

Dear Padre,

My son was raised Catholic and still claims he is Catholic, but he and his wife go to a Protestant church. How should I deal with my frustration?

Many parents and grandparents today share your frustration. They raised their children Catholic, maybe even sent them to Catholic schools, but the children have grown up and chosen not to continue to be faithful Catholics. A recent survey showed that nine out of ten people say they believe in God, but often they are not committed to a single religion or house of worship. About half of the people questioned attend religious services less than once a month, or never. The loyalty to one Church that was evident in our own lives, or in our parents' and grandparents' lives, is lacking in today's people under age fifty-five.

What can one do about this situation? Certainly pray for your children and continue to give a good example through your own loyalty to the Catholic Church and attendance at Sunday Mass. Invite your son and his wife to attend with you when they visit. As your children age, they may become more interested in your family's history and traditions, and the religion of their childhood may again appear attractive. Try to be patient and continue to pray that your children will return to the Church of their roots. ●



M-PRODUCTION / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Mark, Evangelist	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18	Acts 11:19-26	Acts 12:24-13:5a	1 Pt 5:5b-14	Acts 13:26-33	Acts 13:44-52	Acts 9:26-31
Jn 10:1-10	Jn 10:22-30	Jn 12:44-50	Mk 16:15-20	Jn 14:1-6	Jn 14:7-14	1 Jn 3:18-24
						Jn 15:1-8



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone.... He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God....The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 25, 2021
ZVONIMIR ATLETIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

Timely Topics Viewed with a Catholic Perspective

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)
Acts 4:8-12 / 1 John 3:1-2 / John 10:11-18



I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead... and there will be one flock, one shepherd.
JOHN 10:16

Living with Our Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We live with a maze of instincts—some from the dark side and some from the light. In her book Caste, Isabel Wilkerson describes how cultures tend to consign certain individuals to the bottom of the social ladder. She specifically compares the caste system in India with how the Nazis sought to suppress and eliminate Jews and with the way blacks were oppressed by slavery and even in our own time. She describes the instinct in every society to relegate others to a lower class, always seeking to ensure that we are not at the bottom. This instinct can come from the dark side of people.

There is also an instinct for goodness to others, an instinct of light—to recognize everyone as brothers and sisters. As Saint John notes, “we are God's children now”

(1 John 3:2). It is the voice of the Shepherd instilled in the human spirit that calls us into one fold, the voice of God urging us to healing goodness. It is the dark side that nurtures white supremacy. It is the light that enables us to see beyond the color of our skin. It is the dark side that excludes those who seem different. It is the light that welcomes and offers hospitality. It is the dark side that succumbs to fear. It is the light of God's love that confronts the wolves of hate and urges us to follow. There is always tension between darkness and light. ●

Reflect

How does the voice of the Good Shepherd call you to reject the dark and embrace the light?

Sunday, April 21, 2024 – 4th Sunday of Easter

ST. JUDE PARISH BULLETIN

Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m.

Confessions by appointment or after Mass on Thursday

Adoration at 9:00 a.m. before weekly Thursday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Rosary is the first Sunday of the month at 9:00 a.m. before Mass.

Website: www.stjudeparishgobles.com Office: (269) 628-2219

Pastor: Fr. Alan Jorgensen Office: (269) 657-4459

Pastoral Administrator: Deacon Jim Bauer Office: (269) 628-2219

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Gobles, MI 49055

Email: deaconjimbauer@gmail.com

For pastoral emergencies, contact Deacon Jim on his cell phone.

St. Jude Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Office Email: st.judeparishgobles@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant-Bookkeeper: Lauren Gilbert (269) 628-2219

Choir Director: Laura Woods (269) 628-4866

Religious Ed Coordinator: Jennifer Price (269) 377-6734

Safe Environment Coordinator: Jennifer Rossell (269) 744-2582

Mass Intention for today: April 21, 2024 – The People of St. Jude Parish

NEXT SUNDAY, April 28, 2024

READER: Luke Sage

ALTAR SERVERS: Rocky, Alanah, Bo, Lydia

Mass intention for Thurs., April 25, 2024: Rose Christoff by Marie Keller

Mass intention for Sun., April 28, 2024: Rosemarie Patricio by Sadie Payne

Weekly Collection Information

<u>Collections:</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Over-(under)</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
April 14, 2024:	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 2,218.50	\$ 318.50	115
Year to Date:	\$ 77,700.00	\$ 77,796.31	\$ 96.31	4793

Come to know the Good Shepherd

As Jesus says at the start of the Gospel, He is the Good Shepherd. And what makes Him a Good Shepherd? First, He *lays down His life for the sheep*. Second, He knows His sheep, and they know Him.

First, He *lays down His life for the sheep*. The Lord didn't just say He was willing to die for us; He actually did so. Many of us sacrifice many things for our family, friends, our country or our commitment to a cause. The people we love are worth those sacrifices, and we likely even have the sense that we'd give our lives for them. Jesus came into our human history, took on human flesh, and willingly chose to offer Himself to the Father as the ultimate and perfect sacrifice of love.

But Jesus wasn't just human. He was, and is, fully divine as well. He is the incarnate Son of God who died for us out of love, to offer us salvation, to bring us back into communion with God *to be called the children of God*. He knows us, and we know Him. But how can we come to know our Shepherd even better?

One way to come to know our Shepherd is by reading and meditating on the Scriptures, which are His own words to us. As we immerse ourselves in the story of salvation, we encounter a God who seeks a personal relationship with his flock, who knows each one of His people: our strengths, our weaknesses, our desires, our hopes and aspirations, our sins, our disappointments, and heartaches. We also learn that despite our less-than-stellar response at times to the riches the Lord showers upon us, He continues to seek us, pursue us, and ultimately call us to His side for eternity.

Another way to get to know our Shepherd is to do what we are doing here—gathering to celebrate and receive the Eucharist, the body and blood of our Good Shepherd.

Jesus points out in the Gospel that hired hands, who have no concern for the sheep they are shepherding because they are not their own, will run away at the sign of trouble. They leave the sheep to face the dangers on their own. This imagery, and thus the analogy of a Good Shepherd, works well for us, even in our less-agrarian lives: We understand what it means to protect and love what and who are important to us. It helps illustrate the reality of God's love for us: It is not fleeting or temporal and is not dependent upon our worth. God gave us the Good Shepherd so that for all time, we would have an advocate and protector.

In our first reading, Peter says the following, which is the perfect summary of what it means to have Christ as our Shepherd: *[Jesus] is the stone rejected by you, the builder, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved.*

FROM OUR DRE:

Please pray for Emma Klein, Hazel Secondi, Elise Peterson, and Shane Percival as they prepare for their First Holy Communion on 4/28.

First Communion retreat 4/27.

Our next student Mass will be on 5/5. Our Middle School class will lead us.

No CCD on 5/12 because of Mother's Day.

5/19 - CCD Annual Clean-up Day (Last class)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Fran Sage, Father Richard, Zane Miller, Pete & Barb Percival, Steve Klein, Garry Adams, Joan Rumery, David Vana, Phil Boyer, Margie Burris, Lillian B. Wheeler, Frances Parsons, Sonny and Mary Laughlin, Donna Murphy, Jack Secondi, Mary Heinz, Vicki Clark, Vivian Polomcak, and all those on our Prayer Chain.

TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE ORDINATION

**Please pray for
Paul Thuantho**

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR APRIL – facial tissues, mustard, packages of taco seasoning, chili mix, over-the-counter products for allergies, pain relief, acid reducer.

BLESSED SOLANUS CASEY CENTER PILGRIMAGE - Join the St. Rose of Lima Parish in Hastings on Wednesday, May 15, as we travel by chartered bus for a one-day pilgrimage to the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. Inspired by the life and example of Blessed Fr. Solanus Casey, the Center strives to be a place of pilgrimage, healing, reconciliation, and peace. On November 18, 2017, at Ford Field in Detroit, a crowd numbering 70,000 participated in the celebration of the Mass of Beatification for him. On the way to canonization, Blessed Casey would be the first American-born priest to become a Saint. Visit solanuscasey.org for more information on the life of Fr. Casey. Cost is only \$75 per person and includes admission and lunch at the Center. For more information and/or to sign up, call Desiree Holley at (256) 777-5869 or Steve Pachulski at (616) 350-1730.

THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL. This year's theme, "Sharing His Transforming Love," reminds us that we are all servants of God, and what we do as a united faith family provides an advantage for everyone. Together we can develop a network of vital services and support that often no one parish can do along. As a result, we live out the mission of Christ by responding to the Word we hear and supporting the Bishop's Annual Appeal. This year our parish goal is \$17,962. As in past years, 100% of all paid pledges collected over that amount will be returned to our parish for our local use. Please make a prayerful decision about participating in the 2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal campaign. Remember that pledges are payable over several months.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE - Today's gospel is a job description for Christian parents. For most people the most influential shepherds in their lives are their PARENTS. Every parent is called to be a "good shepherd" to "freely lay down their life" for their children, to "love" and "know" their children and to "lead" them so "they know your voice."

FROM THE DIOCESE

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION - St. Charles Borromeo Church, 71 Harrison St. Coldwater, MI. Experience the awe-inspiring power of Jesus in the Eucharist with the acclaimed **Vatican International Exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World, as designed and created by Blessed Carlo Acutis** and brought to you by The True Presence Association. Embark on a journey of faith and discovery as you view the miraculous stories and photographic evidence of these profound events. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to witness the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist! And, of course, please share this opportunity with family and close friends who would benefit from this event. You will also have a chance to enter a raffle for the Eucharistic Miracles of the World book! The exhibit will be available for viewing on Saturday, April 27th from 2:00 to 5:00 PM and Sunday, April 28th from 12:00 to 3:00 PM, in the Activities Building.

Love Outpoured: Regional Eucharistic Congresses held throughout Archdiocese of Detroit for those who are unable to attend the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis this summer. Each regional Eucharistic Congress will feature dynamic speakers, amazing music, time in prayer, and more. **Socorro Truchan, Associate Director of Marriage and Family for the Diocese of Kalamazoo will be one of the keynote speakers at the Northwest Regional Eucharistic Congress on Saturday, May 11.** St. Andrew Catholic Church, Sat., 5/11/24, St. Andrw Catholic Church, 1400 Inglewood Ave., Rochester, MI 48307. For more info./RSVP or to check out the other Congress locations, visit AOD.ORG/LOVE-OURPOURED

BISHOP LOHSE TO LEAD PILGRIMAGE TO ROME IN MARCH 2025 – Bishop Lohse and Father Bob Creagan will lead a jubilee pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi March 19-27, 2025. More details and information are available at www.diokzoo.org

THE CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE (CBAR) has been established to receive reports of sexual abuse and related misconduct by bishops and to relay those reports to proper Church authorities for investigation. To make a report, visit ReportBishopAbuse.org or phone (800) 276-1562. When a report includes a crime, such as the sexual abuse of a minor, it will also be reported to civil authorities. Otherwise, reports will be kept confidential.

RETURN OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD THIS JUNE –

Bishop Lohse has announced that the regular distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass will return to Parishes across the diocese on June 23rd. Prior to the return, Parishes will participate in catechesis on three Sundays (June 9, 16, 23). More information will be available on the diocesan website.