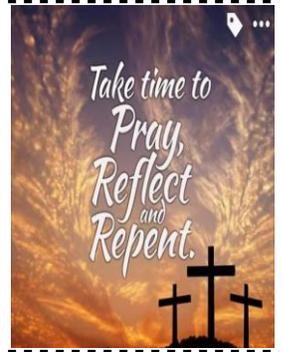
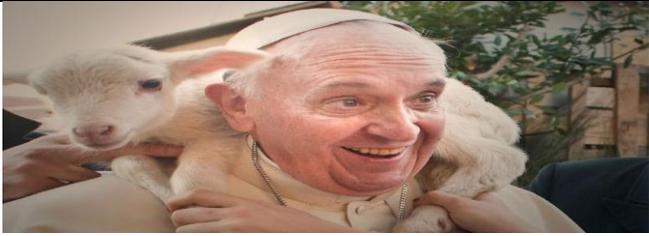


**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
**POB 1010**  
**Nome, AK 99762-1010**  
**Pastor: Rev. Tom Kuffel**  
**Email: [tkuffel@cbna.org](mailto:tkuffel@cbna.org)**  
**Web: <http://walaskacatholic.org/>**  
**Parish: 907-443-5527; Cell 907-434-6117**  
**Third Sunday of Easter 4.30.2017**

**Announcements**

Fr. Tom will be in FBKS May 14 – 19.  
 Fr. Tom will be in Kotz May 19–May 24.  
**May 7 Religious Ed Sunday from 10:30 – 2:30. Last class. Please make every effort to participate and encounter the risen Jesus.**  
 May 13 1:00 PM  
 Gemma Carlisle  
 Funeral Mass

<b>St. Joseph</b>	St. Francis		
<b>4.30.2017</b>	4.30.2017		
493.00	302.00		



**Stewardship**

Become a Good Shepherd!

Shepherds were notorious for their bad behavior. They could not be a witness in court; they could not be trusted with sheep. They were as we would call them today rustlers and hustlers. They were considered thieves, liars, and marauders.

Shepherds were the least likely to be honored, but Jesus honors the shepherd for everyone wanted a good shepherd. Everyone wanted their shepherd to be honest, faithful, and trustworthy.

Good shepherds were hard to come by and of course Jesus is comparing himself to the Good Shepherd, David, as everyone knew David was not only The Good Shepherd, but he was the Good Shepherd who became king.

King David gave his life for Israel. He willingly laid down his life for his sins and the sins of his sons.

Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd whom David foreshadows and outlines what a good shepherd is:

**One who lays down his life for his sheep!**

Many priests have laid down their lives for their sheep. Many fathers and mothers have laid their lives for their families. Many religious have given their lives to their faith. Couples, daughters, sons, sisters, brothers give their life: do you?

Everyone who is a good shepherd gives their life to another.

Giving your life may not mean your blood, but it does mean your time, talent, and treasure.

**Why be Catholic?**

Who are the Good Shepherds?

**St. Damien of Molokai**

He was a giant of a man who grew up in Belgium on a farm. He joined the missionary group: Priests of the Sacred Heart and dedicated himself to prayer and sacrifice.

Inspired by his brother, he wanted to become a missionary and joined the Sacred Heart Fathers who sent him to Molokai, a small Hawaiian Island which was used as a dumping grounds for lepers.

The people were isolated and left to fend for themselves. When Fr. Damien arrived there the colony was infested with vice, sin, and debauchery. Prostitution, thievery, pollution, and contamination were rampant.

He came into the village with nothing, but his health and his strength and transformed this toxic village into a remarkable example of what a one Christian believer can do.

He rebuilt the church. He built a hospital. He trained lepers to be nurses and teachers to take care of the sick. He created activities so the lepers would not debase themselves with sin, vice, and alcohol.

He created a thriving community of respect, honor, and dignity. Lepers condemned to die on the island in their suffering and pain, began to laugh, love, and respect one another because one man showed them the love and respect Jesus had for them.

Taking his final vows, as was the religious custom of the times, his superiors covered him with a funeral pall. He had truly believed then that only by accepting death would he discover life.

He sought to serve the most pitiful of all, the lepers of Molokai. By so doing, "he shut, with his own hands, the doors of his own sepulchre."

**He laid down his life for his sheep!**  
**He died as a leper!**

Neurotic guilt, judgmentalism, anger, blame, and shame all impair our ability to process new experiences, integrate new information and create change.

When I sin, I freeze from the negative impact.

Failure, sin, however, is an opportunity to encounter grace.

Grace frees us from the neurotic guilt, I am bad because I sin.

Grace creates curiosity as to why Jesus loves me.

Repentance frees me from shame and blame.

Repentance allows Jesus to restore me to who I truly am.



## Weekly Schedule:

Date	Mass Time	Place	Feast Day	Lector/Minister	Intention	Activity
Mon May 8	5:30 PM	Nome			Lisa Svobada+	
Tue May 9	5:30 PM	Nome			Ed Keck+	
Wed May 10	5:30 PM	Nome	St. Damien		Fr Hoeleck+	
Thu May 11	5:30 PM	Nome			Ray Callahan+	
Fri May 12	8:00 AM	Nome	St. Nereus		Ted Mueller +	
Sat May 13	5:30 PM	Nome			Geiger Family	
Sun May 14	10:30 AM	Nome			St. Ann Teller	

**Your heart is breaking, your mind is unclear.  
You're tired and restless and full of fear.  
Come to me- even if you say words you shouldn't  
You don't do things you should  
You doubt and try to change,  
But never think you could.  
Come to me: the Good Shepherd!**



### What are the characteristics of good shepherds? What makes them effective?

The shepherds of our day, to mention a few, are parents and grandparents, elders, coaches, teachers, clergy and nuns, officers in the military, and executives in companies. If anyone is placed under your supervision or care, you are a shepherd.

Good shepherds have character. They stand for something and exert a positive influence on others. Good leaders are accountable for the choices they make and likewise hold those in their care accountable. Leaders, good shepherds, have a clear sense of purpose. They know where they are going and they clearly communicate their goals to those around them. They make their choices knowing that they will be accountable, accountable to others and accountable to themselves.

Good leaders examine their consciences. They know right and wrong and so they act with a clear knowledge. Good leaders examine their motives and pay attention to their relationships with others.

Good leaders know their own limitations but they are not governed by them. A leader who cannot accept himself or herself, who labors with doubt about his or her competency, with feelings of inferiority or inadequacy will lose his or her ability to lead.

Good leaders are people who are comfortable with themselves and at peace with themselves. One cannot give what one does not have. A leader filled with self-doubt will project that on to those whom he or she is leading. Self-punishment leads to punishment of others. Doubt of self leads to doubt of others. Feelings of inferiority will cause leaders to use others. They falsely prop themselves up.

Leaders: it's not about you; it's about whom you care for. Self-centered leaders who think only of their own promotion and accommodation need to get over themselves. They are not good; they are bad leaders. Selfishness destroys and creates bad leaders.

Power is found in humility and service. Those who publicly assert their power and surround themselves with the symbols of power need to do so because deep down they really don't have it. Those who quietly serve others don't need to assert power because they really do have it.

Good leaders serve and clearly direct others through service. They have goals which empower others to become good even better than they are. Like shepherds, good leaders know where the green pastures are and lead others to those good places.

The proof of servant leadership is found in Pope Francis. He has stripped himself of the symbols of power and humbly serves others, especially the downtrodden. He has become one of the most powerful leaders of our times. Truly, humility and service is power.

Pope Francis is calling us to serve a purpose greater than ourselves, to get over self-concern and devote ourselves to the concerns of others. That means we can't sit behind the desks of our own sanitized environments. Good leaders smell the smell of the sheep and immerse themselves in the mud of human failures, human sins, and problems.

We must go out into the peripheries of human life, to where people actually live, and understand what they are going through before we can offer any solutions that will matter. How can we help others unless we know what help they need?

Effective leadership is leadership by immersion, baptism in the waters in which your workers are swimming. Aren't those the sort of leaders that people talk about and admire? It's servant leadership, not authoritative. It is communion, not critical supervision; or for that matter criticism and cynicism of your leaders. Both are wrong!

Good leaders believe in the Incarnation. They believe in creation. That God created a beautiful world, that He loves it, and that His presence can be found in this world, particularly in men and women, those whom He created in His own image and likeness.

Good leaders take time to reflect, to meditate, and to see things as God sees them. Prayer time and meditation time are times of reflection. They allow us to have vision. They allow us to see purposefulness in all things. They allow us to see our own reasons for being, our goals, and our purposes. How can we possibly be effective leaders if we don't have those things in our lives?

We are surrounded these days by all sorts of leadership workshops and lectures on how to effectively lead. I want to point out, however, that all of these supposedly new-found skills are not worldly skills, they are spiritual. All that I have pointed out to you today is spiritual in nature. I haven't been using psychological categories or Hollywood style motivational skills. These are basic spiritual life principles: virtues based on spirituality. Pope Francis illustrates these in his attitude and approach: Do you do the same?

**Good leaders are good shepherds... and good shepherds are good leaders.**

