

Reflection for Good Shepherd Sunday

Today, the 4th Sunday of Easter, is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The image of the shepherd is associated with Jesus as presented to us by John the Evangelist. He presents Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In reflecting on this we can perfectly understand the kind of relationship John is referring to and the relationship that existed between Jesus and His followers, His disciples. It is a relationship based on tenderness, understanding, mutual knowledge, dependence and love.

In the Old Testament, the relationship of God with the people of Israel is compared with that between a shepherd and sheep. The prophet Isaiah said God is like "a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms" and again, God told Ezekiel, "I myself will pasture my sheep ... I shall be a true shepherd to them."

In the New Testament, the concept of God as a shepherd is fulfilled in the person of Jesus. He calls His sheep individually by their names as He did to Peter, Andrew, James and John and they followed him because they heard a voice that sounded like the Saviour's voice. Jesus is also the gate of the sheepfold as through him the sheep are sure of finding pasture. It is through Jesus Christ that the people of God, called by name and responding to his voice, enter into the pastures of eternal life. He is our Shepherd - as the Palmist says, "there is nothing I shall want", and even though if we should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would we fear.

Jesus bore the marks of the Good Shepherd, the marks of our violent world on His body. He didn't hide his wounds, nor was He bitter about them. Those wounds were an expression of love, solidarity, compassion, concerns and so they had a meaning. They were the mortal wounds the Good Shepherd picked up in caring for His sheep. His wounds help us to recognise our own wounds. The sacred, the precious wounds of Jesus are a source of consolation, courage, and hope to us and truly, by his wounds we are healed. Love triumphs over the disfigurements, the wounds, and the scars of life.

Source: parish.rcdow.org.uk

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

Under the pastoral care of the Pallottines, Society of the Catholic Apostolate.
Registered Charity No. 252929

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COMMUNITY

Fr. Liam O'Donovan SCA,
Fr. Joe McLoughlin SCA, Fr. Tom Daly SCA,
Reverend Deacon Jayson Wingrove

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Saturday	9.00 am – 4.00 pm
Sunday	10.00 am – 1.30 pm

MASS TIMES

From Monday to Saturday Mass at 12.00 noon will be streamed online,
and on Sundays both the 10.00 am and the 12.00 noon Masses.

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/greenford/>

Saturday – 12.00 noon and 7.00 pm
Sunday – 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm.

Confessions – Saturdays 11.00 am to 12.00 noon.
and 6.15 pm to 6.45 pm

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT
will be in the Church

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm,
and First Friday of the month from 5.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C) 8th May 2022

The readings for this Sunday's Masses start on page 268 of
the purple mass books.

***This weekend's second collection is for
Westminster Diocese Priest Training Fund.***
(www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)

Rosary in May

During the month of May, the Rosary will be said every weekday in Church at 3.15 pm. Everyone welcome.

Recently Deceased

Please pray for Josefa Ceglinska, who died recently. Funeral arrangements to be announced.

Funeral Arrangements

Matthew Galvin

Mass 10.00 am, Monday 9th May, Visitation Church, to be followed by burial in Greenford Park Cemetery.

Margaret Whoriskey

Reception 7.00 pm, Tuesday 10th May, Visitation Church.
Mass 1.00 pm, Wednesday 11th May, Visitation Church, to be followed by cremation at Breakspeare Crematorium.

James Shorthall

Mass 6.00 pm, Wednesday 11th May, Visitation Church, to be followed by burial in Ireland.

Michael O'Connor

Mass 1.00 pm, Thursday 12th May, Visitation Church, to be followed by burial in Greenford Park Cemetery.

John Paul Power

Mass 10.00 am, Friday 13th May, Visitation Church, to be followed by cremation at Breakspeare Crematorium.

Thank you and farewell

Elizabeth and Charles Pereira, who are moving to Hampshire next week, would like to say thank you for your friendship and support during the 31 years they have lived in Greenford parish.

THE GOSPEL
John 10:27-30

No one can take them out of my hand.

Good
Shepherd,
let us hear you
in the beauty of our world,
in your poor, and in one another,
on the rocky and rough roads we travel.

Please pick us up
when our legs can walk no more.
Pull us from the brambles that snarl us:
climate, racism, divisions, Ukrainian suffering.
Carry all our brothers and
sisters to safety.

Good Shepherd,
hold us close,
in your
arms.

Speak to our
hearts.