

Dear Friends,

This weekend, we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter, known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In the Gospel of St. John, Jesus tells us "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. I know mine and mine know me." The true shepherd knows which sheep belong to him and calls them one by one. The sheep recognize the shepherd's voice and stay with him. They will not follow other shepherds, even if called by them. They follow, not because they are forced to but by their own choice. This relationship between shepherds and sheep is the same relationship we have with Jesus. He knows and loves each one of us, we follow Him by our own choice. He knows that we know and love Him. Jesus gave the ultimate sacrifice of us, his sheep, he gave His life for us....because of his great love for each of us.

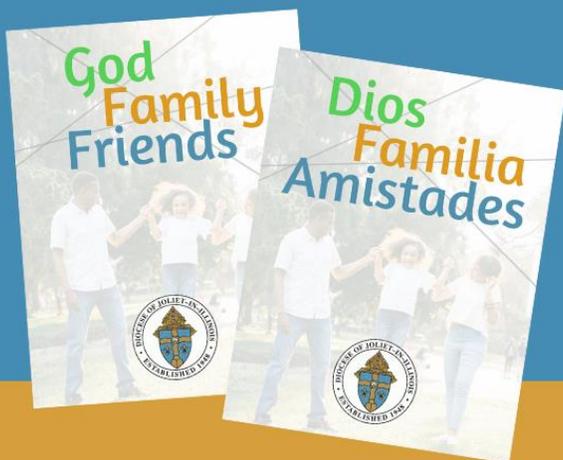
In addition to celebrating Good Shepherd Sunday, on Monday, April 26th, we celebrate our Parish Feast Day.....the feast of Our Mother of Good Counsel. Please check the Faith Formation column in our bulletin this weekend for information on Our Mother of Good Counsel.

Attached is God, Family, Friends to use with your children, grandchildren, or neighbors in your Domestic Church. If you wish to attend one of our weekend liturgies, go to our parish website and click on "Reserve A Seat" to register you and your family. Join us!! We would love pray with you in person during this Easter Season.

Happy Parish Feast Day!

Our Mother of Good Counsel, Pray For Us!

~Janet



Helping families focus
on what matters most

4th Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)

Theme: Jesus cares, leads and protects
I know my sheep and my sheep know me

GOD

Mass

Our weekend Mass is now livestreamed. Check our parish website for the link; www.omgccc.org. Click on "Livestream Available" or you can go directly to our Vimeo link, <https://vimeo.com/omgc>, where you can view our weekend Mass. Join us in person by registering through our parish website, simply click on "Reserve A Seat", choose your Mass time, enter your information and you will be registered

Readings

<https://bible.usccb.org/Bible/readings/042521.cfm>

Gospel Video

<https://youtu.be/fV1EN2DZoEQ>

Sunday Lectio Divina Guide

<https://catholicdotbible.files.wordpress.com/2021/03/easter-4-1.pdf>

FAMILY

Coloring Page: <https://coloringhome.com/coloring-page/1767105?album=good-shepherd-coloring-pages-free>

Craft activities: <http://craftycatholicmoms.com/good-shepherd-sunday/>

REFLECTION (Do this imaginative exercise slowly by yourself, or have your family do it together.)

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus offers his protection and guidance, but sometimes we are too busy and our lives are too noisy to hear his voice. Find a quiet place and close your eyes. Take a few deep breaths. Imagine you are outside on a beautiful day in an open field. Smell the scent of early spring grass and flowers, breathe deeply and relax. Now, picture Jesus as the Good Shepherd standing in front of you, smiling and reaching out to you. Go to him and let him gather you into his arms. Rest there for as long as you need to. Then listen. What does he say to you? Sit quietly and think about what you saw and heard for a few minutes, then you may want to answer him. Let him hug you again, then wave goodbye and open your eyes. Take a minute and write down anything you want to remember. If you did this with your family, have members share what they saw and heard.

Dinner Conversation:

- What noise can I/we turn off so that we can hear Jesus' voice more often?
- What do I need to stop following so that I can follow Him?
- How can I turn to him any time I am uneasy, uncertain or frightened?
- Am I willing to let Jesus help me make decisions about important things?
- Am I willing to let Jesus bring out the best in me so that I can help others?

FRIENDS

Is there a petting zoo or sheep farm in your area where you can see what real sheep look like close up? Plan a visit. Or, you can learn more here: <https://www.farmsanctuary.org/sheep/>

