



# April 30, 2023

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

### Upcoming Dates

May 3	St. Elizabeth Guild meeting 1pm
May 17	Finance Committee meeting 4pm
May 20-21	Annual Lake County Passion Play
May 28	St. Colman Guild meeting 12pm

### Readings

Acts 2: 14a. 36-41  
 Ps 23: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6 (1)  
 1 Pt 2: 20b-25  
 Jn 10: 1-10

### Parish Donations

You can donate online by scanning the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin or by visiting [stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give](http://stelizabeth.churchtrac.com/give)

Collection Period	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection
April 22-23	\$731.00	\$494.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>		\$1,225.00

### Announcements

#### Temporary Church Office Phone Number

Until our church office at the rectory is restored, the temporary office phone number is (707) 486-8645.

#### Saint Colman Cookbook

St Coleman's is putting out a call to friends and neighbors for their favorite recipes! Pick out your best, (max 5) and submit them to [stcolmancookbook@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmancookbook@gmail.com). We're putting together a new and revised book and welcome all your submissions. Deadline is May 31st!

#### See's Easter Candy Sale Update

Thank you to all who purchased candy for our Easter fundraiser. Our fundraiser raised slightly over \$1,000.00 and met our aspirational goal! Many thanks to Mary Helt, Jeannine Rossi, Barbara Seymour, Michele Perussina and Linda Payne who helped sell and promote the fundraiser at our Masses and within the community.

### Monthly Collection Report

The Parish Council has decided to publish the collections on a monthly basis beginning January of 2023. This collection report will show both the collections at Mass but also our online collections. It also shows the estimated expenses that are required to operate our Parish and Mission Churches. We hope to update this on or after the 15th of the following month.

### Lake County Annual Outdoor Passion Play

Saturday and Sunday May 20th and 21st from 4 to 6 pm in beautiful Lake County! Admission is Free! If you want to feel the power of our Lord, come and experience the Passion Play! New cast members are always welcome!

Website: [www.lakecountypassionplay.org](http://www.lakecountypassionplay.org)

Phone: (707) 263-0349

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PassionPlayLakeCo/](https://www.facebook.com/PassionPlayLakeCo/)

To help: [www.lakecountypassionplay.org/icanhelp](http://www.lakecountypassionplay.org/icanhelp)

### Spirituality Of The Readings

*Courtesy of John Foley, SJ, Saint Louis University*

#### The Voice of the Shepherd

A shepherd once told me that sheep are completely helpless if they are unsheared, especially if they get turned on their back. Maybe you and I remember our childhood when we turned various insects on their back to watch them struggle and never achieve their proper legside down position—without help.

Another thing about sheep is their loyalty. It does shade into stupidity, the way they follow the shepherd without question. But there is something deeply symbolic of love if the shepherd is kind and careful with them.

History tells us that all the sheep were kept together in a big sheepfold where the various shepherds had brought their small herds down to Jerusalem. Without brands, without markings of any kind, how, you might ask, does each shepherd get back the sheep that belong to him or to his boss?

Well, first, the shepherd calls each of his flock by name. He has been with them on the hillsides so that he knows just who each sheep is. The one with the nick in its ear, the one

with the pretty face, the one that limps. There is a name for each one because they are not just a herd; each has a personality that is special, just like human beings.

And second, the sheep each recognize not only the name he calls them by, but the actual voice of the shepherd. It is a much loved sound to them. The one who flipped them back on their feet when he found them upside down. The one who protected them from wolves. The one who took them to fresh pastures when they had eaten the fields down to nubs. A stranger's voice could not have the gentle resonance of their own master and friend.

Alright, so why does Jesus use sheep imagery on the upcoming fourth Sunday of Easter? I suppose it is obvious but, if you will pardon the comparison, you and I are a lot like sheep. The shepherd calls us each by name—the utter God of the universe does this (of the galaxy, infinity, etc.). God is great enough that in Jesus he knows each and every one of us better than we know ourselves. The name he uses for each of us reaches way down into the full potential of our souls, calling us to be most truly who we are in ourself and in the Lord. An intimate recognition within each of us responds.

And, like the sheep, each of us knows by heart the sound of God's voice. Alright, we may misunderstand it, ignore it, resist it, slam all our gateways shut to it, but in our moments of sane and solitary wholeness our spirits know the sound of that voice. It resonates within us.

Whichever ones of us are free hearken and follow. The call is safe, in spite of wolves and wildness all around. The call lets our fear drop away, turns us right side up so that we can go follow our master and friend over rocks and even through dark valleys.

Often people insult the human race by calling it a bunch of sheep. But this Sunday it is the greatest compliment we could get.

### Discussion Questions

*Courtesy of Anne Osdieck, Saint Louis University*

#### First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

1. Those listening to Peter's sermon were "cut to the heart." Does anything affect you this way? They asked, "brothers, what should we do?" How do you think you would have responded to Peter's sermon?

2. Do you know what the word conversion means? Is it a once-in-a-lifetime experience or is it on-going? Explain. Who needs conversion? Name the things that conversion involves besides a change of behavior.

### Confessions

Fr Luis is available to hear Confessions after 9 am Mass on Fridays and before weekend Masses. Please call the rectory to confirm with him, so that he knows to stay late on Friday or arrive early on the weekend. Alternatively, a more convenient time can be scheduled with him by calling the rectory at (707)-869-2107 (707) 486-8645 (temporary office phone number).

### Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-45

1. Christ's innocence and lack of vengeance show us what God's love is like. Where do you find strength to endure your own suffering? How can suffering be an occasion of grace? Was the pandemic an occasion of some graces for you?

2. In this reading Peter says the following about Jesus: "When he was insulted, he returned no insult." Is he referring to the suffering inflicted on a person who does good? Can you give other examples in which this has been the case. Have you had this experience?

### Gospel: John 10:1-10

1. When flocks were mingled together, each flock would recognize the sound of their own shepherd's voice and come to him, ignoring other shepherds' voices. Can you tell which "voice" in your life belongs to the Good Shepherd? Which of the following is your favorite comparison of Christ to the Good Shepherd. Then explain.

- calling by name
- recognition of voice
- following Christ
- not following strangers
- shepherd as gate

2. The Good Shepherd "calls his own sheep by name, ... he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him." According to Pope Francis what is it about the relationship between shepherd and sheep that makes them follow? And where does Christ, the Shepherd, lead his followers?

*He knows his sheep. But this does not only mean that he knows many things about us. To know in the biblical sense also means to love. It means that the Lord, "while he reads our inner beings," loves us. ... Jesus seeks a warm friendship, trust, intimacy. He wants to give us a new and marvelous awareness—that of knowing we are always loved by him and, therefore, that we are never left alone by ourselves.*

*[He knows his sheep.] ... They listen, they feel they are known to the Lord and they follow the Lord who is their shepherd. ... They go where he goes, along the same path, in the same direction. They go to seek those who are lost (cf. Lk 15:4), they take an interest in those who are far away, take to heart the situation of those who suffer; know how to weep with those who weep, they reach out their hands to their neighbors, carrying them on their shoulders.*

*Pope Francis, Fourth Sun of Easter  
 Angelus May 8, 2022*

For questions about future parish events, please contact Linda Payne at: (707) 953-9166 or [cocomokidd@aol.com](mailto:cocomokidd@aol.com)

St. Elizabeth Guild Meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 1 pm	St. Hubert Hall
Finance Committee Meeting	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday*, 4 pm	St. Hubert Hall
St. Colman Guild Meeting	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday, 12 pm	St. Colman

\* of February, May, August and November

