

IV Sunday of Easter

I am

the Good Shepherd

John 10:11

Take me
Home !!



Priest's Tidings

We expect of people in charge of others, especially in tasks of leadership and service, that they are dedicated to those who rely on them: doctors, social workers, priests and ministers. For those who are Christians, the model is no other than Jesus, the Good Shepherd. He had a heart for people and was willing to go as far as laying down his life for them. All those responsible for others should be like him: not functionaries, not people who just do their job, but, whether lay or ordained, pastors, that is, literally, shepherds, shepherds with a heart, totally dedicated even at great cost to themselves. And let us not forget that we are all entrusted with and to one another. May Jesus among us inspire and guide us.



Fr Hugo

H o l y C o m m u n i o n

Entrance Hymn:

593 – At the name of Jesus

Collect:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading:

A reading from of the Apostles Acts (3:13-15,17-19):

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would

indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: (118)

R./ The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone..

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **R./**

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

R./

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord. I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever.. **R/**

Second Reading:

A reading from the first letter of John (3:1-2):

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Hear the The Gospel of our Lord Jesus according to John (10:11-18):

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

'I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd.

'The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'



This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Prayers of Intercession

Blessed are you, Lord our God. We give thanks for all who are called to be shepherds of your people, all who are guides and protectors. We remember bishops and especially our bishop Christopher; we pray for all priests and especially our own pastor. Bless all who teach us the faith and help us to walk in the way of holiness.

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall fear no evil.

We ask you to give courage and strength to all who work in the emergency services. We pray for all ambulance crews and paramedics, for air and sea rescue services and for coastguards. We remember the police and the fire crews. Bless, O Lord, all who work for the relief of poverty and suffering Amon the poor of our world.

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall fear no evil.

We give you thanks for the safety and comfort of our homes. We ask you to protect our loved ones and guide them in the ways of peace. Give wisdom and love to all who work in the social services. Comfort all who are lonely or feel unwanted.

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall fear no evil.

God of love, we remember all who have been involved in accidents this week. We pray for all who have been injured and those who are bereaved. We pray for those who have gone into hospital and all who are ill at home.

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall fear no evil.

Good and gracious God, you have rescue us from the darkness of death and opened for us the way to eternal life. We bring before you all our friends and loved ones who are now with you in your kingdom. Lord, grant them your love and light.

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Offertory Hymn

588 – And can it be that I should gain,

Communion Hymn

358 -Be still for the presence of the Lord,

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.. **Amen.**

Prayer and Meditation

How does Jesus distinguish himself from the shepherds who are not 'good'? How does the good shepherd provide security for his sheep? Who is Jesus thinking of when he speaks of the wolves from whom he will defend his sheep (see also Matthew 15: 16)? How would Jesus ultimately defend his sheep?

Oratio

The clatter of thoughts in our heads can drown out the quiet voice of God. Ask Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit to help you recognise his voice when he speaks to you. Thank him for the opportunity to soak ourselves in his words in the Bible so we can

recognise the way he speaks. Thank him too for being the cornerstone of the church and of our lives as Christians (Psalm 118: 22)

Contemplation

Today's other readings confirm the gospel reading. In his speech before the Jewish religious leaders, Peter insists that salvation only comes through Jesus (Acts 4:8-12). In 1 John 3:1-2 we learn that God's love for us is so great that he made us his children. We are moving towards the return of Jesus. Then we shall see the 'good shepherd' as he really is.

What's New in our Parish!

- **Sunday — Mass at 9:30 am**
- **Support St Matthew's Church:**

On our website (www.stmatt.co.uk) in the donations section, where you can donate by card.

- Make instant donations with our wireless contact less machine.
- Scanning this QR code to continue supporting us.



- **Communion**

We now offer communion in both bread and wine. If you do not feel comfortable drinking from the common cup, please receive in bread only or ask for a blessing. Please do not dip the bread in the wine

- **Next Mission Morning**

Our next Mission Morning is Sunday 12th May, when we welcome the Revd Canon Wendy Robins to talk to us about lay ministry and discipleship

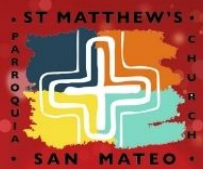
- **Save the Dates:** Future Cultural Celebrations and Meals:
Pentecost Sunday 19th May 12.30pm Bilingual Service -
English Cultural Celebration Sunday 9th June 9.30am - **Summer Picnic** Sunday 14th July after the service - **St Mathew's Day** Sunday 22nd September 12.30pm Bilingual Service.

- **Bible Verses this week**
Fr Steve, is posting reflections on a Bible verse Monday-Friday, available on our website, and the WhatsApp group. If you would like to join the WhatsApp group, please let us know:
Monday Acts 11:18 - **Tuesday** Acts 11:21 - **Wednesday** Acts 12:24 - **Thursday** Mark 16:20 - **Friday** Acts 13:31.



PENTECOST
19th May 2024 - 12:30 pm
BILINGUAL MASS

PARROQUIA SAN MATEO
MEADOW ROW, SE16RG. LONDON



Raffle *Fund Raise*

The last 2 digits from colombian Lottery on 10th May 2024

*Full Meal for 4
People*

4 startes
Main dishes
Desserts

1 Make up
Manicure
Photo shoot
(10 digital pict)

£10 ticket

Reserve

07845084879



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