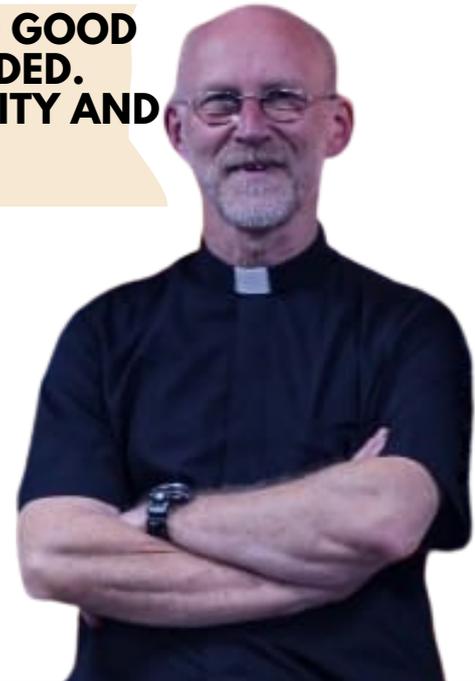




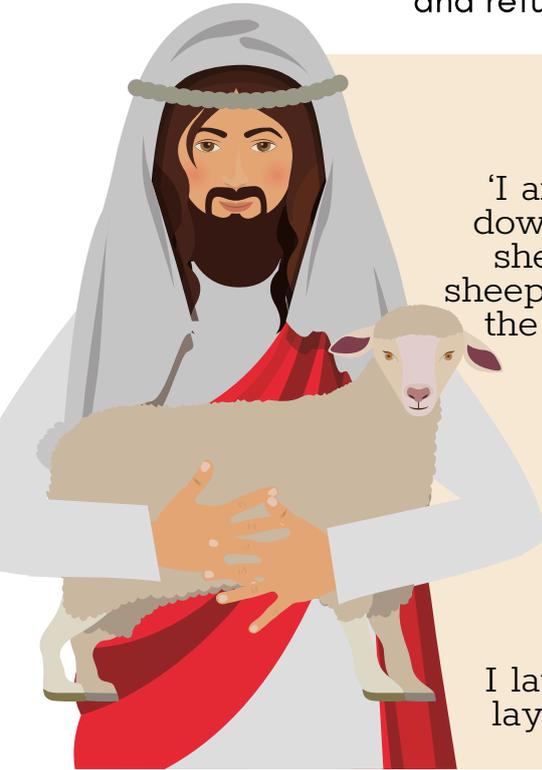
CELEBRATING THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL
W/C SUN 25TH APRIL 2021, FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

'ABOVE ALL, WE HAVE THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST, THE GOOD SHEPHERD WHO NEVER LEAVES HIS FLOCK UNTENDED. THE LORD CALLS ON US, TO FOLLOW HIM WITH CHARITY AND PRAYER IN THE LIGHT OF EASTER.'
- BISHOP OF LANCASTER, PAUL SWARBRICK



Jesus told many stories about a Shepherd and his sheep to get the people to understand how He, and God the Father, feel towards us. A Shepherd would do anything to protect his sheep. Similarly, Jesus would do anything to protect us, his people! We are still celebrating Jesus conquering death and rising for us on Easter Sunday because it was the ultimate sacrifice, he laid down his life for us. Are we able to easily accept that God knows each one of us so well, and cares so unconditionally? We pray especially for all our holy priests on this, Good Shepherd Sunday. We pray for our Bishop, who is responsible for guiding us in the Diocese of Lancaster. We pray for ourselves, that we may come to know Jesus as our Shepherd, that we listen to his voice, and return to him.



"I KNOW MY OWN"

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.'

'I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd.'

'The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

MASS READINGS

1st Reading: Acts 4:8-12:
It was by the name of Jesus Christ
Psalm 117:
The rejected stone has become the cornerstone
2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-2
We will see him as he really is
Gospel: John 10:11-18
I am the Good Shepherd

THIS WEEK

Sunday 25th: World Penguin Day
Thursday 29th: Feast of St. Catherine of Siena

WE PRAY FOR...

Bishop Paul and the clergy of our community.
All those we know who are sick and housebound, those in care or in hospital, and those who have recently died or have anniversaries at this time.