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Jesus was in the Temple, in the presence of the Pharisees, when he declared he was the *Good Shepherd*. The Pharisees knew the Scriptures and understood the significance of Christ's words and the reference to them as unworthy shepherds [Book of Ezekiel]. They were the shepherds who "used" their sheep instead of "serving" them. These unworthy shepherds only thought of their prestige and power. These same shepherds would enforce the law but considered themselves exempt. Christ said: *They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them* (Matthew 23:4).

In Christ's eyes, being a good shepherd required a profound relationship between the shepherd and those in his charge. The shepherd must be close to his sheep, love them, and know them intimately. This is what Pope Frances asked priests throughout the world to do when he said to them: *Be shepherds who have the odor of their flock*. (Sermon Christmas Mass 2013) In other words, it is striking to see that Jesus' first "pastoral act" was not to perform miracles or preach. It was to "be with" his flock: to "be with" the rich and poor, with sinners and the just, with the uneducated and the educated. The temptation of pastors – deacons, priests or bishops – will always be to isolate themselves far from their sheep whether in a presbytery, bishopric, or even behind a desk. *Being with* involves risks. We would not necessarily be in control and could face our own limitations. Yet at the same time, it is the most challenging of risks. It is the greatest risk of our lives and our community as we forge relationships that are true and profound.

Georges Madore, s,m,m
Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



St. Lucy Parish

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Sunday April 22, 2018 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Christ said: *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."* At first, Jesus' comment seems somewhat exaggerated. Who would give up his life for his sheep? This statement is clarified when we refer to the Old Testament. In fact, the image of the shepherd is often used in reference to a king or leader of the Jewish people. God chose them to take care of, guide and nourish his people. When we listen to Jesus' words that denounced the merchants who were only concerned about their own interests and not of their lambs, Christ's listeners could read between the lines. In fact, Jesus was inspired by Ezekiel's words that sharply denounced unworthy shepherds. Here is a text from Chapter 34 of the Book of Ezekiel:

Thus says the Lord God: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals. Thus says the Lord God, I am against the shepherds and I will demand my sheep at their hand. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. (Ezekiel 34: 1, 4-5, 10-11, 15).

The Week at a Glance

Sat Apr 21 7:30pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Pauline Moyen**
 Sun Apr 22 9:00 am Mass in Arborfield **For the people**
 11:00am Mass in Carrot River **For Francis & Beatrice Baskey**
 Mon Apr 23 *Fr Travis' day off*
 Tues Apr 24 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For Actions de graces**
 Wed Apr 25 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Yvonne Smelt**
 Thurs Apr 26 no mass
 Fri Apr 27 10:00am Mass Arborfield Care Home
 7:00pm Adoration in Zenon Park
 8:00pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Matthew Munson**
 Sat Apr 28 7:30pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Gilles Favreau**
 Sun Apr 29 9:00 am Mass in Arborfield **For †Jack Lalonde**
 11:00am Mass in Carrot River **For the people**

Mass Times for March/April

Sat 7:30pm – Zenon Park
Sun 9:00am – Arborfield
 Sun 11:00am – Carrot River

Mass Times for May/June

Sat 7:30pm – Arborfield
 Sun 9:00am – Carrot River
 Sun 11:00am – Zenon Park

Announcements and Activities

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>April 22</u>	<u>April 29</u>
Commentator	Joann	Marie
Reader	Mark	Lisa
Cup	Beatrice, James	Neil, James
Hospitality	Brian, Pam	Bronners
Offerings	Gabe, Mary	Brian, Pam
Sacristan	Joann	Pam

Cleaning Schedule

Apr 23-29, 2018	Dale, Rita, Stacy Mutimer
Apr 30-May 6, 2018	Grant & Beatrice Thesen

Last week's collection total: **\$ 599.00**
 Special collection - Vocations **\$ 20.00 Thank You**

Please note: The annual meeting for St. Lucy's will be held after mass on April 22nd. There will also be coffee and muffins served for everyone. Please plan to attend and be a part of your parish community!

St. Lucy Parish is hosting a Youth/Family retreat on Saturday May 5, 2018 from 1:30 to 6:00 pm. Brian Bauche and Dave McQuaid will be in attendance. Supper will be served at 6:00 with mass to follow at 7:30 pm. Please plan to attend!

Our three parishes now have a website!

<https://pasquiacatholic.com/>. Check it out!! St Lucy Parish also has a Facebook page: **StLucyArborfield**