

Fourth Sunday of Easter

OPENING SONG

Shepher me, o God #461

SCRIPTURE READINGS begin on page 143

APOSTLES' CREED page 10

MASS PARTS Mass of Creation #884-888

CLOSING SONG

Ak baa baseesh kook

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

9:30 AM Saint Dennis
10:30 AM Saint Charles Borromeo
12:00 AM Our Lady of Loretto
4:00 PM Saint Francis Xavier

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

6:00 PM Saint Dennis

FRIDAY

6:00 PM Our Lady of Loretto

CONFESSIONS

Before mass and on request.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

TUESDAYS

6:00 PM Sewing Group
Meeting Room in Small Hall
(St. Dennis)

6:00 PM Women's Group in Classroom
(Our Lady of Loretto)

WEDNESDAYS

6:45 PM Cash Bingo
Main Hall (St. Dennis)

76 Highway 1
P.O. Box 57
Crow Agency, MT 59022

Parish Phone: (406) 620-7500
Youth Ministry: (406) 953-8931

crowcatholicparishes.com
facebook.com/crowcatholicparishes

Bro. Mike Dorn OFM Cap.
Administrator/Pastor

Bro. Thomas Skowron OFM Cap.
Assoc. Pastor

Bro. Jerry Cornish OFM Cap.
Youth Ministry

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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 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 en-

ter 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.



INFANT/CHILD BAPTISMS (UNDER 7)

In preparation for your child's baptism, parents and godparents are required to attend a class which is usually offered on the first Saturday of the month. The next class is on Saturday, May 6th from 10:30-11:30am at St. Dennis. The date & location of the baptism will be determined by the parent/guardian(s) and the priest who will be celebrating the sacrament.

BINGO CONCESSIONS

We are still in need of volunteers to sign-up for Concessions (sheet in foyer or speak with one of the priests). The church supplies the basics of drinks, popcorn and nachos & cheese.

Volunteers are asked to donate their time and the food they bring as a main dish. All proceeds go to Crow Catholic Parishes. Thank you to everyone who volunteered this year so far!

PARISH HALL OR GYM USAGE

As we approach the graduation season later this spring, there's often a high demand for the use of our facilities. We are prioritizing requests from our parishioners over non-members. As a parish member, If you anticipate the need to reserve one of our locations for your family's event, please let us know as soon as possible or at least two weeks prior to the event.

2023 NATIONAL WEEK OF ACTION FOR MMIW

The National Partners Work Group on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) and the MMIW Family Advisors are organizing a National Week of Action (May 1st - May 7th, 2023) to call the nation and the world to action in honor of missing and murdered In-

igenous women/persons. Take action by participating in virtual events, exploring our list of resources, and organizing additional actions in your communities on and around May 5th. Join us in saying enough is enough. No more stolen sisters. Go to niwrc.org for the schedule and registration.

CLOSING SONG

Larry Plain Bull, 1979 Crow Indian melody
by Larry Plain Bull, 1979



HE - HE-LE Ak baa ba-sséesh koók. HE - HE-LE
He is the Alpha.



Ak baa háa - keesh koók. HE - HE-LE
He is the Omega.



Hear Larry PB 1986



Ak bi -lé dúu -ppee -le - hcheesh koók HE - HE -LE.
He is the one who parted the waters.



Ak-baa - tat - dí - ash koók. HE - HE-LE
He is God.



Ko kuss chi - wa - káa - lah. WE - HE-LE
Worship him.



Baa "A- hoooh." haa - lah. WE - HE -LE
Thank him for everything.



Ii baa "A- hoooh." haa - lah WE - HE-LE.
Thank him for everything.