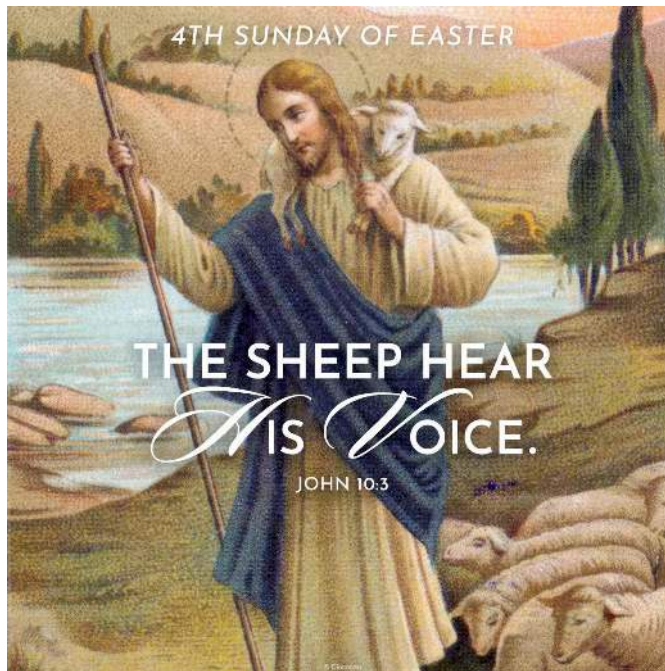


This Fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the



gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each

shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders



## Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Robstown, Texas and Saint Patrick Mission, San Patricio, Texas



DIOCESE OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS • 16602 FM 624 • Robstown, Texas 78380

Phone: 361-387-1312 or 361-387-7842 • Fax: 361-387-9311

Website: [www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com) • Email: [stthomastheapostle@christon624.com](mailto:stthomastheapostle@christon624.com)

Parish Office Hours: Mon./Wed./Fri. 8:00-11:00 a.m.; Tues./Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Pastor:** Rev. Philip J. Panackal  
Secretary: Ann Clarke  
Bookkeeper/DRE: Michele Hoelscher  
Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290

**Deacon:** Bill Cleavelin (361-208-2146)  
EDGE: Pauline Pechacek  
LIFETEEN: Rachel Unterbrink  
Knights of Columbus Council #9318

**Sacristan:** Jerry Knesek  
Music Director: Vic Benys  
Housekeeper: Yolanda Tobòn

**Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Patrick:** 4:00 PM

**Saturday Vigil Mass @ St. Thomas:** 5:30 PM

**Holy Day Vigil @ St. Thomas:** 6:30 PM

**Weekday Masses @ St. Thomas:** 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

**CONFESSIONS @ St. Thomas:** 30 Minutes before Masses or by Appointment

**Sunday Masses @ St. Thomas:** 8:30 AM & 11 AM

**Holy Day Mass @ St. Thomas:** 12:00 PM Noon

**Divine Mercy:** Fri. 11:45 AM

**Holy Rosary:** Thurs. 11:40 AM

**CONFESSIONS @ St. Patrick Mission:** 3:30 PM

*Jesus said, "I am the gate,  
whoever enters through me will be  
saved."*

*John 10: 9*

**Masses and Intentions for the Week**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026**

4:00 PM: **Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**  
†Patrick Nemeč by Bob & Joan Black  
5:30 PM: **Collective Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**  
Kaylee Olivarez by Confirmation Prayer Sponsor  
Casey Gwynn by Confirmation Prayer Sponsor  
†JoAnn Dominguez by the Robert Dominguez Family  
†Robert Whitley by Raymond & Melissa Polasek

**SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*  
11:00 AM: †Proxey Prukop (AOB) by Karen Vaughan

**MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026**

12:00 PM: *No Mass*

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas**

12:00 PM: †Clement Vo by John & Chi Bowman

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas**

12:00 PM: Amy Hewlett (Birthday) by Pat Landreth

**THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas**

12:00 PM: †Herb Welch by Owen & Kim Gallagher

**FIRST FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas**

12:00 PM: †All Souls in Purgatory by Jerry Knesek

**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026**

4:00 PM: **Holy Mass @ St. Patrick Mission**  
†Kay Havelka by C.B. & Kathleen Trial  
5:30 PM: **Collective Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**  
†David Tajchman, Sr. (AOB) by Susie Tajchman

**SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026 - Holy Mass @ St. Thomas the Apostle**

8:30 AM: *Parishioners*  
11:00 AM: **Collective Holy Mass**  
Stephanie Pagano (Birthday) by Pat Landreth  
Suzanne Yeats (Birthday) by Pat Landreth  
Henzlee Landreth (Birthday) by Pat Landreth  
†Zaragosa Salinas (AOB) by David & Delma Tamez

*Please Pray for ...*

**All the homebound, all the sick and suffering of our parish, and especially pray for all those who have asked us for prayers.**



Cathy Sikes, T. J. Williams, Larry Bryant, Frances Hicks, Eileen Champine, Dalia Gutierrez, Annette Freeman, Fred Nemeč, Harold Prejean, Mary Elva Estrada, Dee Molina, John Bowman, Wallace and Judi Prukop, Jeanette Respondek, Shannon Clubb, Courtney Dodd, Ruthie Weathersby, Marty Douglas, Simon Bucknall, Charlie & Jean Chapman, Beckie Ranly, Yolanda Peña, Cindy Cleavelin, Todd Crawford, Tyler Skidmore, Tommy Lopez, Dawn Sherek, Brady Scarborough, Richard Osburg, Bill Wilson, and the Kimmel Family.

*Please call/email the parish office to include a person on the 2026 PRAYER LIST.*

**LECTORS for MAY 2-3, 2026**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Annette Freeman  
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Frances Nelson  
Sunday, 11:00 AM: David Gonzalez



**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - MAY 2-3, 2026**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Tony Arredondo, Louis Deases  
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Deacon Bill, Aaron Hoelscher, Tony Nelson  
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Javier Flores, Gianna Flores, Kera Steward

**ALTAR SERVERS for MAY 2-3, 2026**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: Able Flurry, Abraum Flurry  
Sunday, 8:30 AM: Casey Gwynn, Sarita Nelson, Charleigh Nelson  
Sunday, 11:00 AM: Carlos Camacho, Liam Sanchez, Eliana Garza

**USHERS for MAY 2-3, 2026**

Saturday, 5:30 PM: D. Kurtz, W. Riebschleager, E. Flurry, J. Freeman  
Sunday, 8:30 AM: B. Gwynn, M. Rektorik, M. Reilly, R. Mendiola  
Sunday, 11:00 AM: D. Bluntzer, D. Dusek, P. Pilarczyk, J.R. Sanchez

**Our deepest condolences to the Kimmel Family**

*on the death of*

†**Mrs. Jeannie Blue**

Mother of Terri (Matt) Kimmel

*Please keep the family in your prayers.*

*May her soul rest in peace.*

*Pastor and Parishioners*

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Tuesday:** St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr,  
St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest;  
**Wednesday:** St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church;  
**Thursday:** St. Pius V, Pope;  
**First Friday:** St. Joseph the Worker;  
**Saturday:** St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.

**INFORMATION CORNER**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

**Altar Flowers:** Contact the parish office to schedule flowers "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one or for a special occasion.

**Baptism:** Contact the parish office to register for the Sacrament of Baptism. All paperwork must be completed before attending class or scheduling Baptism. See website for more information.

**Bulletin:** Bulletin announcements are due on Monday by 1:00 PM.

**Confession:** Religious Education Student will have confessions on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 PM.

**Religious Ed:** For registration and questions contact the parish office or the DRE Michele Hoelscher at 361-244-2138.

**Scripture Study:** Sunday's after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the KC Bldg.

**Catholic Daughters of America Court #2290:** Contact Cynthia Garcia, Regent at 361-537-4470.

**Knights of Columbus Council #9318:** Contact Tony Arredondo, Grand Knight at Tonyent62@gmail.com or 361-947-8036.

**LITURGY OF THE DAY**

Reflection on the Gospel Reading (John 10:1-10)  
*(continued from page 1)*

follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.

**FAMILY CONNECTION**

Even though we have less experience with sheep and shepherds today in our society, we can still identify strongly with the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and as the gate for the sheep. Psalm 23 remains a popular and favorite psalm for prayer. In the image of the Good Shepherd, we know ourselves to be protected and cared for by a loving God.

As your family gathers, ask what each person knows about sheep and shepherds. Recall that shepherds and sheep have a close relationship. Sheep will only follow their own shepherd; they recognize his voice and will not follow a stranger. The shepherd's job is to protect his sheep. In some ways, the relationship between the shepherd and his sheep is like that of a parent and child. Read together this Sunday's Gospel, John 10:1-10. Talk about how Jesus tells us that he is the gate for the sheep. The sheep enter the protection of the sheepfold through the gate. In Jesus we find protection and abundant life. Conclude by thanking Jesus for being our Good Shepherd and by praying today's psalm, Psalm 23.

*Courtesy of Loyola Press from the Pastor's desk*

**"The Lord is my shepherd  
there is nothing I shall want."  
Psalm 23**

**Holy Mass Readings for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 23:1-6;  
1 Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

4/18-19/2026 Regular Collection: \$5,166.10  
4/18-19/2026 Online Giving: 2,376.00  
**TOTAL \$7,542.10**

4/18-19/2026 Graduates Collection: \$2,083.00

**ST. PATRICK MISSION**

4/18/2026 Regular Collection: \$928.39

Counters: R. Unterbrink and A. Freeman



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click on icon  
to give online

**SCZPFFO**

**SPECIAL OFFERING – APRIL 26, 2026**

**The Catholic Home Missions Appeal**

*Diocese of Corpus Christi*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND DIPLOMAS**

There will be a special offering to support the Senior Religious Education Program for Scholarships and Diplomas the weekends of **April 25-26, May 2-3, and May 9-10**. Your support is truly appreciated.



*Pastor*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

**May Crowning**

Sunday, May 10, 2026 at 11:00 AM

**Confirmation**

Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 6:30 PM

**First Confession**

Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM

**Senior Mass**

May 17, 2026 at 8:30 AM

**First Holy Communion**

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 11:00 AM



**LOST AND FOUND**

A set of keys and key fob were found in the church last weekend. If you have lost your keys, call the parish office at 361-387-1312.

*Parish Office*

**Parish Website: [www.christon624.com](http://www.christon624.com)**

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE  
JCDA #2290

**Tea Party**

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN  
AFTERNOON OF FELLOWSHIP,  
FAITH, AND TEA AS WE  
GATHER TO CELEBRATE THE  
LOVE, AND GRACE OF OUR  
BLESSED MOTHER MARY

APRIL 26TH 2026 | 1:00PM - 3:00PM

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE  
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Fun, Fellowship, & Prayer  
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RSVP: MARLENA BOATRIGHT  
361-947-9167



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