

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, May 3

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 9:00am

Monday, May 4

Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 8:00am

Adoration/Benediction at 12:00pm

Tuesday, May 5

Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 8:00am

Adoration/Benediction at 12:00pm

Wednesday, May 6

Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 8:00am

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Adoration/Benediction at 12:00pm

Thursday, May 7

Thursday of the Fourth Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 8:00am

Adoration/Benediction at 12:00pm

Friday, May 8

Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 8:00am

Adoration/Benediction at 12:00pm

Saturday, May 9

Saturday of the Fourth Week of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 8:00am

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Adoration/Benediction at 12:00pm

Sunday, May 10

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Live Stream Mass at 9:00am

**ALL WEEKEND AND DAILY
MASSES ARE CANCELED
UNTIL May 31st (inclusive).
Follow us on Facebook as we
Live Stream our Masses**

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection

4/20 – 4/26

Sunday Offering	\$ 0.00
Easter Sunday	\$ 0.00
Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 0.00
Coffers	\$ 0.00
Total Offertory	\$ 0.00

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 0.00
Mass Intention	\$ 0.00
Operation Rice Bowl	\$ 0.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 0.00
Holy Land	\$ 0.00
Others (Gallery, Outreach, etc.)	\$ 0.00

Total \$ **0.00**

Living the Liturgy

- In his epistle Peter writes, “you had gone astray like sheep” (1 Peter 2:25). Reflect with a group about the times that we have gone astray, not following the mission God entrusted to us. How does the power of the Holy Spirit keep us from going astray?
- Write a prayer for meals using the image of God as bread of life. What would you ask in your prayer? How would you thank God? What link might you make to Christ’s promise of the Spirit? Make copies for the members of your family or community to use for the remainder of the Easter season.
- In the Gospel Jesus says, “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). Who does Jesus mean should have abundant life? Where do God’s people not have life or abundance? Reflect on this and share your thoughts with a friend or group.

Sharing Faith

- How do various images or titles for Jesus (such as shepherd, vine, gate, light, bread of life) shape your prayer?
- How would you describe God’s providence as you attempt to do the will of God?
- We prayed the same Psalm 23 on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. How does it shape both the Lenten and Easter seasons?

I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture (John 10:9).

May 3, 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 | Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 | 1 Peter 2:20b-25 | John 10:1-10

In ancient times, the newly baptized prayed Psalm 23 at their first communion and recited it daily in thanks for the life-giving waters they had found in Baptism. The psalm celebrates an overwhelming faith in God's providence. The image of the Lord as shepherd is a good accompaniment to the one heard in the Gospel today. God's nearness as the shepherd guarantees abundant life.

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus identifies himself as the gate for the sheep. That phrase relates to other "I am" statements in John's account of the Gospel: "I am the Light," "I am the bread of life," "I am the way, the truth and life," and "I am the resurrection." In each of those, Jesus reveals something about the relationship he wants to have with his people. When Jesus says, "I am the vine," he specifies, "you are the branches." If Jesus is the gate, we are the sheep who pass out through it each day for rich pastures and then in through it for safe rest. Jesus' mission as gate assures us life in abundance.

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Next Sunday's Readings: "Fifth Sunday of Easter"

Acts 6:1-7 | Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 | 1 Peter 2:4-9 | John 14:1-12

From the Desk of Fr. Pascual

My Beloved Parishioners of the Cathedral Basilica,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy on this Easter Season!

"The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."

I must say that I feel so comforted whenever I read or hear Psalm 23, highlighting the verse quoted above, "the Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want." During this time of the pandemic, this Psalm gives me even more hope, and joy that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, gives refreshment not only to my spiritual life but even here and now. A Good Shepherd, who offered His life for me on the Cross that embodies all the pain and suffering He endured for my salvation.

I hope and pray that you, my beloved parishioners of the Cathedral Basilica, find this also to be consoling and, at the same time re-affirming your faith that Jesus, our Lord has never left us. He is always with us in this journey that we are all threading in this world. His amazing love comforts us as a Good Shepherd, tending to every spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental need during these difficult times of our lives.

Our lives had been turned around to something that we have never expected. The usual things we do, we can no longer do. Family members whom we love to be at home with can only be met virtually through live-streaming or video calling. Our deepest longing to be with the Lord and the community on Sundays has not been made possible because of safety precautions for oneself and for the people we love and care. Our usual recreational times of watching our favorite teams or players in any sports event, are stopped. With this pandemic, the economy has tremendously declined, and many are having a hard time now even to meet the basic needs of life. Has the Good Shepherd abandoned us? Does He not care about what is happening around now?

In light of all these questions of anxiety, uncertainty, and fear, the wisdom that we can draw from our experiences now is, why would He even submit Himself to the will of the Father to experience agony and death? Why would He allow Himself to be scourged, carry a heavy cross, and nailed on it? When we think of it all that He had done for us, then we can bring light to our crosses we are all carrying now. These trials and tribulations become a source of grace for a renewed family life, a deeper appreciation of the Eucharist, and the desire to go beyond the limits of our life, and serve those who are in need in our community.

Let us always be mindful that Jesus is our Good Shepherd, and He is always with us and in us whatever may come our way.

Your friend in the Lord,
Fr. Pascual