



# Building Faith@HOME

**1st Reading: Acts 4: 8 - 12**  
**Responsorial Psalm: 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29**  
**Second Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-2**  
**Gospel: Jn 10:11-18**

**April 25, 2021**



## Fourth Sunday of Easter - Sheep and Shepherds

This week is known as "Good Shepherd Sunday", but it is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The readings share with us the meaning of community as followers of Jesus Christ. Thanks to the loving gift of the Father, which is his Son, we have become "children of God" (1 John 3:1). In the community we work and worship together, and sharing the love for one another. The "Good Shepherd," Jesus, gives each and everyone of us the understanding of salvation through him, but also the expectations of each and everyone of us to be shepherds to one another through service, mercy and witness. There is good reason this is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. At our baptism each one of us was anointed with chrism as the priest spoke the following words: "God now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Jesus was anointed priest, prophet and king, so may you live always as a member of his body." Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and we, the flock, are invited to share in the threefold office that Jesus conducted during his earthly ministry. The community walks together, shepherding each other and being shepherd. How does this role manifest within the your vocation?

The ordained are responsible for the spiritual shepherding of the community, both the parish and the region.

Those in religious life shepherd by tending to the spiritual and physical needs of the people. They serve with compassion and mercy to bring joy, hope and healing through their own discernment of gifts.

Married couples shepherd by witnessing a life of faith to their families and neighbors. Through prayer, worship and service, married couples have a unique call together. Those called to a single life shepherd in a similar way, devoting themselves to chaste life.

Each and every person through the gifts of the Holy Spirit are called in a variety of ways to shepherd, to be active participants in the community. Good Shepherd Sunday occurs within the Eastertide season, rejoicing in the the resurrection and the presence of Christ in the breaking of the Bread, Holy Eucharist. The liturgy of the Eucharist is not just the priest's role, but the "priestly" role of the community is called on to actively participate and celebrate.

Let us pray for all vocations, but especially this week for the vocation of Priests who shepherd the community so they too, may live out their vocations.

### We are his people, the flock he shepherds! (Ps. 100:3)

Adults: Are you discerning a more active role in your parish? Perhaps a leadership role or to volunteer more intentionally in a particular ministry?

You may want to consider Formation In Ministry.

[Click here for more information](#)



## The ABCs for Fostering Vocations



Make time to discern your own baptismal call. Share your discernment thoughts with other family members, a trusted friend, or your pastor.



4th Sunday Of Easter

[Youtube.com- CatholicKidsMedia](https://www.youtube.com/CatholicKidsMedia)



Where in the world... FLY around the diocese to find the Traveling Icon and learn more about our diocese!

### A Google Earth Activity

April 24 - May 1

*Celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph, the Worker - May 1st*  
[FranciscanMedia.com](http://FranciscanMedia.com)

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

### Prayer for Vocations

Adult version:

[LINK](#)

Children's Version:

[LINK](#)



## Links for More Ideas, Activities & Resources FYI

[Loyolapress.com](http://Loyolapress.com) - *Jesus: Priest, prophet and king*, (Teens & Adult Faith Builders)

[Catholicinspired.com](http://Catholicinspired.com) Lots of Lamb crafts and ideas (Family Faith Builder)

[Youtube.com](http://Youtube.com) *The Good Shepherd | Q10L12* (Children Faith Builder)

[Youtube.com](http://Youtube.com) *Vocation 101: What is Vocation?* (Teen & Adult Faith Builder)

**ADOPT A SEMINARIAN DURING THE EASTERTIDE! Contact [egarn@syrdio.org](mailto:egarn@syrdio.org) for more information!**



Our website [RCfaithquest.syrdio.org](http://RCfaithquest.syrdio.org) has many ideas during this Easter Season!

