

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SCRIPTURE MESSAGE: As we continue to reflect on the meaning of the resurrection, the Fourth Sunday of Easter is called *Good Shepherd Sunday* and *the World Day of Prayer for Vocations*, when we celebrate the risen Lord as the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. The priest in charge of a parish is called pastor because pastor means shepherd of Christ's sheep. As a shepherd, he leads, feeds, nurtures, comforts, corrects and protects Christ's sheep in the parish. The earliest Christians saw Jesus as the fulfillment of the ancient Jewish dream of a good shepherd. In the gospel passage, the Pharisees ask Jesus to clarify if he is the promised Messiah. Jesus' answer is *"I am the good shepherd."* Jesus claims that as a good shepherd he knows his sheep and loves them so much that he is ready to die for them. The gospel text offers us both comfort and challenge. The comforting good news is that Jesus the Good Shepherd knows us, provides for us and loves us. The challenge is that we should become **good shepherds** to those entrusted to our care and **good sheep** in our parish, the sheepfold of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday, April 24	1:30 p.m.	Bible Reflection Group
Wednesday, April 25	7:00 p.m.	Brockville Catholic Men's Group
Thursday, April 26	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Prayer Group in the Chapel
Sunday, April 29	After 10:00 Mass	Take Out Chairs for Spring Waxing

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: The Fourth Sunday of Easter, Christians are invited to reflect on the meaning of God's call and to pray for vocations. Christ, the Good Shepherd, continues to lead his people through His Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and calls many to follow Him in this way. Priestly, diaconal, and religious vocations should be a constant concern in the hearts of God's people.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Volunteers are needed to help remove the chairs from the sanctuary after the 10:00 Mass on **April 29** for our annual Spring waxing of the floors.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION: Please remember our candidates in your prayers as they prepare for these special Sacraments –
 May 10, 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Confirmation Retreat
 May 11, 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. First Communion Retreat
 May 13, 2:00 p.m. First Communion Mass
 June 2, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Confirmation Rehearsal
 June 3, 2:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass

MASS SCHEDULE APRIL 21- 28, 2018		
Saturday, April 21	5:15 p.m.	Tom Stretton
Sunday, April 22	8:30 a.m.	Our Parishioners
	10:00 a.m.	Intentions of Father Jacob Chelamootil
Monday, April 23 to Thursday, April 26		NO MASS
Friday, April 27	11:00 a.m.	Intentions of the Diotte family – Bridlewood Manor
Saturday, April 28	5:15 p.m.	Our Parishioners
Sunday, April 29	8:30 a.m.	Walter and Verne Pashnicki
	10:00 a.m.	Lionel Burgess
The Sanctuary Candle burns this week for: Pope Francis and all the clergy		

Weekly Target: \$3500.00	Actual Offering – April 15: \$ 2276.00	Operating Shortfall: \$ 1224.00
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PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Please pray for: Reggie Bernardo, Armand L'Anglais, Fr. Martin, Hilda Armstrong, Gerard Parker, Valerie Cooper, Mary Lambert, Denis & Norma Savage, Dorothy Meaney, Stella Alberry, Heidi Reid, Gerald & Irene Moriarty, Bibin John, Leone McIntyre, Justin Lefave, Ann Ruigrok, Maurice Belec, Margaret Smith, Grant Marshall, Margrite Dezainde, John Beriau, Debbie Freer and Shelley McCaffrey.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Prayerful best wishes to all who are celebrating their wedding anniversaries in April:
Mark and Jill Heffernan 14 years April 24
Rick and Debbie Noonan 32 years April 25
Andrew and Loretta Tollman 46 years April 27
Michael and Yvonne Donovan 34 years April 27
John and Anne Howison 45 years April 28
Brian and Julie McCarthy 17 years April 28

CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS: In February, seventeen candidates were enrolled for Sacrament of Confirmation. We are inviting parishioners to become a "Prayer Partner" with one of them. Sign up is easy – just add your name to the list, pick up your information letter at the back of the church and offer your prayers for the candidate. The cards will be presented to them on the day of their Confirmation retreat on **May 10, 2018**. Cards must be returned to the parish office or in the collection basket by **May 7, 2018**.

"The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." - John 10.11-18

APRIL 22, 2018

MINISTRY SCHEDULES				
MASS TIMES	HOSPITALITY	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday, April 28 5:15 p.m.	Grant Marshall Mary MacDermott	Neil and Margaret Cameron	Sylvia Shackles Cecile Houle	Samantha Glashan Allie White Grace Kelly
Sunday, April 29 8:30 a.m.	Rick Zabloski Noreen Shepherd	Theresa Iddon Paul Cosgrove	Margaret Bougie Heather Charbonneau	Grace Whiteland Evan Duffy
Sunday, April 29 10:00 a.m.	Lloyd and Judy Clayton	Isabelle Heffernan Johanne Cardinal	Deacon Shawn Souder Doug Roughton	Liam Heffernan Christopher Logstrup Joshua O'Keefe



CONGRATULATIONS FATHER JACOB!

Thank you for twenty-five years of devoted service and commitment to the priesthood.

You have been a joyful witness to all.

God bless you on your Silver Jubilee – April 22, 2018.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FLOWER PLANTING: The Knights of Columbus are pleased to announce that they will be purchasing, planting and maintaining flowers at St. Francis Xavier Cemetery at a cost of \$40.00 per gravesite. Please contact Stewart Glashan 613-342-3855 and provide plot details and payment by **May 20**. Cheques should be payable to the Knights of Columbus Council 1049 and may be dropped off at the church or sent to Stewart Glashan, 7 Stanley Crescent, Brockville K6V 2S9.

CWL PLANT SALE: We need the help of all gardeners to make this fundraiser a success. Please consider potting up plants that you are dividing and donating them to the sale. Drop off is **Friday, May 25 or very early Saturday morning May 26 at St. John Bosco Parish. The Plant Sale is on Saturday, May 26 from 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.**

GARAGE SALE, PLANT SALE AND BAKE SALE: The Knights of Columbus and the CWL will be having a joint Garage Sale/Plant Sale/Bake Sale on **Saturday, May 26 at St. John Bosco Parish Centre from 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.** If you have any gently used items you would like to donate, please drop them off on **Friday, May 26 between 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m. PLEASE NO CLOTHING, SKIS OR ENTERTAINMENT CENTRES – ONLY GOOD CLEAN SALEABLE ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

LATIN MASS: The Latin Mass (Extraordinary Rite) will be celebrated in **St. Francis Xavier Church, at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 29, 2018.**

NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT 2018: This summit is being held in Ottawa on **April 27-28, 2018.** There are a number of featured speakers including George Weigel, Curtis Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, Patrick Madrid and more. Holy Cross Parish in Kemptville will be a WEBCAST HOST SITE for this conference, with full simultaneous telecast of the conference in their parish hall. Tickets for the Kemptville site can be purchased online at newevangelization.ca at a cost of \$40.00 per person. The conference begins on Friday evening and runs all day Saturday concluding at 4:30 p.m. Lunch is provided on Saturday, and snacks and refreshments are available for the breaks. For more information, email holycrosskemptville@gmail.com or call 613-258-3377.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: *The Gift of counsel:* Just after receiving his driver's license, a minister's son wanted to talk about using the family car. "I'll make a deal with you," his father said. "Bring your grades up, read your Bible more often, and get a haircut. Then you may use the car once or twice a week." A month later the question came up again. "Son," the father said, "I'm proud of you. I see you studying hard and reading your Bible every day. But you didn't get a haircut." After a moment's pause, the son replied, "Yeah I've thought about that. But Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, and even Jesus had long hair." "True," the father replied, "but maybe you noticed that they walked wherever they went."

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