

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Acts 4:8-12

Second: 1 John 3:1-2

Gospel: John 10:11-18

FOCUS: *Respond to the Lord's sacrificial love with gratitude, trust and love.*

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that he suffered and died for us because of the depth of God's love for us, because this is what a Good Shepherd does for those in his care. How should we respond to such love? With gratitude, trust and love; by listening to his voice in our lives and being obedient to his commands. This is not always an easy task, but one with which the Lord is happy to assist us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

In the first reading, Peter testifies that a disabled man has been healed in the name of Jesus Christ, the One through whom salvation comes. In the second reading, John reflects on the Father's love for us, through which he has made us his children. In the Gospel, Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who knows his sheep and freely lays down his life for them.



MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Josephine Mellina, The Dorner Family, Michael Wood and Dolores Townley

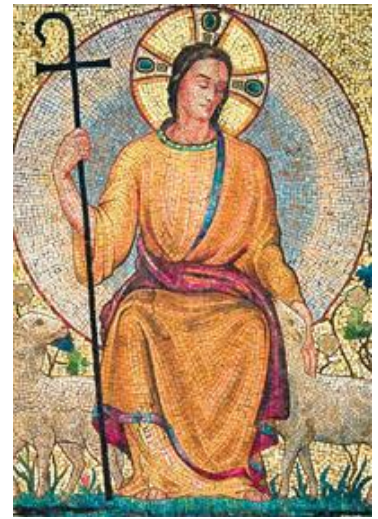
10 a.m.: Ronald Faso, Frances Hernandez, Raymond Thurston and Michael Wood

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The 61st World Day of Prayer is this Sunday, April 21, also Good Shepherd Sunday.

As Pope Francis reminds us in his message, we are all called to sow seeds of hope and build peace.

"Each year, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations invites us to reflect on the precious gift of the Lord's call to each of us, as members of his faithful pilgrim people, to participate in his loving plan and to embody the beauty of the Gospel in different states of life," he writes. "Our life finds fulfilment when we discover who we are, what our gifts are, where we can make them bear fruit, and what path we can follow in order to become signs and instruments of love, generous acceptance, beauty and peace, wherever we find ourselves."



*Father, you call each one of us
by name and ask us to follow you.
Bless your church by raising up dedicated
and generous leaders from our families
and friends who will serve your people
as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons
and Lay Ministers.*

*Inspire us as we grow to know you,
and open our hearts to hear your call.*

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

April 7-14: \$ 6,350.74

Envelopes: \$ 2,401.00 – Online: \$ 3,949.74

Additional Easter: \$ 535.00

THANK YOU!

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. – 89

10 a.m. – 157

CARDINAL'S 2024 APPEAL

Our parish goal is \$50,600, of which \$43,382 has been received/pledged as of April 16 from 106 families; **\$7,218 to go!** If you have not done so already, please prayerfully consider your gift, which can also be made online at www.cardinalsappeal.org. Thank you.

The Rosary Team

By 2019, it had become apparent to Teresa Rodriguez, a hospice nurse in a Colorado memory care facility who was raised praying the rosary nightly with her entire family, that the spiritual needs of her patients were not being met. The Rosary Team evolved to fill that void.

Volunteers with The Rosary Team visit nursing homes – typically two volunteers for each site – to pray the rosary with residents in a group setting. In a world that often marginalizes the elderly, these volunteers offer companionship and spiritual support through their weekly commitment. Residents, who are facing physical limitations and loss, often find a renewed sense of purpose as they fulfill God’s call to pray.

Catholics were not the first to pray with beads. Men and women of many faiths and cultures use beads for this purpose. In fact, the word *bead* in English is actually derived from an Old English word *bede*, which means *prayer*.

And the prayer now of this Denver-based nonprofit is to fill nursing homes nationwide and worldwide with a dedicated Rosary Team.

Could those in Orange County be among them?

Moved by an article she read, Joan Miller reached out to the folks in Denver for guidance and materials.

“This is low key and prayerful,” she says of proposed local visits to pray the rosary “slowly and loudly” (as advised) with whomever is interested. A gradual growth of this team is envisioned.

If you’re interested in learning more, contact Joan at joan.miller@msmc.edu or (845) 457-9171.

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD ...

Spending 18,250 days with one person rarely just “happens.” Instead, it’s the shining expression of a lifelong commitment to vows pledged.

This year, the Archdiocese of New York’s **Golden Jubilee Wedding Mass** will take place at 2:30 p.m. **Sunday, June 2**, at St. Patrick’s Cathedral for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage in 2024. Couples must register through the church office by May 10.

But here at St. Paul’s, we think that spending 9,125 days with the same person is also worthy of celebration. Our Masses the weekend of **May 25** and **26** will honor those marking their 25th anniversaries as well as couples celebrating 50 years together. Let the office know if you’ve reached either milestone.



FURNACE/PROPERTY UPDATE

After you learned that one of our three furnaces had to be replaced and another was in need of repair, an amazing **\$38,160** was contributed by you, our parishioners, to be used toward these expenses!

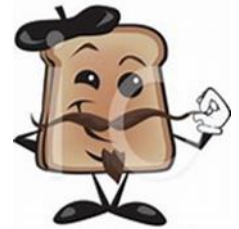
The new furnace, which also controls the air conditioning in Deacon John Hall, has been installed (**\$33,200**). The furnace that heats the church got a new motor and switch (**\$2,390**). The small furnace that heats the classrooms and office was “complaining” this week. It’s quieted down – but who knows for how long? We’ll have to keep an eye on that. There is **\$2,569.58** from your donations for future repairs/maintenance.

And now our attention is focused outside.

The church property will be closed from the **afternoon of Sunday, June 9, through the morning of Saturday, June 15**, so that first, the parking lot’s numerous cracks can be filled. Then the lot will be seal coated. After that dries completely, it will be re-striped. The total cost is **\$23,671.04** – so we want to ensure more-than-ample time for all the materials to fully cure before vehicular traffic is permitted. Fingers crossed the weather cooperates – although a rain day is built into this schedule!

FRENCH TOAST BREAKFAST

There will be a **French Toast Breakfast** after the 10 o’clock Mass on **Sunday, April 28**. Eggs, hash browns and sausage will round out the buffet. Tickets are available after the Masses or through the office and are \$10 or \$20 for an immediate family.



2024 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Monsignor James S. Conlan Knights of Columbus is offering a \$500 scholarship for a graduating senior who lives in the Pine Bush School District. Applicants need to submit an essay addressing the following:

“Who is your favorite Catholic Saint? How does this saint’s life and work help you to understand what it means to be a faithful servant of Jesus Christ?”

The **typewritten** essay should be between 250 and 300 words. One winner will be chosen.

Applicants must:

- Reside in the Pine Bush School District (includes those enrolled in other schools).
- Be a graduating senior who will be either attending a college in the fall, a trade school or entering the military.
- Be a practicing Catholic.

4. Essays must be received by May 22 and can be emailed (preferred method) as an attachment to kofc5329@hvc.rr.com. Alternatively, they can be sent to: Knights of Columbus 5329, P.O. Box 166, Thompson Ridge, NY 10985. Don’t forget to include your name and contact information.

