAY PLUS

Follow me!

Growing up on a Welsh sheep farm has given me a particular viewpoint on the times when Christ talks about being the Good Shepherd. While shouting and waving sticks can get a flock moving quickly, sometimes they just scatter in fright, ending up stuck in brambles or falling into streams. The better way is slower and gentler. Jesus our Good Shepherd

knows each of his own better than we know ourselves, guiding us towards what's truly in our best interests. Sometimes the sheep need treating with medicine or to have their wool shorn and they don't comprehend the benefits.

How often in our Christian life do we feel the Lord calling us to something a bit more demanding or difficult than we'd immediately like? Following Jesus and trusting him to be our good shepherd

is something we do on the everyday level, but also when we're trying to work out what the Lord wants for our vocation in life. If you speak to anyone in a religious order or a priest, then their journey has always taken an unexpected route, and at times all we can do is trust in the goodness of God and try to work out best what his will is. Of course, sheep only thrive in a flock, with the

support and companionship of others, so whatever your vocation is in life, let us all support each other in prayer and friendship.

Finally, if you notice someone who might be called to some sort of ministry in the Church, quietly let them know, as it could be just what they're waiting for!

Br Royston Price is the Vocations Director for the Redemptorists' London Province.

Follow the Good Shepherd

by Br Royston Price C.Ss.R.

Lead by example

by Rachel Thompson

All young adults now, my children are well placed to know my failings as a mother and tell me where I have gone wrong – although it hasn't been for want of trying! In one drive to be good parents, we used Covey's idea of "emotional bank accounts": we pay into someone's account with time and attention, and so build trust. It is this trust which is at the heart of the personal relationship between sheep and their shepherd. As the ideal shepherd, Jesus shows us that trust costs. Real love, consistently putting the other first, is hard but there can be no greater investment and Jesus shows by example how it's done. The wolves will always

be there, but Jesus' sacrifice enables me to know the reality of God's love and to understand that all will, eventually, be well. I am hopeful that Jesus' example of forgiveness is one my children will be following...

Rachel Thompson, in addition to being the Children's Editor for Redemptorist Publications, is also a full-time secondary school teacher.

"How can we not struggle together? How can we not pray and work together, side by side... to show the sacred countenance of the Lord, and to care for his work of creation?"

Pope Francis

Iconic!

by Martin Delaney

Jesus is the world's biggest icon but his fan club requires more than an autograph. He asks us to be more than the hired hand, who splits at the first sign of the wolf.

Being a fan of an icon means we can often admire them at a distance, finding inspiration in the ideas, but then all too easily forgetting them when we go out into the world.

Jesus calls us to be more than that as part of his membership: not mere fans, but followers, disciples and family members. He calls us to his family, to his flock and, most importantly, he calls us to be like him. He asks us, as disciples, to become more like him in our

actions, in our words and in the way we serve. He calls us to establish a relationship with the Father, so that we too may join that one flock: to know the Father as the Father know us.

Martin Delaney is an actor, writer and personal development coach. He is best-known for his work in Oscar-winning *Zero Dark Thirty*, *Now You See Me 2* and George Clooney's *Catch 22*.

Good Shepherd, watch over, protect and bless everyone whom I know and love. Let us follow you wherever you might lead us. ✝ Amen.

Today:
Acts 4:8-12
1 John 3:1-2
John 10:11-18

Monday:
Acts 11:1-18
John 10:1-10

Tuesday:
Acts 11:19-26
John 10:22-30

Wednesday:
Acts 12:24 – 3:5
John 12:44-50

Thursday:
Acts 13:13-25
John 13:16-20

Friday:
Acts 13:26-33
John 14:1-6

Saturday:
Acts 13:44-52
John 14:7-14

Next Sunday:
Acts 9:26-31
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: "Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one who crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 117

Response:

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

or
Alleluia!

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. (R.)

2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John. Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said:

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down,

so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

(all bow during the next two lines)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

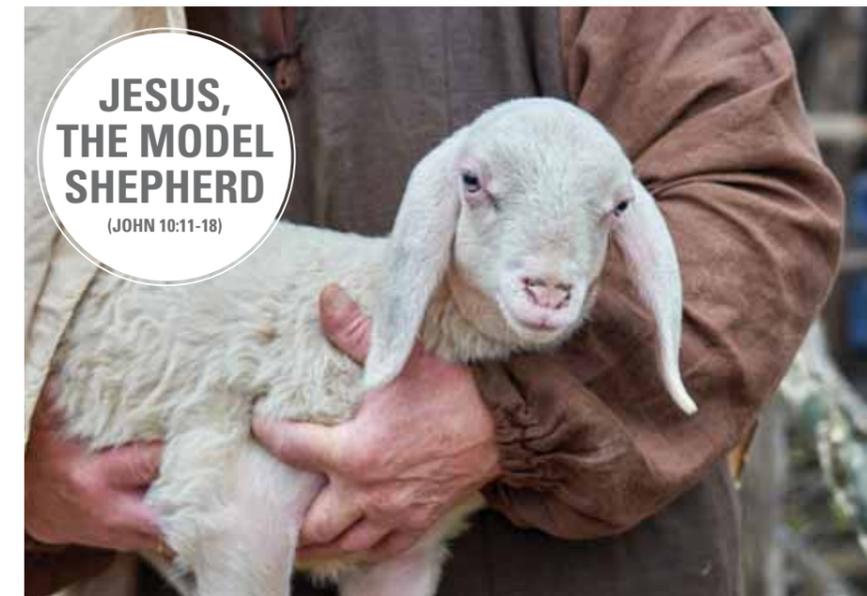
Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries, so that the renewal constantly at work within us may be the cause of our unending joy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd, and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures the sheep you have redeemed by the Precious Blood of your Son. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORD

The readings from the Gospels continue to reflect on Jesus' fulfilling the mission given to him by the Father. He reflects on the difference between himself as "the model shepherd" and the one who simply does the job for money and is not committed to the members of the flock for any other reason.

The essential factor is that the paid employee has no meaningful relationship with those entrusted to his care: elsewhere, Jesus likens himself to the shepherd who knows all the sheep by name, illustrated by his addressing Mary Magdalene by name at the tomb on Easter Day. We might note that, although the Hebrew scriptures talk about the messianic shepherd who will gather the scattered people together, there is no notion of one who will give his life for the flock.

Jesus' commitment to the Father is shown by his being willing freely to lay down his life and take it up again, as he will demonstrate later in the washing of the disciples' feet at the Last Supper. Thus, what happens to Jesus is not some tragic accident, but rather "the command I have been given by my Father". It is in this mystery that the love of the Father will be revealed, difficult though it may be for us to understand. ■

REFLECT

One reason why farmers apparently are reluctant to give names to their animals is that it makes them in a sense into pets and so would cause all sorts of problems when the time comes to send them to be slaughtered for their meat. On the other hand, there are stories of tough and seasoned shepherds being reduced to tears when their dog, which has been their companion perhaps for many years, has to be put down to spare it further suffering. The difference in reaction reveals the contrast in relationship. In our Gospel reading today, we are invited to reflect on what

the Easter mystery tells us about Jesus, ourselves and what being a disciple means.

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus is not saying that he has power to lay down and take up his life again, so much as that he has authority to do so. He stresses that this is his own decision, freely taken. We might consider that what matters in the end is our own personal relationship with Jesus. It is easy to imagine the Church as a sea of anonymous faces, for example as pictures of St Peter's Square suggest: there is truth in this, that the

SAY

Jesus is the model shepherd: he knows my name. (see John 10:11)

LEARN

There is only one commandment in the Fourth Gospel: "love one another".

There is no equivalent to the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew) or on the Plain (Luke) in the Gospel according to John.

The figure of the shepherd is used in the Hebrew scriptures to refer to the leaders of Israel, often in a context of criticism.

DO

Notice the people in the street as you walk along: do you imagine Jesus having a general interest in their well-being or his having a personal interest in each one? How do you feel he relates to yourself?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: "Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 117

RESPONSE: *The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.*

Or *Alleluia!*

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in men:
it is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in princes. **R.**
2. I will thank you for you have given answer
and you are my saviour.
The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **R.**
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
I will thank you for you have given answer
and you are my saviour.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
for his love has no end. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 John 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL John 10:11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said:

"I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd
and the sheep do not belong to him,
abandons the sheep and runs away
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;
this is because he is only a hired man
and has no concern for the sheep.
I am the good shepherd;
I know my own
and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have
that are not of this fold,
and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,
and there will be only one flock,
and one shepherd.
The Father loves me,
because I lay down my life
in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay it down of my own free will,
and as it is in my power to lay it down,
so it is in my power to take it up again;
and this is the command I have been given by my Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,
so that the renewal constantly at work within us
may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

The priest gives praise to God and all acclaim:
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

*After the Consecration we acclaim the
mystery of faith:*

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

or

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

or

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer:
Amen.

The Communion Rite

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Deliver us...
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God...
Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son...
Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

At the end of Mass the people respond:
Thanks be to God.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the
earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens
were made, alleluia.

*All make the Sign of the Cross as the priest
says:*

Priest In the name of the Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

*The priest greets the people in one of
these ways:*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.
And with your spirit.

or

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
And with your spirit.

or

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

*One of the following acts of penance is
now made:*

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have
failed to do,

(all strike their breast and say:)

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,

and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

or

Have mercy on us, O Lord.
For we have sinned against you.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
And grant us your salvation.

or

Lord, have mercy. or Kyrie, eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Kyrie, eleison.

Christ, have mercy. or Christe, eleison.
Christ, have mercy. Christe, eleison.

Lord, have mercy. or Kyrie, eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Kyrie, eleison.

After the absolution all respond: Amen.

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone
before...

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 4:8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

This is the only name by which we can be saved.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said:
“Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 117

R. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

or

Alleluia!

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than to trust in men:
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2. I will thank you for you have given
answer
and you are my saviour.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
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3. Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the
Lord;
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We shall see God as he really is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished
on us,
by letting us be called God’s children;
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Because the world refused to acknowledge
him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children
of God
but what we are to be in the future has not
yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel John 10:11-18

*The good shepherd is one who lays down
his life for his sheep.*

Jesus said:

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and the sheep do not belong to him,
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just as the Father knows me

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And there are other sheep I have

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and these I have to lead as well.

They too will listen to my voice,

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and one shepherd.

The Father loves me,

because I lay down my life

in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me;

I lay it down of my own free will,

and as it is in my power to lay it down,

so it is in my power to take it up again;

and this is the command I have been

given by my Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Homily

The Profession of Faith

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord,**

(all bow during the next two lines:)

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the
dead;**

**he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the
living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

The bidding prayers now follow:

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*If the prayers of blessing are said aloud the
people acclaim each time:*

Blessed be God for ever.

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters)...

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at
your hands**

**for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good**

and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that we may always find delight in these
paschal mysteries,
so that the renewal constantly at work
within us
may be the cause of our unending joy...
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.



RC DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA

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The Right Reverend Bishop Alan S Hopes B.D. A.K.C.
Bishop of East Anglia

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20 April 2021

Dear Father.

I am writing to make you aware of a new initiative within our Diocese and ask that you all remember it in your prayers and give it your support when invited to participate.

The initiative is called 'Faithful Stewards of God's Gifts - Time, Talents and Treasure'. It has borne fruit in many Parishes in England and it is one which I and the Trustees also believe will produce great fruits to all our Parishes.

The programme seeks to help our parishioners to see that they are very much responsible for their Parish. It informs them of how their Parish is run financially and of its hopes and future plans. Over three consecutive weekends, it gives parishioners time to reflect on how they can become involved in the life of the Parish through giving their time, talents and treasure according to each individual's circumstance. The focus is on the mission of the local Parish rather than on the needs of the Parish. The results of the initiative are many and quite impressive. Parishes report:

- more regular volunteers coming forward;
- many new talents discerned;
- an increase in more secure and more reliable methods of giving (standing orders);
- an increase in Gift Aid.

This initiative differs from Alive in Faith in two key aspects. The focus is on:

- asking parishioners to reflect on their own stewardship of God's gifts;
- any increase in offertory remains in the Parish (the Diocesan levy will of course still apply).



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The programme will be rolled out across the Diocese over a period of three years. Each Parish will be asked to participate in the programme as and when their Alive in Faith pledges have come to an end.

Sandra Portas, our new part time Stewardship and Fundraising Coordinator, will be responsible for working with each Parish to deliver the programme. The Diocese will provide all the support each Parish needs and all the necessary materials without cost.

The first seventeen Parishes which Sandra will work with in 2021 have been broken into three tranches. The first tranche in the Spring will begin what I hope will be a fruitful programme for each of our Parishes:

TRANCHE 1

Ipswich St Mary
Peterborough All Souls
Kings Lynn
Southwold
North Walsham

TRANCHE 2

Sheringham & Cromer
Peterborough St Lukes
Poringland
St Ives
Aldeburgh
Felixstowe
Huntingdon



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TRANCHE 3

Woodbridge
Stowmarket
Costessey
Gorleston
Ipswich Mary Magdalen

With warmest wishes and prayer,

Yours devotedly in Christ,

The Right Reverend Alan S Hopes
Bishop of East Anglia