

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

St. Agnes Church
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All bulletin submissions must be sent in writing and received in the parish office by Tuesday at 12 noon.

Please remember in your prayers all those who are sick or suffering, especially those homebound or in nursing homes.

Refresh them Lord, with your healing grace.

Dan Fox, Tom Sturgis, Dottie Trant, Pat Galbraith, Fr. Ron Aubry, Don Deibel, Eddie Linser, Mark Rogers, Heather Breedlove, Evelyn Monahan, Gene & Tom Sheridan, Deacon Paul Deshaies, Ben Nye, Ralph Tallarico, Carolyn Hargraves, Craig Grutsch.

Mission Statement:



"Seeking to grow in prayer, forgiveness and mutual support to bring the love of God to fellow parishioners and neighbors"

"How do I make a return to the Lord for all he has done for me." (Ps. 116:12)

April 14-15

Envelopes	\$1,505.00	
Loose	\$535.99	
Children	\$ 0.00	
Holy Land	\$ 15.00	
Central & Eastern Europe	\$125.00	Thank you!

Activities at St. Agnes this week

SATURDAY, April 21, Vigil

4:30 p.m. Eleanor Gualtieri †
by Rocco Gualtieri

SUNDAY, April 22, The 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn. 3:1-2; Jn. 10:11-18

10:00 a.m. Sam & Mary Gerardi †
by Joe Gerardi & Sons

MONDAY, April 23, St. George

No Mass At. St Agnes

TUESDAY, April 24, St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

7:00 p.m. Parishioners of St. Agnes
by the parish

WEDNESDAY, April 25, St. Mark

9:00 a.m. Sonny Eddy †
by Joe Gerardi

THURSDAY, April 26,

9:00 a.m. Special Intention of
Ralph & Fran Tallarico

6:00 p.m. ESL @ SMM

6:30 p.m. PREP @ SMM

FRIDAY, April 27,

9:00 a.m. Missionary Vocations
by friends of the missions

3-5 p.m. Produce Market

7:00 p.m. Grupo de Oración

SATURDAY, April 28, Vigil

1:00 p.m. St. Catherine Mass

4:30 p.m. Mary Gerardi †
by Joanna Policaro

SUNDAY, April 29, The 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn. 3:18-24; Jn. 15:1-8

10:00 a.m. Parishioners of St. Agnes
by the parish

12 – 3 p.m. K of C Spaghetti Dinner
@ St. Aloysius school building

Liturgical Ministers for April 28-29

	Altar Servers	Lectors	EMHC	Greeter/Usher
April 28 4:30 PM	† J. Fox D. Fox	A. Fox B. Fox	B. Greenwood C. Marcum	@B. Crown, P. Higgins, A. Fox, L. Higgins
April 29 10:00 AM	† S. Baker, W. Maria, A. & J. Cazales, A. Cabrera	R. Cabrera, T. Ferguson	F. Arias, A. Rivera	@ E. & J. Saldivar, C. Washington, J. Eddy

Collection Counters: 4/22: B. Greenwood, A. Concha
Church linens: 4/22: B. Greenwood; 4/29: A. Quintro

4/29: D. Fox & T. Nance

Pray for our men and women in uniform.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on

Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.

SundayConnection@LoyolaPress.com

St. Agnes FREE Produce Market will be



Friday, April 27 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. as supplies last - first come - first served. Please bring your own boxes, bags, and carts to carry produce as well as ID and proof of

address.

Volunteers are needed to help with the set-up. The produce truck arrives about 1:30 pm in the rear parking lot of St. Agnes church.

St. Aloysius Church, announces the addition of a Saturday morning Mass at 9:00. Daily Masses are now Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 9:00. The Saturday Mass, in honor of the Blessed Mother, will be followed by an hour of Eucharistic Adoration, rosary, Divine Mercy chaplet and Confessions. Benediction will conclude the morning.

The Bishop Ready Theatre Department, under the direction of faculty member Jill Larger, is producing the John Caird/Stephen Schwartz musical *Children of Eden* the last weekend in April. The two-act musical is based on the Book of Genesis with act one focusing on Adam and Eve and Cain and Abel and act two exploring Noah and the flood. Performances are Friday, April 27, at 7 p.m., Saturday, April 28, at 2 p.m., and Sunday, April 29, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$9 for those 65+, and \$8 for students. For more information, please call Bishop Ready High School at 614-276-5263.