

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018

LAY DOWN MY LIFE

In the Old Testament, God is described many times as the shepherd of the people of Israel. So when Jesus claims this image of God to describe himself, it is startling even to his disciples. In today's Gospel, he takes the image one step beyond the Old Testament: as the Good Shepherd, he is to "lay down his life." This phrase is stated, with slight variation, five times in today's short passage. Jesus is describing the meaning of his life and of his death.

With firm roots in the story of Israel and their God, Jesus is now starting a new chapter. He is helping his disciples make sense of his death on the cross, and to describe how to follow this particular shepherd. When Jesus lays down his life, he is revealing the infinite love that he and the Father have for the flock. To follow Jesus, to be a part of Jesus' flock, means participating in that same sacrificial love.

ONE FLOCK

Jesus adds another feature to the shepherd imagery, which was also disturbing to his disciples. He refers to "other sheep which do not belong to this fold," who will become part of the same flock. This likely refers to the Gentiles, to all peoples beyond Israel. The Shepherd extends his flock, but emphasizes that there is still only one flock. Jesus spoke forcefully and frequently, especially in the Gospel of John, of the importance of unity among those who follow him.

We who follow Jesus are expected to embrace the "other sheep," to respect and celebrate differences among Christians. We are expected to learn from one another. All those things that seem to divide Jesus's followers in culture, ethnicity, or history of conflict fade in comparison with the deeper unity of the one flock under one Shepherd. Living in unity is essential for us to be faithful and credible witnesses of Christ to the world.

Today's Readings: Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18
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DAR LA VIDA

En el Antiguo Testamento, muchas veces Dios es descrito como el pastor del pueblo de Israel. Así cuando Jesús invoca esta imagen de Dios para describirse así mismo, sorprende aún a sus propios discípulos. En el Evangelio de hoy, él toma esta imagen un paso adelante del Antiguo Testamento, como el Buen Pastor, él pastor "debe dar su vida". Esta frase se afirma, con algunas variaciones, cinco veces en el corto pasaje de hoy. Jesús está describiendo el significado de su vida y de su muerte.

Con firmes raíces en la historia de Israel y su Dios, Jesús está ahora empezando un nuevo capítulo. Él está ayudando a sus discípulos a darle sentido a su muerte, él está revelando el infinito amor que él y el Padre tienen por su rebaño. Para seguir a Jesús, ser una parte del rebaño de Jesús, significa participar en el mismo sacrificio de amor.

UN REBAÑO

Jesús añade otra característica a la imagen del pastor, la cual también inquieto a sus discípulos. Él se refiere a "otras ovejas que no son de mi rebaño" pero serán una parte del mismo rebaño. Esto probablemente se refiere a los gentiles, a otros pueblos más allá de Israel. El Pastor aumenta su rebaño, pero enfatiza que solo hay un solo rebaño. Jesús habló con fuerza y frecuentemente, especialmente en el Evangelio de Juan, de la importancia de la unidad de aquellas personas que lo siguen.

Nosotros, quienes seguimos a Jesús, debemos de recibir a "las otras ovejas" para respetar y celebrar las diferencias entre los cristianos. Debemos de aprender del otro, de la otra persona. Todas estas cosas que parecen dividir a los seguidores de Jesús en la cultura, la etnicidad o los conflictos de la historia se desvanecen en comparación con la unidad más profunda de un solo rebaño con un solo pastor. Vivir unidos es esencial para que seamos testigos fieles y creíbles de Cristo en el mundo.

Lecturas de hoy: Hch 4:8-12; Sal 118 (117):1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

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Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Rosalinda Esparza	Justin Rey Martinez	Alethea R. Ybarra
Cynthia Sandoval	Brandon Rivas	Norma R. Morgan
Ismael Montañez	Christine Rosales	David Santoyo
Estella De La Vega	Yvonne Neilon	Roland Martinez, Jr.
Diana Calderon	Ricky Lopez	Roland Martinez, Sr.
Susan Perez	Yamil Traspeña	Jacinta Weddel
Guadalupe Huerta	John Ruiz	Sara Navarro
Arleen Soliz	Frances Ramirez	Chris Muñoz
Alfredo Moreno	Evelyn Parra	Roxsandra Gallardo
Delia Lopez	Coach Lisa Robertson	Elizabeth Quirotero
Abigail Rodriguez	Angie Perez	Toni Hernandez
Rose Loa Gallegos	Julio Ugalde, Jr.	Jesse Villarreal
Roxanne & Linus Joseph	Armandina Flores	John Jimenez
David Colbath	Yvonne De Leon	Rosemary Ramirez
Victims of First Baptist	Delia Riojas	Sofia Delgado
Church of Sutherland	Petra Chavez	Jose A. Ponce, Jr.
Church of Sutherland	Carmen Solis	Terri Lopez
Springs, Texas	Enrique Cepeda	F.J. Rodriguez
Lisa Marie Rodriguez	Andrew Arizmendez, Jr.	
Linda Davila		

We thank God for the healing of so many sick parishioners. Please be courteous and call the Parish Office if your loved one is no longer suffering or sick. Thank you.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

APRIL 14 - 15, 2018

5:00 PM	-\$ 692.49	(082)
8:00 AM	-\$ 438.50	(089)
10:00 AM	-\$1,119.46	(134)
12:00 NOON	-\$1,151.16	(202)
School Mass	-\$ 55.05	
Altar Flowers	-\$ 419.55	2nd Collection
2018 Gift of Giving	-\$ 142.16	
Mail In	-\$ 400.80	
TOTAL	-\$4,419.17	

Thank you for your continued support of our church!

Second Collection

April 22, 2018 - Catholic Home Mission Appeal

2018 GIFT OF GIVING

Contributions 4/14-15, 2018	\$ 142.16
RUNNING BALANCE TOTAL	\$ 8,822.54



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 21

5:00 p.m. For the People of our Parish Community

Sunday, April 22

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Ofelia Urbina - Hermana
 † Pete Morales - Wife & Family
 † Tina Flores - Penny

10:00 a.m. † Margaret & Martin Burrell - Daughter
 † Ida & † Amos Burrell - Family
 † Aline Persyn - Family
 † Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
 † Daniel C. Arzola - Family
 † Drew Luna - Family
 † Estella Jaramillo - Family

12:00 p.m. For Our Military Men & Women

Monday, April 23

Tuesday, April 24

12:00 p.m. For All Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, April 25

8:15 a.m. For the Students of St. John Berchmans School

Thursday, April 26

12:00 p.m. † Jesus E. Villarreal

Friday, April 27

12:00 p.m.
 Gift of Life Edward Martinez

Saturday, April 28

5:00 p.m. † George Hernandez - Wife & Family

Sunday, April 29

8:00 a.m. † Guadalupe Treviño - Nora Treviño
 † Ofelia Urbina - Hermana
 † Josue Hid - Wife

In Thanksgiving 62nd Wedding Anniversary of
 Frank and Lupe Rodriguez

In Thanksgiving 10th Anniversary - Spanish Ultreya

10:00 a.m. † Margaret & Martin Burrell - Daughter
 † Ida & Amos Burrell - Family
 † Aline Persyn - Family
 † Ryan Sanchez - Sanchez Family
 † Daniel C. Arzola - Family

12:00 p.m. † Roman Gabriel Garcia - Mom
 † Armando A. Rocha - Family

Gift of Life Jeanette H. Homan - Parents

In Loving Memory

We pray for the souls of our dearly departed who have passed from our parish community:

† Jesus E. Villarreal
 † Gloria L. Solis

Sanctuary Light

† David & † Gloria L. Solis




From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

We continue to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ...the victory of life over death, light over darkness and God over the devil. Peter, the head of the disciples, engaged in a campaign to vindicate their master and reassured the world that he is risen. They performed miracles in his name and are willing to die to defend their faith. They are renewed and ready to be true witnesses of the word. Jesus reminds us that he is the Good Shepherd. He knows each one of us by name and cares deeply. We pray for our church leaders to carry the example of our Shepherd by carrying and loving their sheep, willing to die for them.

We have returned from Greece and had a very prayerful pilgrimage. We prayed for all of you and offered our daily concerns and wishes to the Lord, in the footsteps of St. Paul. I thank each one of you for your prayers and support. St. Paul has challenged us to care for each other and especially those in need and neglected.

We are very proud of Dominique who has accepted the role of Youth Minister. Dominique has developed into an awesome, dedicated, committed and faithful young lady and will ultimately focus her church mission. I am confident she will do very well. Please rally behind Dominique and her new leadership committee to lead our youth in their journey. Our youth are, and will always be, the future of our church. Our youth meet every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in classroom #1. Please encourage your children and grandchildren to join our youth group. Here is the leadership committee of our youth: Dominique Dominguez, Raeann Cruz, Angie Diaz, Bobby Gallegos, Liz Gallegos, Alyssa Araguz, Brandon Cruz, Marisa Dominguez, Danielle Martinez and Rebecca Dominguez.

I thank all of you who have pledged or donated money toward the Capital Campaign. Our community of St. John Berchmans is required to raise \$352,000 with \$140,80 the equivalency being 40% being returned to our parish to address three projects that we have identified for our community: put a new floor in the church, put a part of new roof for the school building and modernize the technology of our school. As of the weekend of March 24 - 25, only 12% had pledged or paid. Please consider making your pledge as soon as possible. I thank those of you have contributed toward the campaign.

May God bless you always,

Father Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor
 fr.fidele@stjohnberchmans.com

REMINDER:

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSING AT 12 NOON ON FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018 FOR BATTLE OF FLOWERS. THANK YOU!



Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - There is no other name under heaven by which we are to be saved than the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene (Acts 4:8-12).

Psalm - The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone (Psalm 118).

Second Reading - See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).

Gospel - I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11-18). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
Tue: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wed: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
Thu: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
Fri: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Sat: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
Sun: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-28, 30-32; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

Events of the Week ~ April 22 - 29, 2018

Sunday, April 22

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church
10:00 a.m. Mass - Church
12:00 p.m. Mass - Church

Monday, April 23

12:00 p.m. Communion Service - Chapel

Tuesday, April 24

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel
7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group - Church

Wednesday, April 25

8:15 a.m. Children's Mass - Church
9:15 a.m. Rosary Makers - Offsite

Thursday, April 26

12:00 p.m. Mass - Chapel
6:30 p.m. English Ultreya - Room 22
7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry - Room 1

Friday, April 27

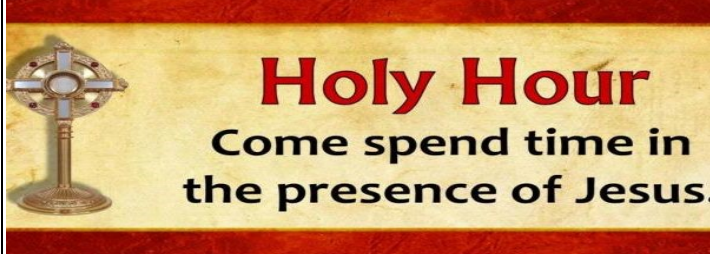
12:00 p.m. PARISH OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON

Saturday, April 28

5:00 p.m. Mass - Church

Sunday, April 29 - LAST DAY OF CCD CLASSES

7:30 a.m. Divine Mercy - Church
8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass - Church
10:00 a.m. Mass - Church
12:00 noon Mass - Church



Holy Hour
Come spend time in
the presence of Jesus.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY

Our parish is always in need of a few good hands every Saturday morning to help us clean our beautiful church. We also want to remind individual group ministries assigned, to fulfill your commitment on Saturdays. Thank you for your commitment to our beautiful place of worship and to our community.

Cleaning Schedule of Ministries:

April 28, 2018 — Martinez & Santoyo Families



SJB RUMMAGE SALE

Our next Rummage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Cost of space is \$10.00

If you have any questions, or wish to reserve a space, please contact Rosa Moreno at the parish office 210.434.3247.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Easter; Earth Day; World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Monday: St. George; St. Adalbert
Tuesday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
Wednesday: St. Mark; Administrative Professionals Day
Friday: Arbor Day
Saturday: St. Peter Chanel; St. Louis Grignon de Montfort

Fourth Sunday of Easter April 22, 2018

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

— 1 John 3:1



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for approval by Father Fidele. We ask that you submit your requests at least two (2) weeks in advance for placement in the bulletin.



NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

If you are interested in registering as a new parishioner at St. John Berchmans Church, please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

Announcements

www.stjohnberchmans.com

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THIS WEEKEND IS FOR THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

We thank you for your contribution to help **strengthen the Church at home!** Your generosity will provide catechesis, seminarian education, lay ministry training, and other pastoral programs in needy dioceses across the United States. To learn more about Catholic Home Missions funding and current grantees, please visit www.uscbb.org/home-missions.

2018 GUADALUPANA ORGANIZATION SCHOLARSHIPS

St. John Berchmans' Guadalupe Organization is accepting scholarship applications for the 2018 school year.

Application packets may be picked up in the Parish Office - Monday through Friday from 9am - 5pm. Deadline for submission of applications is **Tuesday, May 1, 2018 by 5pm**. Late applications will not be accepted after this date.

If you have any questions, please contact Rosemary Semersky at (210)420.4288.



F.A.C.T. (Family Assistance Crisis Team) need you!

Volunteer Program Victims Advocacy office/SAPD - Helping put an end to Family Violence!
Volunteers commit to work one Friday or Saturday night a month from 6pm - 1am at a Substation of your choice.

FREE F.A.C.T. Training: Saturday, May 5, 2018 - 9am - 4pm; Saturday, May 19, 2018 9am - 4pm; May 22, 2018 - 6pm - 9pm.

All FACT Training dates are required to be certified. V.I.P. Orientation: Saturday, June 9, 2018 9am - 12pm.

Location: 315 S. Santa Rosa Blvd., Public Safety Headquarters Bldg., parking is free.

Requirements: Be in college or over age 21. *Attend all 3 FACT Training & VIP Orientation.

INTERNSHIP AVAILABLE. Other sets of classes available: July & September.

For additional information, contact Ivie.Tovar@sanantonio.gov or 210.207.2305

ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

If you are attending and support St. John Berchmans parish on a regular basis, we thank you and ask that you please use the envelopes provided to you. This makes it easier for us to record your contributions to your account. This is important especially for tax purposes.

If you have not received these envelopes, and have not filled out a registration form, then you are not formally registered in our parish. The fact that you've been "coming for years" is not the same as being registered. In order to be a registered parish family, you must fill out a Parish Registration Form which can be picked up at the parish office during regular office hours.

God bless you for your continued support of our parish and we thank you for your cooperation.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FROM PILGRIMS CENTER OF HOPE

Catholic Women's Conference "*Come to Me*" is scheduled this year on **Friday and Saturday, July 27 - 28, 2018**. Pedrotti's North Wind Ranch in Helotes, Texas is the venue for this year's spiritual oasis. Registration fee for the entire event is \$100.00 which includes: Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and breakfast, plus 2 concession items. Additional information will be provided at a future date. Questions: Call 210.521.3377

SAVED BY THE ONE WHO WAS REJECTED

Some city teenagers often scorn and reject farm kids. Yet it's no exaggeration to say that humanity owes its life to farmers who care for the world's crops and livestock. This week's scriptures remind us that Jesus was as rejected as a shepherd, a farm boy, yet we owe our very lives to him.

In this Sunday's reading from the Acts of the Apostles Peter tells the people that salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the one who was rejected. In John's letter we hear that we have become God's beloved children through Jesus, whom the world did not know. Lastly, in the Gospel Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who "lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). Will you join Jesus in laying down your life for God's beloved flock? Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

In what ways can the Holy Spirit give me wisdom and courage to speak and act regarding issues in the world, in our country, in my community?