

# TAKE UP AND READ

ST. AUGUSTINE ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH

4th Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 12,



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."*

Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He left the paradise of Heaven to seek out and save us who are lost sheep, who have mired ourselves in our sins. The entire Season of Easter is about celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death. But on this Fourth Sunday of Easter in particular, we reflect on what this means for you and me on a daily basis.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday." This name stems from today's Gospel passage, taken from the tenth chapter of John. We Christians, although justified in the Sacrament of Baptism, continue throughout our lives to stray from God. We need the Good Shepherd each day.

For the sake of our need, the Good Shepherd reveals Himself to us today not only through the Gospel Reading. He also proclaims who He is in the responsorial psalm: "Know that the Lord is God; / He made us, His we are; / His people, the flock He tends."

We need to ponder the words of this psalm. After all, we don't usually think of a shepherd as having "made" "the flock He tends." A shepherd might be involved in bringing together the ram and ewe that actually "make" sheep, but how could you say that a shepherd "makes" his flock? But that's what the Bible says in today's responsorial psalm.

The unusual fact that this Shepherd "made us" reveals our

## TODAY'S READINGS

*4th Sunday of Easter*

**1st Read:** Acts 13:14, 43-52

**Respons:** Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5

**2nd Read:** Rev 7:9, 14b-17

**Gospel:** Jn 10:27-30

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

*5th Sunday of Easter*

**1st Read:** Acts 14:21-27

**Respons:** Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13

**2nd Read:** Rev 21:1-5a

**Gospel:** Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

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

*~John 10:14*

*Sacred Heart Pilgrims Blog*

<https://mosaic.shms.edu/category/desert/>

## WORSHIP & LITURGY

### SACRAMENTS

#### RECONCILIATION

Sundays 9:20 am or by appt.

MATRIMONY, ANOINTING OF  
THE SICK, BAPTISM

Call the rectory for more info.  
(313) 921-4107

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Rev. Mr. Joseph Iskra, Deacon  
Rev. Mr. Chris Rabaut, Deacon

#### Minister of Service

Mr. Lester Payne  
Mr. Ronald Ford Jr  
Mr. Herman Jones Jr.

#### Altar Servers

Cecilia Aguilar  
Sakai Bradley  
Alex Clark  
Zoey Crawford-Sims  
Reniah Fielder  
Elijah Ford  
Malachi Ford  
Z'aire Pope-Clark  
Charlie Spillman  
Haley Williams

#### Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Mrs. Lois Gibson  
Mrs. Erika Lee  
Mr. Tim Marshall  
Mrs. Mabel Midgett  
Mrs. Clarisa Piecuch  
Mrs. Colleen Rabaut  
Mrs. Joyce Shelton-Watkins  
Mrs. Judy Vlckerman

#### Music Minister

Marjorie Gabriel-Burrow

#### Choir

Calvin Black  
Valaurian Carter  
Ellen Childs  
Tracey Durden  
Valerie Harvey-Ford  
Steven Hunter  
Lisa Jones  
Genevieve Kocourek  
Amy Parker  
Deldon Treece  
Tom Vickerman  
Nick Waller  
Lawrence Waller  
Valeon Waller  
Esther Walton  
Barbara White

## FROM OUR PASTOR



**DAY 1**—After Monsignor Lajiness' pilgrimage blessing, we left Sacred Heart in the driving rain for Metro airport. This year, we are two religious brothers, two men from the Upper Peninsula, two from mid-Michigan (Kalamazoo and Lansing) and two from the further Midwest (Minnesota and Wisconsin). Father Burr and I are leading the group for the third time.

Nate helped us through.

We are currently camped out near gate A60 and the sun is shining through the clouds. Hoping for an uneventful flight. All of us have flown before, so there are no first time jitters in that regard.

We are going to begin and end our days in the Holy Land a little differently this year. The first couple days we will be on the Mount of Olives, with the Brigittine sisters in the Vatican guesthouse overlooking the Valley of Jehospat and the Temple Mount. The last couple of days we'll be in the Christian Quarter of the Old City, in the Maronite guesthouse, a new place for us. The Maronites are originally from Lebanon and have had a long presence in the Holy Land.

Tomorrow morning, we will wake up in Paris, have a quick breakfast and board our plane for Tel Aviv.

**DAY 2**- Hits and misses on sleep last night. One guy wasn't able to sleep at all, but most of us got some sleep before we arrived at Charles De Gaulle. The transfer was painless and some of the guys got croissants in the airport. A motley crew in the waiting area going to Tel Aviv, including a young Canadian couple who were reading, sprawled out on the carpeting, seemingly oblivious to the world around, a beautiful three year old girl riding her tricycle madly around the waiting area, many Orthodox Jewish families, and apparent vacationers, and, us.

At the custom booth, I offered a "Good afternoon," which fell into the customary Israeli custom person silence. The officer asked why we were in Israel, what kind of school was it, what was its name, where was it, etc..

When I said "Detroit," he said, "I know Detroit very well. My cousins live in Farmington Hills." I started talking about the nearest landmark, Henry Ford Hospital; he said, "I know it, I know it." Small world.

It took a while to clear customs and get on the bus. We arrived right before we were due for Mass, which we had, and then dinner with a delightful group of Swedish Salvation Army members. The sisters fed us well, so we had a good second day.

**DAY 3**-We said goodbye to the Swedish group this morning at 8:30 and were picked up for the short ride to the Nablus bus station, where we met our guide, Nabil, a Coptic Christian who led us to the Damascus Gate. At the gate and walls, most of which is from the 16th century, Nabil pointed out to us excavations which are from the time the Romans rebuilt the city in the year 135.

I was glad that Nabil took us into the Old City through the Damascus Gate; it has the most timeless feel to it, of all the gates. At the other gates, cars whizz by. At the Damascus gate, only hand pushed carts. At the other gates, there are shops, but at the Damascus gate, the shops have Bedouin women outside, selling fresh grape leaves and spices). At the other gates, you can buy things, but at the Damascus gate there is a shop which advertises itself, "Moneychanger here."

After making our way through the crowded street, where sellers call out "Hamsid shekel, Arbah Shekel (5 shekels! 10 shekels!), we came to the Holy Sepulcher, where Nabil gave a very good tour.

Father Burr presided at Mass this morning in the Crusader chapel of the Holy Sepulcher and preached about the Lord coming to us through the various experiences during a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. It was a great preparation for the weeks ahead.

After lunch at Ecce Homo, prayer at the Armenian Catholic patriarchate, and a viewing of the Franciscan display on Jerusalem, we joined the Franciscans and maybe a hundred others for the Stations of the Cross, which end on Calvary. It was

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Continued)

destiny, which is a loftier destiny than most sheep. For your average sheep, its destiny is to provide wool, mutton, and milk. The sheep is a means towards protection from the elements and nourishment.

But it's foolish to think of us as sheep along these lines, because God needs neither protection nor nourishment. So that begs the question: why are the images of the Shepherd and His flock fitting to describe God and us? What are we for? For what end did this Shepherd make us? In the venerable King James translation of Psalm 23, we hear:

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

Here is why this Good Shepherd made us. "For His Name's sake" He made us: for His sake, not for our own sake. He made us for His life in Heaven, not for earth. Unfortunately, too often, you and I not only live in this world. We live for this world, and for ourselves, as well. The imagery of the Twenty-third Psalm evokes the reality of God's life in Heaven: "green pastures," "still waters," a table prepared by the Lord, and a cup that "runneth over."

There's a stark contrast here. On the one hand are the natural differences between God and us fallen sinners. On the other hand are the tender intimacy that the Shepherd has for, and wants for, His flock. This is a closeness that we don't deserve, but that the Shepherd desires for us. The Good Shepherd will go to great extremes for His flock. He will give up His life for His sheep. In the same chapter that today's Gospel passage comes from, Jesus says, "I am the good shepherd . . . just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep" (Jn 10:14-15). But Jesus will do even more.

In today's second reading, from the Book of Revelation, we hear St. John the Evangelist describe a vision that he had. He points out that "'the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water.'" In fact, three times in today's second reading — and forty times in the entire Book of Revelation — the word lamb is used by St. John. But in this sentence from today's second reading, he uses this word in an unusual way. This "lamb" is also a "shepherd": "the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water."

This "lamb," of course, is the Risen Jesus. This lamb is our Good Shepherd, the God who chose not only to become man, but also to offer His Body and Blood along with His soul and divinity on the Cross for you. This crucified and risen God-man is a sheep like you, but also your divine shepherd.

Here is the source from which we must draw the strength to live the Christian life of self-sacrifice. That strength is our Good Shepherd, who became the Lamb of God to take away your sins, and who calls you to the fullness of His Supper.

*Fr. Thomas Hoisington, STL, was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Wichita in 1995. He serves the parishes of St. Mary's and St. Anthony's in Garden Plain, Kansas, lectures at the diocesan Spiritual Life Center, and serves as Censor Librorum for the Diocese.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

MYRON BROWN  
SISTER MARY ELISE CHAPMAN  
LAYNE CHESNEY (REL. OF M. SERAPHINOFF)  
JAMES DYAS  
HANAA ESHAQ  
ESTHER FIGUEROA-NUNEZ  
SR MARY FINN, HVM  
CEOLA FORD (SISTER OF BRENDA VAUGHN)  
TONI FULLER  
LOIS GIPSON  
WENDEL GOLSON (SON OF B. WYRE)  
DONALD HALSTEAD (REL. OF M. SERAPHINOFF)  
SISTER ELIZABETH HARRIS, SISTER MARY JANE, HVM  
MASTER SGT. SHEILA HOLMES (RET)  
MILDRED JOHNSON (HOMEBOUND)  
LYNN JONES  
PEGGY JONES  
WILNETTE JONES  
KATE LINDHOLM (MOTHER OF TOM VICKERMAN)  
BRANDON MARSHALL (SON OF R. MARSHALL)  
TERRY MATHIS  
PATTY MATIGIAN  
DONNA METCALFE  
MAGNOLIA MILLER  
JOSEPH MONIER  
LINDA MONIER  
PEGGY MONIER  
JACQUELINE MOORE  
FANNIE NEWTON (HOMEBOUND)  
DOROTHY PAYNE  
DAVID PHILBERT  
MARY QUINN  
THEO ROBERTS  
DARLINE RUCKER  
RICKI RUGGS  
CLIFF SUTTON  
SISTER JOLEEN VANHANDL  
BRENDA VAUGHN  
BERNADETTE WYRE  
CURTIS WYNN

## FROM OUR PASTOR (Continued)

very moving.

We logged something over 5 miles today, which seemed very virtuous to me until we found that our Swedish friends came in closer to 10 miles. The Swedes sang a lovely grace at the beginning of dinner, and sang grace after dinner as well. A beautiful day.

**DAY 4**—We prayed morning prayer looking over the Kidron Valley to the place where the Temple once stood, the place where Jesus was presented as a child, and where He so often went to preach. Many of the psalms were first sung on the Temple Mount and on May 4, 2019, we chanted them once more.

Our guide today was a German priest from Freiburg, Father Andreas. He met us at the guesthouse, where we said goodbye to the Brigettine sisters. Rames, our driver, drove us through the Wadi al Joz, the side of the Valley of Jehoshaphat and up the steel mount of Zion.

We had Mass in a modern chapel near the Sheep Pool, offering the Mass of the Birth of Mary, which is traditionally believed to have happened on that site. We visited Ste. Anne's church, prayed for the Archdiocese and then formed a circle near the altar platform where we sang the Regina Coeli and the Ave Regina Coelorum. Only ten of us, but we weren't half bad, given the great acoustics.

We then went to St. Stephen's church courtyard, where we read from Acts about St. Stephen's talk to the Sanhedrin. As Christian read it, from the church we could hear the Ave Maria by Schubert being played on a flute. We entered the church to pray, and a soloist sang the version by Bach/Gounod. Nice. Very nice.

We then made our way to the pizza/falafel/shwarma restaurant across from the Third Station. Had my first pizza there in 1981. Still good. Very Good.

We prayed at the Armenian Catholic church and then Father Andreas told us about some of the side altars in the Holy Sepulcher. He mentioned that for some centuries, Christians were not allowed to go to the first six stations, so some of them were remembered in the basilica itself, like the crowning with thorns. Never had heard that before.

After saying goodbye to Father Andreas, we met Rames and drove to Ein Kerem, where we picked up our luggage, had some free time and then our first theological reflection (went well in both groups.)

Tomorrow, Taybe.

*Praying for you and your intentions,*

*Msgr. Trapp and the Sacred Heart Pilgrims*

## SUMMER 2019 June 24th - June 28th Vacation Bible School 9 am - 2 pm

**HELP WANTED! PRAYERS SUPPLIES, AND SUPPORT!** Please inquire with the parish office or Kathy Trice, (313) 452-3352



The Department of the Attorney General would like to give every victim of abuse and coverup, the ability to share more information the Attorney General toll-free hotline at 844-324-3374 (Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm) or send information by email, through the following link:

<https://www.michigan.gov/ag> and select "learn More" in the Open Investigations section.

## PARISH STAFF

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Rev. Mr. Chris Rabaut, Deacon  
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Mrs. Sara Bordato, Business Manager  
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Mr. Jerry Wyre, Maintenance Manager  
Mr. Mark Marshall, Security  
Ms. Paula Marshall, Security

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Stewardship, Msgr. Trapp  
Worship, Deacon Chris Rabaut  
Travel Club, LaVerne Embry  
Knights of Peter Claver, Stanley Pickett, June Ross  
Ushers, Jacqueline Marshall  
Sunday Refreshments, Lisa Jones  
Pingree Park Assoc., Deacon Chris Rabaut

## PARISH OFFICE

4151 Seminole St.  
Detroit, MI 48214  
Tel: 313.921.4107 Fax: 313.921.1115  
Email: [sasm4151@gmail.com](mailto:sasm4151@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.saintamparish.org](http://www.saintamparish.org)

## PARISH OUTREACH

Image of God Crisis Pregnancy Center of Detroit,  
Thursdays, 5:30—7 pm  
Saturdays, 10:30 am—12 pm  
Ms. Gloria Page, Director Tel: 313.923.8018  
Ms. Linda Linseman, President

SVDP Food Pantry, Clothing Closet, THAW  
Jacqueline Marshall, President  
Tues, Wed. 10:30 am—1:00 pm

Pingree Park Community Association  
Deacon Chris and Colleen Rabaut  
3rd Saturday of the month, 4 pm in the social hall.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF ST. AUGUSTINE AND ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH ARE A MULTI-CULTURAL INNER CITY PARISH DEVOTED TO THE LOVE AND HONOR OF GOD. OUR MISSION IS TO ANNOUNCE THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST BY USING AND DEVELOPING OUR TALENTS TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF OUR PARISHIONERS AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY.