



April 22, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Easter

# St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church



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St. Anthony of Padua Catholic

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday

8:45am-2:45pm

## Pastoral Staff

**Fr. Fredy Angel**

Pastor

**Deacon Ray Brown**

## Mass Schedule Sunday

English 10:00am

Spanish 12:30am

Classes 11:15am

Mon-Wed Service 12 PM

## First Communions

May 6, 2018

## Confirmations

May 27, 2018

## Adoration

May 5, 2018 from 5pm to  
midnight.

## Rosary Ministry

Our Rosary makers meet  
every 3rd Thursday of the  
month at 11:30am. For more  
information please contact

Kathy Giddens at  
(229)482-2364

## Knight of Columbus

Round table meeting 2nd  
Tuesday of the month at 7pm.  
Next: May 8, 2018

## SAVED BY THE ONE WHO WAS REJECTED

Some city teenagers often scorn and reject farm kids. Yet it's no exaggeration to say that humanity owes its life to farmers who care for the world's crops and livestock. This week's scriptures remind us that Jesus was as rejected as a shepherd, a farm boy, yet we owe our very lives to him. In this Sunday's reading from the Acts of the Apostles Peter tells the people that salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the one who was rejected. In John's letter we hear



that we have become God's beloved children through Jesus, whom the world did not know. Lastly, in the Gospel Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who "lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). Will you join Jesus in laying down your life for God's beloved flock? -Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## LAY DOWN MY LIFE

In the Old Testament, God is described many times as the shepherd of the people of Israel. So, when Jesus claims this image of God to describe himself, it is startling even to his disciples. In today's Gospel, he takes the image one step beyond the Old Testament: as the Good Shepherd, he is to "lay down his life." This phrase is stated, with slight variation, five times in today's short passage. Jesus is describing the meaning of his life and of his death. With firm roots in the story of Israel and their God, Jesus is now starting a new chapter. He is helping his disciples make sense of his death on the cross, and to describe how to follow this shepherd. When Jesus lays down his life, he is revealing the infinite love that he and the Father have for the flock. To follow Jesus, to be a part of Jesus' flock, means participating in that same sacrificial love.



## ONE FLOCK

Jesus adds another feature to the shepherd imagery, which was also disturbing to his disciples. He refers to "other sheep which do not belong to this fold," who will become part of the same flock. This likely refers to the Gentiles, to all peoples beyond Israel. The Shepherd extends his flock but emphasizes that there is still only one flock. Jesus spoke forcefully and frequently, especially in the Gospel of John, of the importance of unity among those who follow him. We who follow Jesus are expected to embrace the "other sheep," to



respect and celebrate differences among Christians. We are expected to learn from one another. All those things that seem to divide Jesus's followers in culture, ethnicity, or history of conflict fade in comparison with the deeper unity of the one flock under one Shepherd. Living in unity is essential for us to be faithful and credible witnesses of Christ to the world.

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS**

Most languages take the name for this fifty-day season from the Lord's Passover: Pasqua in Italian, Pâques in French, Paach in Dutch, Pascha in Greek and Russian. English has a much newer name, the name of a pagan goddess, Eoster. For centuries before Christianity took hold, in both Germany and Britain the spring equinox was dedicated to her and the concepts of fertility and rebirth. She was said to be a playful spirit, following the Sun King's chariot, and ending the reign of winter. She had a magical companion, a rabbit who hid eggs in the fields to coax plants and animals to rebirth. It was believed that Eoster once came across a bird with broken wings and saved it by turning it into a rabbit--an egg-laying rabbit at that! Although they were baptized, most people didn't take to the new Latin name (Pascha Domini) too easily and kept calling the spring equinox by the old accustomed name. For good measure, they kept a pagan name for Christmas, too: Yule. -Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



**Sacraments**  
**First Communions**  
 May 6, 2018  
 10 Am or 11:30 AM



**Confirmations**  
 May 27, 2018  
 11 AM Bilingual

**Food Sale**  
**Our Food Sale was very successful**  
**regards of the bad weather we had.**  
**Our parish was able to raise \$1200.00**  
**for our building fund.**



**St. Anthony of Padua Prayer Garden**  
 Support us by ordering a memorial brick for our prayer garden. The cost is \$100 we do offer *payment plan*. To order a brick or if you have any question about our engraved bricks, please feel free to contact the Parish Office.



**Adult Faith Formation Classes**  
 We will be meeting in the Church Conference Room at 11:30am on Sundays. It is open to any adults interested in learning about the Church and our Catholic Faith. For further information, contact our office or Mrs. Lukens at: 229-794-9140.



<i>Blessed</i>		<b>April 15, 2018 Collections</b>
<b>Regular Collection</b>		<b>\$1188.35</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>		<b>\$1554.00</b>
<b>Bishop Annual Appeal</b>		<b>\$330.00</b>

**Let us pray for the health of:**  
 Fr. Marvin LeFrois, Nathan,  
 Reyna Soto, Olivia Ursrey,  
 Eva De Angel,  
 Andrew & Mary Carrell Morrison.  
**For the Eternal rest of:**  
 All Souls

