Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday Bulletin for 21st April 2024



OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS PARISH

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ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PARISH Main St. Highway 99, Mount Currie, BC **ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH**

1360 Pemberton Farm Road West, Pemberton, BC V0N 2L0 Pastor: Fr. Andrew L'Heureux Cell: 1-778-257-4203

Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday

• Acts 4:7-12 • Psalm 118 • 1 John 3:1-2 • John 10:11-18 •

This familiar passage about the good shepherd calls to mind soothing images from children's books that portray Jesus as a gentle shepherd carrying a lamb on his shoulders. But Jesus paints a much more powerful picture. His good shepherd is a protector; he watches over and guards his sheep. He doesn't sit by passively when predators approach; he acts swiftly to keep his flock safe. He doesn't flee or abandon them; he stands his ground and defends them. He even "lays down his life for the sheep" *John 10:11-12*.

We know, of course, that Jesus is talking about himself. He is a shepherd unlike the "shepherds" of Israel. In the previous chapter of John's Gospel, the Jewish leaders responded to Jesus' miraculous healing by casting out the formerly blind man from the synagogue *John 9:34*. Jesus offered healing and revelation to God's people, yet these shepherds both rejected him themselves and prevented their "sheep" from receiving the abundant life that Jesus came to give them *10:10*. In contrast, Jesus sought out the healed man, comforted him, and led him to faith *9:35-38*. This is what a good shepherd does.

Jesus is not just "the" good shepherd; he is **your** good shepherd! Unlike a hired hand who works only for pay, Jesus is moved by a deep love for you. His love is so fierce that he freely, gladly offered his life on the cross for his sheep. For us. For you.

Today, rejoice that your good shepherd is guarding and protecting you. He is leading you securely along the perilous paths of life. He is defending you against the wolves and thieves that seek to "steal and slaughter and destroy" you *John 10:10*. He is giving you new life that he won by laying down his life and taking it up again in his resurrection *10:18*. He will never forsake you. *the Word among us, April 2024*

"Thank you, Jesus, for being my strong good shepherd!"

"Although Mary knew that God had raised her to the most supreme of all honours- that of being the Mother of God-nevertheless she regarded herself as the least of all creatures." St. John Vianney

Our Lady of the Mountains welcomes Fr. John Riccardo, 5th May, 6:30pm Embracing the Future - Our Parish Mission in the New Church

Fr John Riccardo is an experienced and gifted speaker with 25 years in parish ministry. He has proclaimed and revitalized the gospel message to Catholic parishes all over North America. He founded **Acts XXIX** to spread the gospel in an attractive and compelling way and to equip clergy and lay leaders for the age in which God has chosen us to live. See flyer attached.



Register for this event here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeUi547IZP4Iekp_IBM7FuvWzeXH8_Evy9PBdQ2ycbOx-7qgA/viewform

Mass Times

Sunday Mass			
Our Lady of the Mountains	Saturday	5:00 pm	Rosary at 4:30 pm
Our Lady of the Mountains	Sunday	9:00 am	Rosary at 8:30 am
St. Christopher's Mt. Currie	Sunday	11:30 am	
St. Francis of Assisi, Pemberton	Sunday	1:00 pm	
Daily Mass			
Our Lady of the Mountains	Monday to Friday 6:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am		
St. Francis of Assisi, Pemberton	Wednesday and Friday at 11:00 am		
Our Lady of the Mountains			
Rosary before Mass on Saturdays and Sundays: for those who have left the Church			
Bible Study	Tuesdays	5:00-6:00 pm	– all welcome
Holy Hour & Confessions	Fridays	6:30-7:30 pm	– all welcome



Sacrament of Reconciliation – Contact Fr. Andrew L'Heureux Cell: 778-257-4203

Youth Holy Family Camino

Register your child (aged 12-19) for the Youth Holy Family Camino from Brandywine Falls to Our Lady of the Mountains on the weekend of **10th - 12th May**.

Spaces are filling up and Fr. Andrew requires the assistance of parents to make this Holy Family Camino a success for our children.

During the pilgrimage there will be a series of talks on prayer, and how to make prayer more effective and transformative.

Please complete the attached registration and waiver forms and return them to the parish office.

Prayerful wishes

To Msgr. Jerry Desmond who celebrates his 58th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination on 28th April! " "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek" *Hebrews 8:1*

World Day of Prayer for Vocations Second collection for the Diocese



Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter or Good Shepherd Sunday, is a special day for everyone in our parish. We celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We ask that we may be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit as we carry on the mission of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Let us pray for one another that we may be strengthened in our Christian vocations as married and single people, priests, deacons, and religious people. May our youth listen to God's call and be encouraged to respond generously.

Good Shepherd Sunday

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. Hearing the Shepherd's voice, followers recognize and know it is their God. Safe in the knowledge that they cannot be taken from the hand of the Shepherd, those who hear his voice follow as faithful believers willing to go where God calls and sends them. When all the clamor of false voices and seductive distractions threaten to overwhelm, we have only to listen carefully to be led to the work of the Father. Once again, we are reminded how loved we are as we hear the echoing words of the psalm: "Know that the Lord is God: he makes us, his we are; his people, the flock he tends"



Office Hours

Monday to Thursday 9:30am-3:00pm In important or urgent matters, call: Fr. Andrew, cell: 1-778-257-4203



Donations / New Church Pledge Form

Pledge Forms in support of building the new church are available via this QR code and on our website at <u>https://whistlercatholicchurch.ca/</u>

Note: Any articles for inclusion in the bulletin must be received in the parish office by 2:00pm Tuesday.