

# Sunday Message

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year C • 11th May 2025 • Psalter Week 4

## MY SHEEP LISTEN TO MY VOICE

JOHN 10:27-30



Being a shepherd during the time of Jesus was not something that would help you climb the social ladder.

The role was full of danger as it pushed the individual out to the fringes of society where they discover the harshness and dangers of the wilds, the loneliness the role entailed and the difference of a life which communed more with sheep than with people. Jesus chooses this role today and is mindful that as a shepherd for his people, he will give eternal life to those who believe and they will never perish. He states that God the Father and the Good Shepherd are one. This is a short passage today but the message is very clear and specific. Eternal life is to be gained through a deep connection between us believers and the heavenly Father. We experience God's love through the Shepherd, who will lay his life down for his sheep. ■

### REFLECT

**T**raditionally, Good Shepherd Sunday is the time we promote and speak about vocations to religious life and priesthood. Despite the downturn in the number of men and women opting for this way of life, there still remains a steady stream of candidates dedicating themselves to a life of service. Most vocations are first nurtured within the family. The French Jesuit, scientist and philosopher, Teilhard de Chardin, once said, "It was in my family that I became who I am. Most of my opinions, of my likes and dislikes, of my values and judgments, my behaviour, my tastes, were moulded by the family I came from." Parents remain the first and most important teachers of the faith, and of ideals. In fulfilling this role they should try to make daily prayer a natural part of life within the home. By so doing, they may sow the seeds of those vocations which will serve the spiritual needs of the next generation.

Just as Christ called some to be his evangelists, so he calls you and me into his service. What I do, how I live as his follower, concerns others too. On this special Sunday, we ask God's blessing, that volunteers will feel drawn to continue Christ's work. His wish for his disciples was quite explicit, "Pray to the Lord of the harvest, to send labourers to his harvest" (Mt 9:37). ■

### SAY

God, my Father,  
You have promised to remain  
forever with those  
who do what is just and right.  
Help me to live in Your presence.  
Keep before me the wisdom and love  
You have made known in Your Son.  
Help me to be like Him in word and  
deed. Amen.

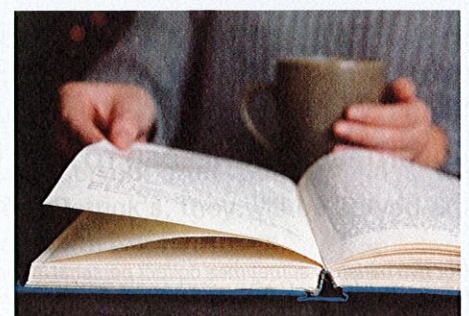
### LEARN

'Jesus was aware of the purpose of his mission: to announce the Kingdom of God and make it present in his own Person, in his actions, and in his words, so that the world would become reconciled with God and renewed.'

*(International Theological Commission)*

### DO

Consider doing some reading this week. There are countless websites dedicated to Vocation Ministry and opportunities to speak with Vocation Directors committed to this ministry.





**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

*Amen.*

**FIRST READING** Acts 13:14. 43b-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days: Paul and Barnabas went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. Many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, 'It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."'

And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Saint Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 100(99):1-2. 3. 5. R. 3c

*R: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

Or *Alleluia.*

1. Cry out with joy to the LORD, all the earth.  
Serve the LORD with gladness.  
Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**
2. Know that he, the LORD, is God.  
He made us; we belong to him.  
We are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**
3. Indeed, how good is the LORD,  
eternal his merciful love.  
He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Revelation 7:9. 13a. 14b-17

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

I, John, looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL** John 10:14

*R: Alleluia, alleluia.*

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.

I know my sheep and my own know me.

*R: Alleluia.*

**GOSPEL** John 10:27-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

At that time: Jesus said, 'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Grant, we pray, O Lord,  
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,  
so that the renewal constantly at work within us  
may be the cause of our unending joy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,  
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures  
the sheep you have redeemed  
by the Precious Blood of your Son.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

*Amen.*





St Patrick's Church  
King Street  
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TF1 3AP

# THE BEACON

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Our Lady of the Rosary  
& St Luke's Church  
Church Road, Trench  
TF2 7HG

11 MAY 2025

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY – PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS – BISHOP MARK'S PASTORAL LETTER

Sat	10th	17:30	Cäcilia & Jack Stanton Anniversary	St Patrick's
Sun	11th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
4th Sunday of Easter		09:00	Pope Francis RIP	Our Lady's
		11:00	Fr Alban Greenwood RIP	St Patrick's
		15:00	May Procession (followed by refreshments)	Our Lady's

Mon	12th	<b>Ferial</b>		
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Tues	13th	<b>Ferial</b>		
		12:00	Shrewsbury Secular Clergy Fund	St Patrick's

Wed	14th	<b>St Matthias, Apostle</b>		
		12:00	Tom Sellars Birthday Remembrance	Our Lady's

Thurs	15th	<b>Ferial</b>		
		19:00	Newton Perera 5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	St Patrick's

Fri	16th	<b>Ferial</b>		
		12:00	Ellen Sellars Birthday Remembrance	St Patrick's

Sat	17th	<b>Ferial</b>		
		10:00	Betrothed – Marriage Preparation Course	Our Lady's
		10:00	First Holy Communion Mass	St Patrick's

Sat	17th	17:30	Joyce Patricia Sarojini Birthday Remembrance / John Ryall RIP	St Patrick's
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Sun	18th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
5th Sunday of Easter		09:00	Mrs Vince Williams RIP	Our Lady's
		11:00	Mary Oates RIP	St Patrick's
		13:00	Baptism - Delilah Brett	Our Lady's

### SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

**RIP: Mary Oates, Kathleen Cramplin** (Funeral 6 June at Telford Crematorium). We pray for everyone whose anniversaries are at this time,

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

30 minutes before weekday Masses

**BAPTISMS** 25 May – Layla Pokutová, 1 June - Alexander Dudzinski, 15 June -Naetochukwu Okeke Parents, along with Godparents, are strongly encouraged to attend at least one preparatory session before the celebration of the Sacrament. The next session will be on **24 May** at 12noon.

**Weekly Offerings:** Total: £1577.57 - Standing Orders £680.62 (£549.25 Gift Aided), Envelopes £299.50 (£231 Gift Aided), Loose Plate £598.45 (Not Gift Aided). We can only add Gift Aid if donations are identifiable.

**Bank details:** St Patrick Wellington

Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account Number: 54546760

Our Lady & St Luke Telford

Sort Code: 30-15-52 Account Number: 54582160

### ROTAS

**Sat 5.30: W:** Denzil & Joanne , **EM:** Nicky . **Next Week: W :** Lynne & Lewis **EM:** Ann

**Sun 9: W:** Laura & Elias **EM:** Phillip, **C:** Bobbie, John & Nick **Next Week: W:**Vanessa & Liz, **EM:** Catherine **C:** C, C & F

**Sun 11: W:** Jennifer & Paul , **EM:** Jarmila, **C:** Diane & Collette. **Next Week W:** Evangeline & Shreya, **EM:** Anna, **C:** Gay & Nicky

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP WITH CLEANING IN BOTH CHURCHES. Please contact the office to help.**

*The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)*

### DATA PROTECTION PRIVACY NOTICE

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).

**LIVESTREAM:** Our Masses from St Patrick's are available online at <https://churchservices.tv/wellington>



**POPE LEO XIV:** The Parish of Our Lady and St Patrick gratefully celebrates the transformative pontificate of Pope Francis and joyfully welcomes our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV. We join Catholics around the world in a spirit of solidarity and hope in praying for our new Pope.

In his inaugural address to those gathered at St. Peter's Square, Pope Leo XIV declared: "We must seek together how to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges, dialogue, always open to receive like this square with open arms." His concluding words at the Vatican echo this hope: "To all of you, [people] of Rome, of Italy, of the whole world, we want to be a synodal Church, a Church that walks together, a Church that always seeks peace, that always seeks charity, that always tries to be close especially to those who suffer."

His election is a hopeful sign that the Church will remain committed to centering the most vulnerable among us and addressing the urgent needs of our world today. We pray that his leadership will reflect the radical love of Jesus — inclusive, compassionate, and courageous.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS** (11th May 2025) – Have you considered exploring a vocation to the diocesan priesthood in imitation of Jesus the Good Shepherd? A first step might be to speak to your parish priest or contact [vocationsdirector@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:vocationsdirector@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) who can help you with discernment. We have a simple website [www.Shrewsburyvocations.org](http://www.Shrewsburyvocations.org) where you can explore more. Further resources are available at [www.ukvocation.org](http://www.ukvocation.org) or [www.ukpriest.org](http://www.ukpriest.org).

**VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (20S AND 30S) - DISCERNING GOD'S CALL IN YOUR LIFE**  
**23rd - 25th May, Liverpool.**

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

**For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)**

To register: <https://bit.ly/FCJVocationWeekend>

**MAY PROCESSION: Our Lady & St Luke's – This Sunday 11th May, 3pm:** You are warmly invited to come and honour Our Lady by joining us for our second May procession. A beautiful opportunity to praise and honour her. There will be tea and cake to follow!

**HOLY COMMUNION:** We Congratulate **Kevin, Catherine, Kate, Noah, Jack, Nathaniel, Marcel, Jesse, Zuzanna, Milan, Antoni M, Xavier, Antoni W and Laura**, who will receive Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> at St Patrick's.

**CONFIRMATION:** Candidates are expected to attend Holy Trinity Academy on Thursdays, 5pm-6pm. Adults should attend 7pm Mass on Thursday evenings and stay for preparation after. All candidates will be Confirmed at Shrewsbury Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> June. Please keep them in your prayers.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** Training session on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 10am** at St Patrick's for Ministers who take Holy Communion to the sick. All extraordinary Ministers of the eucharist will be commissioned at Masses over the weekend of **21/22 June**; the feast of Corpus Christi.

**NOTICE OF THANKS FROM ST LUKE'S SCHOOL:**

Our children enjoyed a wonderful celebration of their FHC last Saturday: we'd like to especially thank our Parish Catechist Moira Shrimpton who prepared them so well, Fr Ravi for making the Mass so special and Dianne, Bill & Suzi for leading us in the music.

Governors of St Lukes's school would like to very much thank the parishioners who have offered to serve as Foundation Governors.

**PARISH SUMMER LUNCH SUNDAY 15TH JUNE AT 1.30PM: HADLEY PARK HOTEL.** Cost £25 for 2 courses, including tea and coffee: child meal £15. We're hoping Mass attendees at both churches will want to attend. It's Father's Day - a great way to celebrate! Contact Pauline Hoyle to express an interest: we need a minimum of 80 people. message/call Pauline on 07954 683359 or [pauline.hoyle@outlook.com](mailto:pauline.hoyle@outlook.com)

**REFLECTION DAY AT SHALLOWFORD HOUSE FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE FROM 9.00 AM TILL 3.00PM** Cost £25, lunch included - for more details check latest events at [www.shallowfordhouse.org](http://www.shallowfordhouse.org). or contact Pauline on [paulineheffernan60@gmail.com](mailto:paulineheffernan60@gmail.com) ☎ 07721 785224.

**RACE FOR LIFE:** Gail Day and Nicky Biddulph will taking part in race for life 5k in Shrewsbury on 1st June. Please follow the link to sponsor them if you are able. <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/gails-race-for-life-2480>

**CELEBRATING PENTECOST - INTERNATIONAL BAKE OFF:** Our Lady's and St Patrick's Parish is an amazing international community, with many different countries & cultures represented each week.

To celebrate Pentecost on **Sunday 8th June** we would like to invite those that can, to make/bake & share a traditional cake/sweet treat from your local culture or country. At OLoR, they will go alongside the normal Teas and Coffees served after Sunday Mass with refreshments. At St Patrick's, they will be served after 11am Sunday Mass with refreshments.

Please chat to Tim (OLOR) or Moira (St Patrick's) and let us know what you will be able to bring. If you can let us know by Sunday 1st June, this helps with logistics.