

The Roman Catholic Community of Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny Area, 213

One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic



4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.” - Jn 10:2-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Prayer for the Church
Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Church.
We fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,
as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you
to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,
teach all of us in the Church
to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus
to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you
truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

May 3, 2020

Website: ElizabethSouthAlleghenyCC.org

Saint Mark

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
3210 Liberty Way
McKeesport, PA 15133
Phone 412-678-6275
Fax 412-673-1393

Email: saintmarkparishdiopitt@gmail.com

Saint Eugene Church (StE)
3210 Liberty Way - Liberty

Saint Michael

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
101 McLay Drive
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Phone 412-751-0663
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Email: stmichael11@verizon.net

Saint Michael Church (StM)
101 McLay Drive - Elizabeth

Queen of the Rosary

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
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Phone 412-672-7209
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Queen of the Rosary (QoR)
530 Michigan Avenue - Glassport



Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny Area, 213
Faith Formation - Adult - Children - Youth
101 McLay Drive Elizabeth, PA 15037 412-754-0886
Email: 213FaithForm@gmail.com Facebook: [FaithFormation-EGSA](https://www.facebook.com/FaithFormation-EGSA)



Looking For A Faith Community? Wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome you to join our community. You may register by calling the Faith Community Office.

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness
and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him,
we humbly pray; and do thou O Prince
of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.



Have you watched
The Veil Removed
on YouTube yet.



Go forth and make disciples of all peoples

—Matthew 28:19

Please keep in mind, in these extraordinary times that, although we cannot attend Mass, the Church's financial obligations remain. We ask that you continue to support your Church as you are able and look to the time when we can gather together again in faith. Some options:

- Mail or deliver offertory envelopes & Parish Share pledges to your church office (or secure mailbox).
- Set up your church as an automatic bill payee through your online banking.
- Donate through Online Giving for your church on our grouping website, www.elizabethsouthalleghenycc.org
Click on the ONLINE GIVING tab on the red bar at the top of the webpage, select your church, and complete the online form.

Visit our grouping website for the latest news, weekly bulletin, links to Daily Mass and Readings.

Blessings, *Fr. Wagner*

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020



With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves.

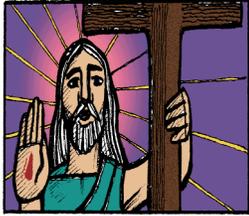
We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home.

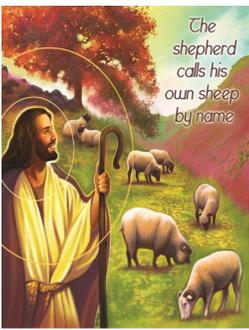
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Fourth Sunday of Easter



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Today's readings invite us to recognize our need for one who ensures our safety, nourishes us, and leads us to peace and security, like sheep who rest in the care of a good shepherd. Such a shepherd will protect and save the sheep, even from the most deadly of predators. Today, we ponder the incredible news that Jesus accepted death on the cross in order to open the gates of eternal life with God for us. Through his resurrection, Jesus protects and saves us from the power of sin and death. We need only accept his love and live as God's people in this life, relying on the Lord who is the door to new life for us and for all. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



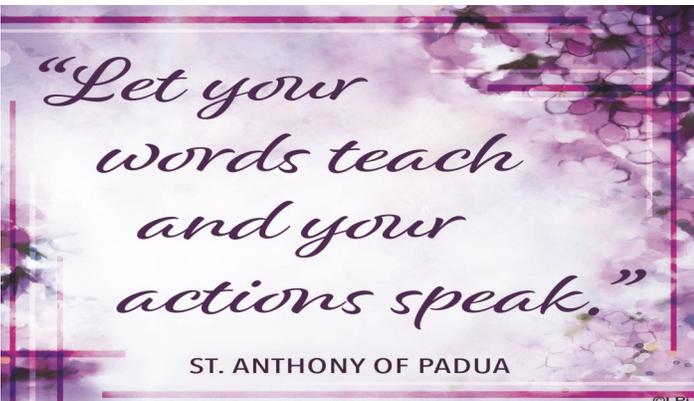
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Jesus Saves

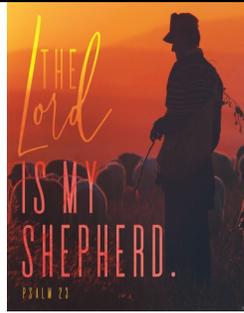
Be honest with yourself.

- **Have you ever gone astray?**
- **Have you ever given in to temptation or weakness?**
- **Do you sometimes feel that you need someone to help you get your life back on track?**

Most people could answer **yes** to any of these questions. **As people of faith**, we know that Jesus understands the struggles we face and gave his life to save us from our human frailty. The Lord knows that we need help in order to live as God's people in the world. There are people and powers that seek to mislead us, who offer a way that may for a time be appealing, even though it does not lead to the true way of life, love, and peace. We can be readily dissuaded and distracted from the ways of holiness. We easily lose our way, lured by the trappings of material possessions, wealth, or social status. Jesus is our only real way, the door that leads to meaning and peace in this earthly time, and to life everlasting. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



In Need Of A Shepherd



For a while it was very fashionable to own pigs as pets. The publicity surrounding these creatures informed us that they were—contrary to their popular image—very clean animals, and also quite smart. Sad to say, sheep will most likely never enjoy this sort of domestic vogue. They are neither clean nor smart and are largely defenseless when left on their own, even in large numbers. The biblical image of us as the flock of sheep is not a particularly flattering one. Sheep without a shepherd are truly sad, because they most likely will perish either from their inability to fend for themselves or from their lack of defenses against predators. Placing ourselves in the heart of this unflattering image can reinforce our faith. Until we come to a profound realization of how much we need a shepherd, we cannot appreciate how deeply blessed we are to have been given a Shepherd, one who laid down his life for us and was raised to life eternal in the Spirit, so he might guide us and we might follow him in faith forever. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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Good News!



When Peter faced the crowds on Pentecost, he was emboldened by the Holy Spirit and proclaimed the truth of Jesus Christ passionately to those who gathered to hear him. There was likely part of him that was not that a few weeks prior, crowds of quite sure what to expect, knowing people had chanted **Crucify him!** as Jesus was sentenced to a cruel and unjust death. The people who heard Peter were moved by his witness, compelled to acknowledge their sinfulness and to accept the news of salvation through Jesus Christ as good news, the gospel that changes everything. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.

—1 Peter 2:24a

**Much Needed Love —Anonymous
No one needs love more
than someone who doesn't deserve it.**

Happy Easter! Some Easter Thoughts

Isn't Easter over yet?

Lent and now Easter seem to go on forever!

How many times can we sing Alleluia?

That Easter candle will never burn down.

Isn't Easter over yet?

It's May already; it's almost summer!

As Roman Catholic Christians, one fourth of the year centers around Easter. The 40 days of Lent come immediately before the 50 days from Easter to Pentecost. That's 90 days, three months, or a fourth of the year. Yet, the Gospel is not about Easter or resurrection, today we hear about shepherds and sheep and sheepfolds.

We discover the Gospel is about both the shepherd and the sheep, who must enter through the gate of the sheepfold. **Easter is our gate.**

A sheepfold was a stone pen out in the fields, with walls high enough that the sheep were safe at night. It kept them safe from wolves, who could easily snatch a lamb out in the open field.

Easter challenges us to hear the voice of Jesus and follow him into the warmth, safety, and security of the sheepfold. We have to follow Jesus through the gate as well.

By the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, he leads us into the safety and rest of the sheepfold. We must follow, because there is no other way to enter except through Easter.

Easter is Jesus opening the sheepfold to us.

Easter is the great revelation of who Jesus is, what God has done for us, and what awaits us through faith. Psalm 23 is an insight into the life of heaven God offers through Jesus Christ to all of us.

For people living in the desert, life with cool flowing waters and green grass is not only an oasis: **It is heaven.**

For all of us, not to fear darkness, sin, evil, or death is not only security. **It also is heaven.**

What about a banquet. A banquet of good food, gathered with family and friends, good health, and the feeling of truly being at home wherever we are, sounds like heaven for all of us.

In celebrating Easter, we are called to remember all that Jesus has done for us, and is still doing by his passion, death, and resurrection.

The bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Christ that we are all longing to share together, reminds us that Easter will never truly be over but instead that we are called to be **Easter People.**

**May Easter Joy
be in our hearts, minds, and actions.
He Is Risen! Happy Easter!**

Marriage Moments by Susan Vogt

During this time of the coronavirus many couples have more time together because physical distancing has cancelled many social activities. Yes, you can watch movies but perhaps also take time to reminisce together. Go through old photo albums, letters, memories...

Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

May Day! It can be a call for help or a time for enjoying nature. Maybe do a little of each with your child today.

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

In today's gospel Jesus tells us, **HE IS THE WAY** and warns anyone who offers **another way** to happiness is **a thief and a bandit**. Strong words! Don't listen to the sales pitch of society for happiness.

Look to yourself where God is present and **calls you by name and leads you to abundant life.**

**The shepherd leads the sheep
out into pastures of abundant life.**

—John 10:1-10

May God Bless Our Service Personnel



We pray for and remember our Service Men and Women who are serving on active duty in the Armed Services, especially: **LCpl. Peter A. Barranto, USMC; Maj. Damian Baskerville, USAF; Col. Richard Collage, PA NG; Staff Sgt. Nicholas DeLuca, Army; Ens. David DeMaio, USCG; Capt. Craig Dolhi, Army; Capt. Anthony Formica, Army; Jacob Formica, E-4, Army; 2nd Lt. John Formica, Army; SPC Samuel Formica, Army National Guard; Capt. Markus Gibson, USMC; 2ndLt. Miles Gibson, USMC; PO2. Mason Gibson, USN; T/Sgt. Michael Goodman, USAF; E5 Sgt. Brian Imundo, Army; Sgt. Russ Langley, Marines; Staff Sgt. Raymond Massung, Jr., USAF; SrA. Timothy Oeler, USAF; ENS Timothy Ragan, USN; Amn Stephanie A. Reichenbach, USAF; PFC David R. Saunders, Army National Guard; Sgt. Brandon R. Smith, USAF Pararescueman; Amn. Adam Stitt, USAF; Capt. Andrew Tkac, Army.**

If you would like to add or update an active Service member, please call the Parish Office.

Thank you for your service!

May We Never Forget . . . Freedom is Never Free!



**May God Bless
Our Health Care Workers
and All First Responders.**

Sacraments

Baptism of Infants & Children

Baptism is a joyous event in the life of the church. Baptism is celebrated any Sunday after Mass. **Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism Class.**

Previous arrangements are necessary.

Instruction in the Faith - R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program is offered for those interested in the Catholic Faith. For more information, please contact Fr. Wagner.

Reconciliation

St. Eugene Church, Liberty
Tuesday, 7 - 7:30 pm

St. Michael Church, Elizabeth
Saturday, 11-11:30 am

Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport
Saturday, 1- 1:30 pm

St. Michael Church, Elizabeth
Saturday, 3:15-3:45 pm

St. Eugene Church, Liberty
Saturday, 5:15-5:45 pm

Marriage

The prospective bride and groom are to make arrangements with the priest or deacon at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of the wedding. Diocesan regulations require all couples to attend an approved pre-marriage preparation program.

Anointing of the Sick

the Anointing of the Sick is celebrated communally on the Second Sunday of the Month.

Ministry to the Sick and Shut In

Homebound members of the Parish should call the Parish Office to make arrangements to receive Holy Communion at home.

Sponsorship Forms

Only registered, practicing, fully-initiated Catholics are eligible for sponsor certificates. Please call the Parish Office.

Bulletin Information Deadline

2 weeks in advance of publish date.
 elizabethsalleghenybulletin@gmail.com

Moving

Please call or email your new address to the Parish Office.

Child Abuse Hotline 1-888-808-1235

Mass Intentions For The Week

StE St. Eugene Church, Liberty StM St. Michael Church, Elizabeth
QoR Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport

May 3 - 10, 2020

Saturday, 2, Vigil, Fourth Sunday of Easter

Fr. Tom **Mary Ann Rocco - Barb & Denny Terzich**

Fr. Miro **German Plan – Melvyn & Elina Plan**

Sunday, 3, Third Sunday of Easter

Fr. Tom **Edward Buzek - Regis & Cathy Bazylak**

Fr. Miro **Traci & Raudel Martinez, 23rd Wedding Anniversary - Mom & Dad**

Monday, 4, Easter Weekday

Fr. Miro **Ted & Helen Miller - Michael & Linda Ksiazek**

Novena - Infant of Prague

Fr. Tom **Jack Wilson Family – Rita Hansen**

Tuesday, 5, Easter Weekday

Fr. Tom **Parents - Maria & Hugh Geyer**

Fr. Miro **Beverlee Kotulsky - Kim & Keith Duval & Family**

Wednesday, 6, Easter Weekday

Fr. Miro **Clara B. Palumbo - Carl Piccioni**

Fr. Tom **Amelia & Thomas LoBue - Daughter-in-law & Grandchildren**

Novena - Michael the Archangel

Thursday, 7, Easter Weekday

Fr. Miro **Deceased of the Wasil & Portner Families - Jim & Mary Ann Portner**

Fr. Tom **Raymond & Marlene Zecchini - 60th Wedding Anniversary - Family**

Friday, 8, Easter Weekday

Fr. Miro **George Zalac - Wife, Gertrude**

Fr. Tom **Connie Altomare - Rob Lang**

Saturday, 9, Vigil, Fifth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day

Fr. Tom **Living & Deceased Members of the Grouping**

Fr. Miro **Living & Deceased Members of the Grouping**

Sunday, 10, Fifth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day

Fr. Tom **Living & Deceased Members of the Grouping**

Fr. Miro **Living & Deceased Members of the Grouping**

We remember . . . In your charity,

please remember all those who have died, especially:

**Sandra Davis, Evelyn Frankovich, all who will die today,
 and those who have no one to pray for them.**

Resting in Paradise.

Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord.

And Let Perpetual Light Shine on them.

May Rosary Intention

That deacons, faithful in their service to the Word
 and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol
 for the entire Church.



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

Sunday, May 3; Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10

Follow the leader—When we were kids, playing **follow the leader** was easy. One child was designated as the pattern to imitate, and we just did whatever they did. In these days of crisis, it can seem harder to tell who the designated leader is. Is it the president or the pope, the pastor or the medical expert? Do we do what our parents advised, or listen to the recommendations of trusted friends? What do we do when media experts disagree? If we call ourselves Christians, then Christ is the ultimate authority for our values and criteria. Make a verse of scripture your daily companion. **For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.**

Monday, May 04; Easter Weekday

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

Stand your ground—**The shepherd cannot run at the first sign of danger**, said Father Stanley Rother, and he didn't, which made him a martyr in 1981 in civil war-torn Guatemala. Even though he knew his name was on a death list, this priest from Oklahoma stayed with the people he had been serving since 1968, during which time he built a farmer's co-op, a school, a hospital, and a radio station. He was beatified in 2017. Learn more about this inspiration for faith in the book **The Shepherd Who Didn't Run**. **A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.**

Tuesday, May 05; Easter Weekday

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

Keep things in context—Catholics celebrate 50 days of Easter with a special emphasis on the Gospel of John. But with the Gospel of John comes a particular concern. At Mass, we hear—amid the evangelist's poetic prose—some jarring references to **the Jews**. Historically, such language sadly led to a legacy of hate and harm. With anti-Semitism making headlines again, look to the short Vatican II document called **Nostra aetate**. It honors the Jewish people as our faithful forebears, tapping a truth right out of John 10: Jesus was an observant. Honor our religious ancestors by learning more about them. **Jesus walked about in the temple area.**

Wednesday, May 06; Easter Weekday

Acts 12:24—13:5a; John 12:44-50

Follow the Light—**This Little Light of Mine** has been young Christians' joyful favorite for nearly a century. It has also been an anthem for civil and human rights movements. For people of faith, we who believe that Jesus has come into the world as light, the song serves as a directive to allow God's light to shine through the example of our lives. Reflect today on the example you have set during difficult times. Have you given into darkness and despair or served as a beacon of hope and support for

those around you? **I have come into the world as light, to keep anyone who believes in me from remaining in the dark.**

Thursday, May 07; Easter Weekday

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

A masquerade to take seriously—In today's gospel Jesus says, **Whoever receives the one I send, receives me.** It is in keeping with our tradition to see the poor, the migrant, the refugee as sent by God to stretch our hearts and open us to the Good News. Mother Teresa often referred to seeing Jesus **in the distressing disguise of the poor.** Indeed, how distressing it is to see the suffering being endured by those with the least. Take a step today to **receive** Jesus in the disguise of the poor. **Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.**

Friday, May 08; Easter Weekday

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

Youthful mystic—Imagine growing up with a saint in your hometown! New Jersey native Teresa Demjanovich, honored today, was like many young people with responsibility for caring for aging parents while also getting an education and a job. She then became a religious sister but died just two years later at age 26. Known as a prayerful, holy woman, Teresa was deeply spiritual and considered a mystic. **Our heart is the compass that magnetically follows the north star of desire**, Teresa wrote. **To locate my treasure I have but to unearth the lodging of my desires.** As you pray this day, consider how God is leading you through your heart and desires. **Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me.**

Saturday, May 09; Easter Weekday

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

Light a fuse!—Peter Maurin, who founded the Catholic Worker movement with Dorothy Day, was born on this day in 1877. He longed for a world where it would be easier for people to be good to each other. While he was the visionary, Day translated his ideals of justice into practical actions: a newspaper, houses of hospitality, and farms. He found **dynamite** in the gospels, which could solve the problems of society if someone would **blow the lid off.** Day lit the fuse, and their flame continues today in Catholic Worker houses. **The one who believes in me . . . will do greater works than these.**

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Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition.

