

# Good News!

## APRIL 25, 2021, FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

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

For many of us, our only connection with sheep is with the cuddly white creatures found on holy cards. However, that image strays from the facts. Sheep are not household animals. They live outdoors; they lie down in grass, dirt, and mud.

Furthermore, unlike many other animals, sheep cannot clean themselves. I'm not denigrating sheep, just putting aside any fanciful view of their nature. Raising sheep was an important occupation in the ancient world. In fact, the royalty's governance of people was often described as shepherding. David was told: "You shall shepherd my people Israel" (2 Samuel 5:2). Later, when the royalty were not faithful to this charge, God declared: "I myself will pasture my sheep" (Ezekiel 34:15).

This startling characterization of God became a characterization of Jesus. Grime and animal smells, the blood of births and deaths, inclement weather, and the threat of predators mark the life of a committed shepherd. Human comfort was secondary to the needs of the sheep. Sheep actually learn to recognize the voice of the one who feeds them, cares for them, protects them. The shepherd's voice seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine. As "the good shepherd," Jesus is totally committed to us, his sheep. He attends to our needs, willing to risk his own security in order to save us. His care for us seems to say: I am here for you, because you are mine.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

# Dear Padre

## *Am I sinning when I work or shop on Sunday?*

Biblical tradition states that the Sabbath is the day that God rested from the labors of creation. Sunday is also the day we commemorate Christ's resurrection from the dead and the inauguration of the new creation.

We rightly refer to Sunday, then, as the Lord's day. This being so, it's important that we do everything possible to keep the Lord's day holy and ensure that we reserve adequate time on Sunday for worship, rest, and recreation.

Today, many activities, social services, and family needs require some people to work on Sundays. In fact, many people have only the weekends to do the errands and activities that sustain their families.

Our participation in such activities and services is not a sin, nor does it mean that those who do need to work cannot find an appropriate way to sanctify the Lord's day and allow time for the worship, rest, and renewal that are proper to the day.

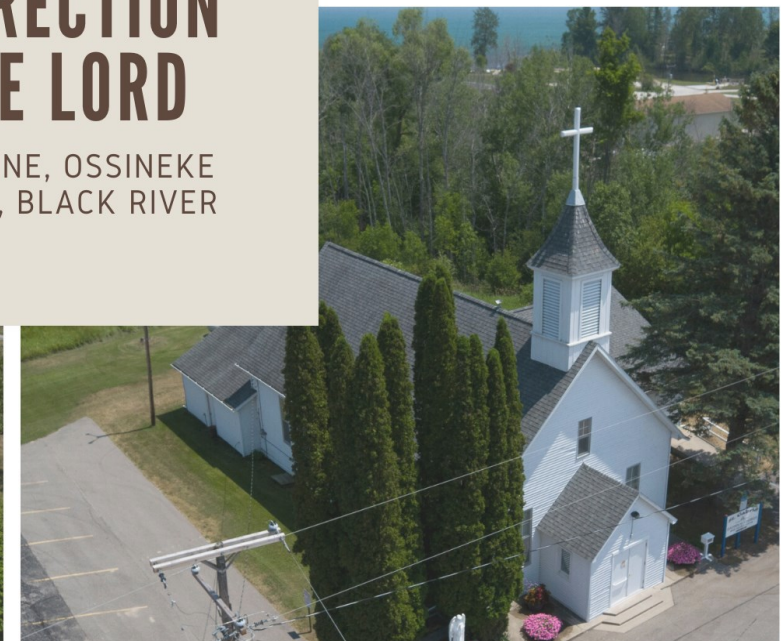
Even so, we must guard against treating the Lord's day as just another workday, or a continuation of our Saturday shopping spree. Remember that the primary focus on Sunday should be participating in the Mass and growing our relationship with the Lord.

For more information on this topic, see paragraphs 2184 through 2195 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

*Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSSR*

## Scripture readings for the week of April 26—May 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Acts 11:1-18	Acts 11:19-26	Acts 12:24-13:5a	Acts 13:13-25	Acts 13:26-33	Acts 13:44-52	Acts 9:26-31
Jn 10:1-10	Jn 10:22-30	Jn 12:44-50	Jn 13:16-20	Jn 14:1-6	Jn 14:7-14	1 Jn 3:18-24
						Jn 15:1-8



## ST. RAPHAEL, MIKADO ST. ANNE, HARRISVILLE PARISHES OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

ST. CATHERINE, OSSINEKE  
ST. GABRIEL, BLACK RIVER

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER — 25 APRIL 2021

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Fr. Tyler Bischoff

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HOURS: Mon.-Thu. 8 am - 3 pm



From the Priest's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Sunday is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In the Diocese of Rome, this Sunday the Pope ordains the new priests for his diocese. My good friend, Deacon Giorgio will be ordained by Pope Francis today. Keep him in your prayers. It reminds us, too, to keep our own bishop, priests, and deacons in your prayers this Sunday as they strive to follow the example of the Good Shepherd. Keep Deacon Michael Linguar in your prayers. He will be ordained a priest on May 22<sup>nd</sup> for our diocese.



For my ordination to the priesthood, I choose the image of the Good Shepherd from the catacombs in Rome for the holy card. Whenever I'm feeling the weight of pastoral ministry (good days and not so good days), I take that card out and remind myself of whose example I'm called to follow – Jesus, the Good Shepherd who laid his life down for his sheep.

At Thursday's Mass last week, we heard in Acts 8:26-40 about the encounter between Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch. You should read it. Remember that the Acts of the Apostles is really all about the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the disciples. After Philip preached the Gospel (think about the Kerygma!), he was snatched by the Spirit to continue preaching in another place. As I follow the call of the Bishop to continue my priestly ministry as administrator of All Saints Parish in Alpena, I can't help but give myself over completely in trust to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is absolutely alive and working among us. It has literally nothing to do with me and everything to do with the power of the Holy Spirit working among us. Let us entrust ourselves and our parish to the amazing power of the Holy Spirit! He is the doing the work of God in our midst. Do we see it? Are we open to his promptings and his ways? I struggle with that every day. Let's hold each other in prayer as we strive to be open to the Holy Spirit's power in our lives.

For our Holy Father, our bishops, priests, deacons, and all the faithful, that they might be as responsive to the movement of the Spirit as Philip was, letting themselves be placed wherever souls are searching for the Lord. We pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer. Amen

God Bless,

Fr Tyler



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

SEE ONLINE CALENDAR FOR FULL DETAILS

Sunday, April 25, Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Rosary is prayed half an hour before each Mass.  
4:30 pm Mass, (Saturday) St. Raphael  
Ronald Frayer  
6:30 pm Mass, (Saturday) St. Catherine  
Parishioners of St. Anne, St. Catherine,  
St. Gabriel & St. Raphael  
9:00 am Mass, St. Catherine  
Richard Malenfant  
11:00 am Mass, St. Anne  
Nancy Goebel

Monday, April 26,  
9:00 am Mass, St. Anne  
Special intention for Margaret Conway

Tuesday, April 27,  
9:00 am Mass, St. Anne  
Farmers and agricultural workers  
9:30 am Adoration/Confession St. Anne  
2:00 pm St. Gabriel Altar Society Meeting  
5:00 pm Calvary Cemetery Clean-up

Wednesday, April 28, St. Peter Chanel & St. Louis  
Grignion de Montfort  
9:00 am Mass, St. Catherine  
Healthcare workers  
5-6 pm Adoration/Confession St. Catherine  
6:30 pm Adult Faith Formation St. Catherine  
6:30 pm First Communion/Confirmation Prep.  
St. Catherine

Thursday, April 29, St. Catherine of Siena  
9:00 am Mass, St. Catherine  
For those being abused  
9:30 am Adoration St. Catherine

Friday, April 30, St. Pius V  
NO MASS

Saturday, May 1, St. Joseph the Worker  
3:30 pm Confession St. Raphael

Sunday, May 2, Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Rosary is prayed half an hour before each Mass.  
4:30 pm Mass, (Saturday) St. Raphael  
Florence Mishler  
6:30 pm Mass, (Saturday) St. Catherine  
Parishioners of St. Anne, St. Catherine,  
St. Gabriel & St. Raphael  
9:00 am Mass, St. Catherine  
Donna LaBonte  
11:00 am Mass, St. Anne  
Steve Smith

PARISH STEWARDSHIP



“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Pt 4:10).  
Thanks you for all the sacrifices you make as we all labor in God’s vineyard to bring the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our neighbors. 10% of everything received is donated to support charities near and far.

	St. Anne	St. Catherine	St. Gabriel	St. Raphael
Needed each week	\$2,144.23	\$2,593.95	\$555.10	\$740.38
Needed year-to-date	\$90,057.66	\$108,945.90	\$23,314.20	\$31,095.96
Actual year-to-date	\$92,165.71	\$111,876.01	\$21,940.29	\$33,158.16
April 18	\$1,232.00	\$4,587.00	\$720.00	\$875.80
Other Collections:	\$35.00	\$250.00	\$	\$36.00

Pray for Our Priests & Religious

Sunday—Rev. Bernard Tyler  
Monday—Rev. Michael Verschaeve  
Tuesday—Rev. Duane Wachowiak  
Wednesday—Rev. Matthew Wigton  
Thursday—Rev. Peter Wigton  
Friday—Rev. John William  
Saturday— Rev. Innocent Zambua

We remember all the faithful departed from our parishes, especially those who passed away this past week: **Donna LaBonte**

Project Updates:

The Maria Hall renovation is coming along well. The building plans have been approved and finalized and now contractors are beginning to submit their bids. We have raised \$49,412 in total funding for the project so far (including the seed donation of \$25,000 and \$15,000 in matching gifts. If in the coming weeks we raise an additional \$5,000, we will reach our first goal from the matching gifts. Thank you, everyone, for your amazing generosity!

St. Gabriel crawlspace and window project: To date we have raised \$11,747.00 toward the projects. Thank you, everyone, for your generosity! The windows are scheduled to be installed at the end of April. The crawlspace work has been successfully completed.

**St. Gabriel Men’s Club Calvary Cemetery Clean-up:** Tuesday, April 27th at 5:00 pm with a rain-date of Thursday, April 29th at 5:00 pm. Bring your tools and anything you may need to help out.

**St. Anne Ministry Schedule:** We are putting together a new schedule for St. Anne lectors, cantors, extraordinary ministers, and altar servers. Anyone who would like to serve and wants to be added to the current list, please contact the parish office.

Adult Faith Formation – The Mass

Adult Faith Formation on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at St. Catherine (April 13 – May 12). Fr. Tyler will be walking us through an in depth study of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Have you ever wondered why we say: “and with your spirit”? Or what does the incense signify? Or why do we use bread and wine and not something else? Fr. Tyler will be going step by step through the Mass and discussing with us its tradition, history, and meaning. All are invited. The classes will continue to be livestreamed.

**St. Vincent de Paul** in Mikado is in need of newspapers to use for wrapping fragile items. If you have newspapers to donate, please contact the store at 989-736-6271.

**Saint of the Week-Saint Catherine of Siena- Feast Day April 29.** Catherine was the 24th of 25 children of a Sienese dyer; her mystical experiences and raptures began at age 6. She refused to marry, and about 1367 joined the Third Order of St. Dominic. She attracted a like-minded group in Siena for prayer and good works and devoted her last five years to church unity and ending the scandal of rival papacies. Though she experienced the pain of the stigmata, it became visible only after her death at 33. And, in an odd division of relics, her body is in a Roman church, while her head is in a Sienese church. Named a doctor of the church in 1970, Catherine is a patron saint of Europe and Italy, and the patron of fire prevention, nurses and nursing. “Take as your example your heavenly patroness, St Catherine, a humble and fearless Dominican tertiary who gave herself unsparingly for the Church. For everyone may this great saint be not only a special protectress but a model to follow on the path of holiness.” —St. John Paul II, October 10, 1999 .