

# 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

6 0 0 =

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, 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

### Observances for the week of April 25, 2021

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Monday: Tuesday:

Wednesday: St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest

Thursday: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Friday: St. Pius V, Pope; Saturday: St. Joseph the Worker Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter



#### LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The cornerstone is the first stone that is laid and the stone that not only determines how the other stones are placed but the position of the entire structure. As human beings, we need a cornerstone or reference point so that our lives can be properly placed and positioned. Our cornerstone determines not only how we see ourselves but who we will become. Without a cornerstone or reference point, we will be disconnected, disoriented, and poorly positioned for effective action in our world. In order to be the children of God we are, Jesus Christ needs to be our cornerstone and the reference point for all that we do. He alone is the Good Shepherd who can guide through life's questions and challenges, bringing us to proper pasture. Without this proper base, we can easily fall into the trap of self-aggrandisement and quickly lose our way. If that happens, then moral principles, proper conduct, justice, wisdom, and virtue will be difficult to find. We need to listen to the right voices and allow God to show us how to build our house well. Salvation only comes from God and only God will protect us, no matter the cost.

**©LPi** 

#### QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

#### First Reading:

We hear how Peter courageously testified before the Sanhedrin that in Jesus' name the crippled man was healed and in Jesus' name all believers are saved. How strong is the conviction of your faith when someone challenges you?

#### **Second Reading:**

John speaks to his community of believers as "children of God." What do you see as some of the implications of such a designation?

#### Gospel:

In speaking of himself as "the good shepherd" who cares deeply for his sheep, Jesus contrasts himself to "a hired man" (the Pharisees) who has no concern for his sheep. How should have the Pharisees reacted to this criticism?

# **MASS SCHEDULE**



#### SUNDAY MASSES

**Saturday Vigil Mass** 5pm

**Sunday** 10am, 12 Noon, 5.30pm

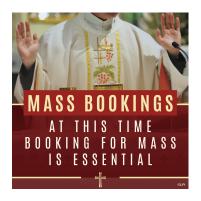
### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday (except Thursday)
Mass at 10am

**Thursday** Mass at 7pm

**Saturday Morning (online only)**Mass at 10am

At this time, during current restrictions, booking is essential for all Masses



# TO BOOK CLICK HERE

OR CALL 07593 825035

#### THANK YOU!

For your continuing donations to support the parish over these past months. While these are essential for us, for many people this is a difficult time and everything that you give is very, very gratefully received and much appreciated

Donations can be made in various ways -

- many people have started using Standing Orders, the forms are available on our website and should be returned to Fr. Jim.
- Online donations can be made through online offertory button on our website
- envelopes can be posted in the white collection box at the entrance to the church
- Or through the Church House letterbox.

#### **NUMBERS AT CHURCH**

You may have seen on social media that the numbers cap is being removed for Places of Worship from 26th April. The key thing for us is that social distancing of 2m will still be in place then. In effect, this makes no real difference to the numbers able to be in the building at the moment. Some larger churches will benefit from this and so it is a step in the right direction.

From 26th April numbers increase to 50 for "life events" - weddings and funerals. At this time we will still be limiting the numbers for baptisms, this is due to the limits caused by the number of volunteers we need to welcome people into the Church and sanitise it after use.

#### FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS

St Charles' SSVP are pleased to announce that they will resume collecting donations for the Food Bank <u>from Monday, 12th April</u> before every public Mass, except funerals. A member of SSVP will be available to collect donations. Please note that nothing can be left in or around the church area.

We are extremely grateful for your continued and unfailing support.



### SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY - VOCATIONS AND ECCLESIASTICAL STUDENTS

This collection pays for our Paisley seminarians studying in Rome. Currently we have four students whose seminary fees are £20,000 each per year, costing the Diocese a total of £80,000 per year. As well as supporting them this collection goes to the upkeep of our Scots College in Rome that, in normal times, welcomes many visitors from Scotland as a place of hospitality for Scots in Rome. Donations can be made through the online collection portal of the Diocese <a href="https://www.mygivinghub.com/detailed/donate?charity\_id=1086351">https://www.mygivinghub.com/detailed/donate?charity\_id=1086351</a>

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Please keep the children and families of P7 in your prayers over the coming couple of weeks. Tomorrow evening and on Tuesday evening we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation.

#### VOCATIONS

Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for those discerning a call to priesthood or religious life. Is that you? Speak to our Vocations Director, Fr. John Morrison tel: 0 1 4 1 8 8 9 5 0 5 6 or e-mail vocations@rcdop.org.uk

## THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

As you begin considering how to vote please check out our Scottish Bishops Election Resource link: Scottish Parliament Election 2021 – Catholic Parliamentary Office (rcpolitics.org) It lets you know where political parties stand on issues that impinge upon our Catholic faith and life and is also being updated with particular candidates' positions on these matters.

# SCRIPTURE AND SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE 10TH - 11TH JULY 2021

John of the Cross and the experience of transforming love. This years' conference focuses on St. John of the Cross and his life changing teachings of how love can transform each and every one of us. Through six thought provoking talks, each of us can learn how to become beacons of light to greater reflect Christ and offer hope to a world in much need of healing. This year, we have been blessed with six renowned speakers, authors and experts, who will bring St. John's teachings to life and transform how we grow in our love and spirituality. more information www.carmelite.uk.net/ssc or contact <a href="mailto:ruth.preston@carmelite.org.uk">ruth.preston@carmelite.org.uk</a> Tel: 07849 596 572

## THE LOGOS & LITERATURE: ELABORATING THE DIVINE

A series of online evening talks exploring some of the great themes of Catholic Christianity in writing old and new, with Catholic scholars and contemporary authors. Every second Thursday at 7:30pm from 29th April. For info and registration: <a href="https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/logos-and-literature/">https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/logos-and-literature/</a>

# CRAIG LODGE, DALMALLY, MISSION HOUSE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Craig Lodge Community is offering a new opportunity to young Catholics on how to live a life of mission. Craig Lodge Mission House is a nine-month residential programme for any young adult between the ages of 18-30 who desires to become a passionate lover of Jesus and become Spirit-filled evangelisers for the renewal of the Church," (Pope Francis). Community, prayer and studying of the Catholic faith and learning to proclaim the Good News to others". The

mission house will begin in September 2021 and applications are now being accepted. Visit the Craig Lodge website for more details. <a href="https://www.craiglodge.org/missionhouse">www.craiglodge.org/missionhouse</a>

#### CARE NOT KILLING

'We need to improve how we care for people, not kill them.' Please contact your election candidates via this website to ask them to support palliative care for the dying. <a href="https://carenotkilling.scot/">https://carenotkilling.scot/</a>



### **DIOCESE OF PAISLEY**

Vocations & Youth Office Diocesan Centre Cathedral Precincts Incle Street, Paisley PA1 1HR Tel: 0141 889 5056

Fax: 0141 847 6140

### Pastoral Letter

Good Shepherd Sunday 2021 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today, throughout the Universal Church, we celebrate *Good Shepherd Sunday*, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Consecrated Life.

As I write to you our parish communities are just at the beginning of a process of recovery from the Global Pandemic. It will hopefully be a time both of *healing* but equally of *memory*. As we reach out to a new future, we will also want to take time reflect on the events of this last year and how they will no doubt serve to shape the time ahead in our Diocese and our country.

It is too early to predict which image from the pandemic will prove most iconic around the world in the years to come when, please God, the last test has come back negative. Perhaps it will be the sight and sound of clapping for our heroes in our NHS and care homes, or families grieving loved ones, or the socially distanced queues outside supermarkets or our quieter schools and our empty football stadia and airports.

For me, at least, it will be the image of Pope Francis leading the world in prayer last March during his extraordinary *Urbi et Orbi*. I think, for all of us who watched on that night, the solitude of the Pope as he walked through a dark, dank and empty St. Peter's Square will remain one of the defining images of our time. The whole occasion was haunting but unforgettable.

That night Pope Francis showed all of us what the Priesthood is all about. He stood before God with all the world's fears and anxieties, its pain and sorrow; and, at the same time, he stood before humanity offering us the peace, comfort and hope of the Gospel. That night we saw in Francis the perfect witness of a priest – that is a bridge or real connection between God and humanity.

The months ahead are going to be a time of challenge and change for all of us. As old certainties fade away we will need our priests, more than ever, to bring us to God and to bring God to us– through the Sacraments, their preaching of the Word and their spiritual fatherhood over us.

Can our parish communities respond to this need? Can they become places where vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life are fostered, nourished and

sustained? I am counting on you to rise to this challenge to work and pray earnestly and without ceasing for vocations from the younger generation of our parishes.

I know you will want me to thank our beloved priests of Paisley Diocese for reaching out and remaining so close to us in our spiritual needs this past year. Even though our churches were closed, our priests carried on their daily pastoral care: tending our sick, comforting our dying, consoling our bereaved, reaching out to those on the margins whom it is so easy to forget. Very far from the 'hired hands' of today's Gospel, they proved steadfast, loyal and faithful shepherds to all of us in our hour of need.

In the past year we have missed gathering together for Holy Mass! Yet through it all our Church has still been there to offer us hope, light and peace, just as it always does, and in no small measure due to our priests, God's *Good Shepherds* among us.

Dear friends, on *Good Shepherd Sunday*, and every day in the life of our communities, I urge you to pray for and support our vocations. In the last four years your prayers have ensured that four fine, young men will have been ordained as priests for our diocese, and one young woman from our diocese entered religious life; proof that the Lord really hears and answers our prayers for vocations!

May Blessed Mary, Our Lady of Paisley, touch the hearts of our young men and women to help them discover with joy the call of the Lord in their lives, and may She accompany us and intercede for us always.

With the assurance of my prayers for you and your loved ones, may God bless,

Bishop John

## Our Good Shepherd

Shep

This Sunday is called Good Shepherd Sunday because in the Gospel reading Jesus tells His friends that He is the Good Shepherd who loves His sheep.

When sheep are out grazing in open fields, the shepherd watches them and protects them from hurting themselves, getting lost, or being killed by wild animals. Jesus looks after us like a shepherd looks after his sheep. He gave us the Church so we could know what is good for us, and He protects us from being ruined by the devil by giving us grace in the sacraments.

Now, Jesus did something that an ordinary shepherd would not do. Besides guiding and protecting us, He died to save us! Because He died for our sins, all of His sheep can now go to Heaven where they will be

happy forever! How blessed we are to have such a loving Shepherd!

Answer to word-find: Follow Jesus

www.thekidsbulletin.com

# Saint Zita April 30















ZITA WAS PUT IN CHARGE OF THE WHOLE HOUSEHOLD. SHE SPENT THE REST OF HER LIFE WORKING THERE AND DIED PEACE-FULLY AT THE

SAINT ZITA IS THE PATRON SAINT OF HOUSEKEEPING. WHEN THE OTHER SERVANTS OR THE FATINELLIS WERE MEAN TO HER, SHE OFFERED UP HER SUFFERINGS TO GOD. WHEN THEY BEGAN TO RESPECT HER, SHE WORKED JUST AS HARD AND REMAINED HUMBLE. WE CAN LEARN FROM HER TO WORK WELL, FOR GOD!

## The Kids' Bulletin

4th Sunday of Easter

Good Shepherd Sunday April 25th, 2021

> Help the sheep find the Good Shepherd and stay away from the hungry wolf!

## Good Shepherd Word-Find



FOCONCERNLM SCATTERSGLA FJTLAYSNOTN AECSOWHWOLF TSHEPHERDEW HUEEAIEUMAO ESSSYRPNIVR RJLIFEESNEK SKNOWDUSESS

Try to find the words in CAPITALS. The left-over letters will tell you what Jesus wants you to do.

JESUS said: "I am the GOOD Shepherd. A good shepherd LAYS down his life for the sheep. A HIRED MAN, who is not a shepherd, and whose sheep are NOT his own, SEES a WOLF coming and LEAVES the sheep and RUNS away, and the wolf CATCHES them and SCATTERS them. This is because he WORKS for PAY and has no CONCERN for the SHEEP. I am the Good SHEPHERD, and I know mine and MINE know me, just as the FATHER knows me and I KNOW the Father; and I will lay down my LIFE for the sheep.