

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B**  
**Readings: Acts 4: 8-12. I John 5: 1-6. John 10: 11-18.**  
**Theme: JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

On this fourth Sunday of Easter, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. Jesus teaches us about good and true leadership. And he sets himself as the model by using the image of the good shepherd. He takes care of his flock. He leads his sheep to green pastures; he seeks out the lost sheep; and if needed, he is even ready to die for the sake of his sheep.

We have to rejoice that we belong to the flock of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. For, indeed, he continues to take care of us through the ministry of human shepherds he chose – the bishops and priests. This is to ensure that his flock is taken care of until he comes again. Sadly, however, we see a significant decline in the number of priests as well as in the number of young people entering the seminary. Obviously, not too many of our young people now are interested in the priesthood and religious life. There are different reasons. Foremost of them is the culture of materialism in our time. Many young people enter college solely in view of getting a high-paying job. They are looking for material comfort and luxury, thinking that this is the way to happiness. Unfortunately, they are mistaken.

Rightly, then, that this Sunday is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. I invite you, dear parents and young people, to pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. We may not be the ones called by God to this kind of vocation, but as Christians, we have the obligation to campaign for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. For once, let us seriously consider the value of the priesthood in our life. St. John Marie Vianney, the patron saint of all priests said, "Without the priest, the passion and death of our Lord would be of no avail. It is the priest who continues the work of redemption here on earth... What use would be a house filled with gold, were there no one to open its door? The priest holds the key to the treasures of heaven: it is he who opens the door: he is the steward of the good Lord; the administrator of His goods... Leave a parish for twenty years without a priest and they will end by worshipping the beasts there." Pope Benedict XVI is perfectly right when he said that without priestly ministry "there would be no Eucharist, no mission, not even the Church."

It may be painful but true: many Catholics are "sacramentalized", but not evangelized. One major reason why many Catholics go to other sects is the lack of doctrinal instruction in our parishes. They have received the sacraments, but they are vaguely aware of many basic doctrines of the Church. Obviously, this is due to the lack of priests. One famous account in the Acts of the Apostles is about the apostle Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:26-40). Acting on the instruction of the Spirit of God, Philip approached the royal eunuch who was at that time reading the book of the prophet Isaiah, and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The eunuch replied, "How can I unless someone instructs me?"

The lack of priests/Good shepherds all over the world, even in Catholic countries is so worrisome. We need good shepherds; those who will be ready to die for the sheep, those who are ready and willing to feed the sheep at all cost, and those who can spend time to feed their sheep. May God grant us the good shepherds we need at this time when the sheep are in pain of sickness for Covid 19. Jesus loves you, and so do I. -- Rev. Marcel Okonkwo.



**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

**Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:30 pm**

**Weekend Masses:**

**Saturday Evening: 4:00 pm**

**Sunday: \* 9:00 am - Rosary recited before Mass**

**Weekday Masses:**

**Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday - 8:30 am**

**Communion Service - Monday & Wednesday**

**Eucharistic Adoration - Thursdays after Mass.**

**Anointing of the Sick - 1st Friday of the month**

**Mass Intentions**

**Sat: Sp. Int. For the Duran family**

**Sun: Sp. Int. for the Andy & Corina Duran**

**Mon: Communion Service**

**Tues: + Ray Foree & Phyllis Jarboe by Bob Foree**

**Wed: Communion Service**

**Thurs: + Beth Foree by Bob Foree**

**Fri: Special Intention by the Flores Family**

**Sat: For the Armijo & Lozano Men by the Lozanos**

**Nuestra Señora de La Luz**  
**Our Lady of the Light**  
**Catholic Church**

P.O. Box 236

La Luz, New Mexico 88337

**(www.ourladyofthelight.org)**

**Office: (575) 434 - 9460**

**Mon. – Thurs. (10:00 - 4:00pm)**

**Pastor - Fr. Marcel Okonkwo**

**Deacon: Andy Weiss**

**DRE: Alicia McAninch**

**Ministry to the Home Bound:**

Janice Gillen

**Food Bank: 434-9460**

**4th Sunday of Easter**

**April 25th, 2021**



**Altar Servers (Carol Garcia 446-2129)**

April 24 - Aurelio

April 25 - Joshua, Ovian, Gigi

May 1 - Aurelio

May 2 - Patrick, Joseph, Joshua

**Lectors (Carol Garcia)**

April 24 - T. Lozano & B. Shoaf

April 25 - F. Pacheco & F. Spears

May 1 - C. & T. McGinn

May 2 - K. Burnett & F. Spears

**Church Cleaners: Kathy Burnett.**

**If you can't make your assigned date, please trade with someone else. If the Church is not open, please call Carol Garcia at 446-2129. We need more volunteers to help clean our church. Please consider volunteering.**

**Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday**  
**10:00am - 4:00 pm - Or by appointment.**  
**Closed on all major holidays.**  
**(575) 434-9460(www.ourladyofthelight.org)**

**Dcn. Andy's Corner**

Roman's Study Homework Schedule  
 Parish Hall @ 6PM Monday nights  
 5/3 Intro 6/7 Ch 8  
 5/10 Ch 1 6/14 9-11  
 5/17 2-3 6/21 12  
 5/24 4-5 6/28 13  
 5/31 6-7 7/5 14-16



We will have several showings of the new Fatima movie during the month of May. It will be shown on Sunday May 2nd & 9th at 2 PM in the Church and then again on Thursday May 13th (The anniversary of the first apparition) at 6 PM in the Church. There are sign-up sheets in the back for each showing. For any questions please call Dave or Vanita at 575-437-8065 or 575-491-8066



**Our Lady of the Light Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry served 135 families last Tuesday. The pantry will be open on April 27th and will be closed May 4th. The pantry is in need of the following items: Canned soup or Ramen, Cold or hot cereal, Canned tuna or chicken, Pasta Noodles, Cups of fruit or applesauce, Meal helpers, Small flour or sugar, Small oil, Bottled juice, & Dried rice or beans. We want to thank the pantry volunteers and all who have contributed food and given monetary donations this year. God bless you all.

**Sick of the Parish**

John Herrera  
 Sandra Wilder  
 David Kellar  
 Martha Kellar  
 Bob Kellar  
 Danny Lucero  
 Marie Black  
 Lane Dokken  
 Lucas Gaukler  
 Tilly Telles  
 Stacy Miller  
 Bill Gayso  
 Frank Borunda  
 Erlinda Garcia  
 Edward Strumpf  
 Sandra Carrillo  
 Amanda Rose  
 John Wilson  
 Bobby Granados  
 Gigi Gutierrez  
 Paula Hernandez  
 Juan Hernandez  
 Ben & Mary Placencio  
 Tim Lozano  
 Manny Rojas  
 Mikala Trujillo  
 Wayne Wild  
 Amber Cuellar-Town  
 Carmen Guitard  
 Amber Lozano Johnson  
 Edward Silva  
 Martha Walters  
 Angie Madl  
 Freddie Pacheco  
 Fernando Shelland

**Please pray for those serving in our military**

Major Paul Weaver (USAF)  
 Jeremiah Williams (USAF)  
 Eric Gayso - (National Guard)  
 SSgt. Eliza Granados (USAF)  
 Tec. Sgt. Robert Seaburgh (USAF)  
 Markie Campbell  
 Raul Martinez Jr. (USAF)  
 Capt. Amanda Armijo  
 Katherine Agnew (Army)  
 John Gill - USAF  
 Andrew McLaughlin  
 Clinton Caleb Muncy (Marines)  
 Victor Baray (Marines)  
 Tec. Sgt. Veronica C.de Baca  
 Tec. Sgt. Matt Leal (Air Force)  
 Mario Gallegos (Marines)  
 Christopher Garcia (USAF)

**2nd Collection**

There will be a 2nd Collection this weekend (Good Shepherd Sunday) for the San Juan Diego Seminarian Fund.



**San Juan Diego Seminarian Fund**

This collection assists the seminarians, the future parish priests of your parish, to receive the best possible all-around formation. Your generous contribution safeguards the vocation to the priesthood that they are currently discerning. Along with your prayers, this gift that you make towards the San Juan Diego Seminarian Fund ensures the human, spiritual, academic, and pastoral formation of our seminarians who, in response to the call of Jesus, are ready to lay down their lives in service of the people of God in our Diocese of Las Cruces. Your generosity allows the seminarians to be formed after the model of the Good Shepherd who looked upon the people with pity, that is, with compassion and gave His life for them. And your generosity to provide financial support should only be outdone by the intensity of your prayers for this same intention that more men may answer the call to be the laborers in this missionary vineyard.

**Our Lady of the Light Religious Education**



Our Lady of the Light Religious Education program will have its next "in-Person" class on **Wednesday, April 28th**. The 1st Grade through 5th grade will meet that afternoon from 2:30 until 3:30. The Middle school grades class will meet from 3:40 until 4:40. The First Communion class & the Confirmation class will meet for "In-person" classes on the 21st, 28th & May 5th. The First Communion class celebrated their First Reconciliation on April 21st and their First Communion will be celebrated on May 8th at 10:00am (Children & their families only.) The Confirmation class will celebrate their Confirmation on May 8th at the 4:00pm Mass. - Blessings, Alicia McAninch, DRE

**100th Birthday Celebration!**

Long time parishioner, Cliff Gillen will be celebrating his 100th birthday on May 5th. Cliff is a World War II Veteran. His family would like for him to receive 100 birthday cards for his birthday. If you would like to send a card to Cliff, please send it to: Cliff Gillen, 1701 Corte Allegra, Alamogordo 88310



Coming Soon! Flauta Dinner. Friday, May 14th. Noon - 6:00pm. Parish Hall - Take Out only.

**Our Parish Mission** — 'Nuestra Senora de La Luz' (Our Lady of the Light) is a community that comes together to model Jesus to all peoples by addressing physical concerns and spiritual matters, and to do as Jesus did, giving everything to bring people into a closer relationship with God, in celebration.

Visit Our Website for Parish News, Events, & Photos!  
<http://www.ourladyofthelight.org>