

# April 30, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Easter—Good Shepherd Sunday

## Good Shepherd Sunday

This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

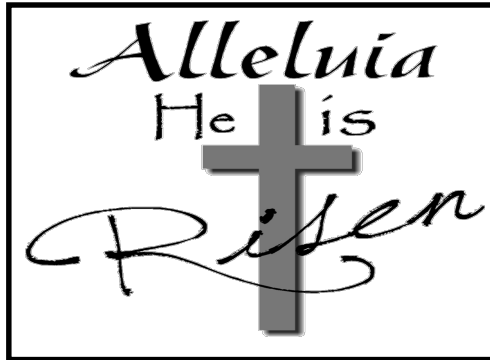
Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.<https://www.loyolapress.com/>

\*Reflection from <https://www.loyolapress.com/>



*"Behold the wood of the Cross on which hung the Savior of the world."*

## JOIN US

**Cookies & Coffee** are served after the Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass each weekend &

a **Breakfast and Birthday Cake** to celebrate the birthdays of the month will be served

**next Sunday after 8:30 a.m. Mass** and on the **first Sunday of each month.**

Visitors Welcome!

**First Saturday Mass**  
**Next Saturday**  
**May 6, at 8:30 a.m.**

## Second Collection This Weekend

**Apr. 29/30 — For National Missions**  
**(Black & Indian Missions, Catholic Home Missions, Catholic Communications, Catholic University of America, Retirement Fund for Religious)**

***With prayer, we seek God's power to heal the scourge of abortion in our city and world.***

## Mary & Martha Society Meeting

Wednesday, May 10, at 6:00 p.m.

All Women of the Parish Welcome!

**Please Join Us for the last mtg. until Sept.**

**Bring finger food to share and enjoy fellowship while serving the altar society ministry of Holy Cross.**

*Enjoy a wonderful home-cooked meal and fellowship with your parish family!*

**Dinner at Miller's Amish Farm, Mazie**

**Wednesday, May 24th, @ 5:30 p.m.**

**\$17/person**

A group of at least 20 people is necessary to secure the reservation. If you would like to reserve a spot, signup in the vestibule or contact Kathy Gordon @ 918-606-2488.

*Activities for Next Sunday, May 7th*

*Crowning of Mary*

*Kaygan Allen's First Communion*

*Youth Readers, Ushers, & Gift Bearers*

*Breakfast provided by the Men's Club Honoring Mothers and Kaygan*

***"Pray for us that we may be a sign of the love of Christ for our people."** — Blessed Stanley Rother*

## Carpool to St. Joseph's School from Wagoner

A Wagoner parent is seeking other parent(s) interested in carpooling to St. Joseph's School next school year. If interested, call or text Louise Adams at 918-441-2585.

Aug 29 (Vigil)	Aug 30		May 6 (Vigil)	May 7
Linda Steinheil Richard Steinheil	Rosalina Empuerto Raul Empuerto	<b>USHERS/GIFT BEARERS</b>	Kay Rodriguez Skip Gordon	Isaac Ervin Matthew Higginbottom
	Aceah, Liam, Carlos, & Makenna	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	Larry Chekofsky	Carlos, Liam, & Larry C
Charlie Moe	Chris Holland	<b>EUCCHARISTIC MIN</b>	Sherri Moe	Mike Hickman
Carolyn Greer	Heather Jordan	<b>READERS</b>	Laura Rodriguez	Carlos Sorell Kinnedy Herndon

## Faith & Culture Conference

**TWO GREAT LIGHTS-The Spiritual & Temporal Powers**

**May 12-13, DoubleTree Hotel, Tulsa**

Register for this conference featuring speakers discussing the importance of the Catholic faith in shaping and restoring culture. Registration includes a continental breakfast, box lunch, and two cocktails at the social. More information and registration can be found at [www.alcuinstitute.org](http://www.alcuinstitute.org)

A **Personal Intention Book** is available in the vestibule so that you can add your personal intention for that Mass. The book is carried up to the altar along with the other gifts during the Offertory at each Mass.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for

**APRIL**  
**For a culture of peace and non violence**

We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

*Please pray for the repose of the soul of*  
**Mary Harris**

*The Lord walks beside us through the darkness and leads us back to peace. Pray for Jim and their family that they find comfort in the Lord's peace.*

## Happy Birthday!



Ryan Duffy 4/3  
Michelle Robinson  
Buscemi 4/6  
Joseph Dufour 4/10

Leonard Acevedo 4/11  
Rosemary Kotas 4/19  
Sherry Ruyle 4/20  
Sarah Jameson 4/25



*"He who knows how to forgive, prepares for himself many graces from God. As often as I look upon the cross, so often will I forgive with all my heart."*  
**St. Faustina**

### Weekend Collections Apr 22-23

General Collections **\$2,203.00**  
Capital Improvement **330.00**  
**TOTAL \$2,533.00**

### Daily Mass Readings—Apr 30-May 6\*

Sunday	Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
Monday	Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday	Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday	1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14
Thursday	Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20
Friday	Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday	Acts 13:44-52/Jn 14:7-14

\*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text) also available on Holy Cross Website:

**www.holycross-wagoner.org**

To place information in the bulletin or on the church website, contact Karol Watson, karol\_watson@yahoo.com or 918-640-5819

For issues/help with Flocknotes, contact Kay Rodriguez, msrod@sbcglobal.net or 405-659-0507

### FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker  
Judy Wright, parishioner  
Becky Harding, parishioner  
Meredith Zehr, parishioner  
Hope Watson, parishioner  
Donna Senner, parishioner



**WE PRAY TO THE LORD**

### Holy Cross Mission Statement/Prayer

Almighty God, the mission of Holy Cross Parish is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to our community and the world. As your disciples, help us to touch the hearts of everyone in a way that enhances human spirituality and will bring all people into the fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen!

	<i>Altar Linens</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>
<i>Apr</i>	Sherry Ruyle	Easter Lilies
<i>May</i>	Laura Rodriguez	Laura Rodriguez

**Stay Connected — Stay Informed  
with your Catholic Faith & your Holy Cross Family**

*Daily Readings, Daily Prayer of the Day, Bulletins,  
Catholic & Holy Cross News/Events*

**www.holycross-wagoner.org,  
Holy Cross Catholic Church - Wagoner OK (FB) &  
https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/  
dashboard**

**Finding solutions for  
your financial need.**



**Seth A Yoder**  
Financial Advisor  
114 East Cherokee  
Wagoner, OK 74467  
918-485-0992

**Edward Jones**  
BULLETS: VISIONS OF FUTURE  
edwardjones.com

## Holy Cross Catholic Church



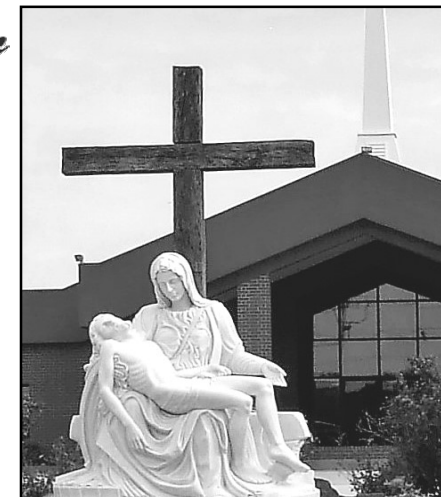
**Holiness - Disciples - Community  
Wagoner, Oklahoma**

P.O. Box 710 / 708 SW 15TH ST.  
539-209-9988

**Email:** holycrosswagoner@gmail.com

**Website:** http://www.holycross-wagoner.org

**Facebook:** Holy Cross Catholic Church—Wagoner, OK



**April 30, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

<b>Pastor</b>	Very Rev. Leo Ahanotu holycrosswagoner@gmail.com 539-209-9988
<b>Visiting Priests</b>	Fr. Gabriel Garcia & Fr. Alessandro Calderoni
<b>Deacons</b>	Dcn James Ruyle (Retired) jandsruyle@gmail.com 918-485-8228
<b>Secretary</b>	Earlyne Hutchens earlynehutchens@gmail.com 918-894-0474
<b>Religious Education</b>	Mary Feichtinger maryfeichtinger@yahoo.com 303-519-0605 Kay Rodriguez (Youth Group) msrod@sbcglobal.net 405-659-0507
<b>Parish Council</b>	Karol Watson karol_watson@yahoo.com 918-640-5819
<b>M&amp;M Society</b>	Kathy Gordon nursek.gordon@gmail.com 918-606-2488
<b>Men's Group</b>	Seth Yoder seth.yoder@edwardjones.com 918-869-9129

### MASS TIMES

**Saturday Vigil — 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday — 8:30 a.m.**

**2nd & 4th Sundays (Latin) — 10:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday & Friday — 5:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday & Thursday — 8:30 a.m.**

**First Sat. of Each Month — 8:30 a.m.**

### ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

**Fridays following 5:00 p.m. Mass**

### CONFESSIONS

**30 minutes before weekend Masses**

**Or by appointment/request**

### THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

**Breaking Bread Book  
Pages 143-145**

**Vatican II Hymnal  
Pages 486-487**

