### **First Reading**

*Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12* Peter announces an act of healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Responsorial Psalm** 

*Psalm 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28,29* A prayer of thanksgiving to God for his kindness

**Second Reading** *1 John 3:1-2* God revealed his love for us by calling us children of God.

**Gospel Reading** John 10:11-18 Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep.

### **Background on the Gospel Reading**

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.

## **<u>Bible Verse for the Week</u>**

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age **TITUS 2:11-12 (NIV)** 

### **Pro Sanctity**

You are invited to join Pro Sanctity When: Monday nights for the Rosary and today's Gospel reflection Thursday nights for Sunday's scripture readings and reflections Why: To pray, learn and share How: Call 3392073069 on Mondays and/or Thursdays ALL ARE WELCOME!

### **Prayer for Vocations**

Lord of the Harvest, we petition you as you have instructed us to ask for more laborers to serve in the vineyard of Your Church. You have told us that the harvest is rich and laborers are few and we experience this great need in the face of the challenge of the New Evangelization we ask the Holy Spirit to inspire young men and women to seriously consider vocations for the priesthood and religious life. Help all of us to be effective instruments to encourage and support those whom you are calling to serve and lead the Church of Brooklyn and Queens in the future. Lord, you told the Apostles to put out into the deep. We ask for the grace and courage to accept your call as we pray and work for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, deaconate and religious life.

> Every First, and Third Sunday, of the month after each mass Fellowship is followed in the Parish Center all are welcomed

> > PC PROBLEMS? Call Mike

He's the right Technician For All Your PC Issues! Mike can give you a Fair Price For a Thorough Job For details or to schedule a repair Call Mike at 718-257-2400 347-942-6770 or mwilkins235@gmail.com

## Weekend Masses in the Canarsie Cluster Parishes:

**Our Lady of Miracles** (E. 86<sup>th</sup> St. & Flatlands Ave.)

. Schedule

> Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.) Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.) 10:30 AM (Eng.) 12:30 PM (French/Creole)

*Holy Family* (Rockaway Pkwy. & Flatlands Ave.)

Sat. 5:00 PM (Eng.) Sun. 8:00 AM (Eng.) 9:15 AM (Creole) 11:15 AM (Eng.) 12:45 PM (Eng.) *St.* Jude (Seaview Ave. & Canarsie Rd.)

Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.) Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.) 10:30 AM (Family) 12:30 PM (Bi-Lingual) I<sup>st</sup> Sun ... Eng/French/Creole

### Saturday April 20

8:30 AM Birthday Blessings for Deborah Bain, Andrew Bain, Hamilton, & Aaron Hamilton by Mary Bain & Family5:30 PM Action De Grace for Jasmin Serdal by His Mother

#### Sunday April 21

**8:30 AM** Birthday Blessings & Good Health for Patricia Jean Michel by Lucette

**8:30 AM** In Memory of Marie Chantal Domingue & Christine Francois by Marie Louis

**8:30 AM** In Memory of Adda Jean Baptiste by her daughter Marie Jean Baptiste

**10:30 AM** Action De Grace for Jasmin Serdal by his Mother **10:30 AM** In Memory of Liberata & Maria Bajada by Letecia Casipe

**12:30 PM** In Memory of Jean Poujol Sevaire by his daughter Wilda

#### Monday April 22

**8:30 AM** In Memory of all deceased OLM Parishioners by OLM

#### **Tuesday April 23**

**8:30** AM Birthday Blessings & Thanksgiving for Dieuvat, Jhon, & Marinia Mesilien, Benettie Edouard, & Shirley Juste by Marinia Mesilien

#### Wednesday April 24

8:30 AM God's Blessings and Safety for all people by OLM

Thursday April 25

**8:30** AM In Loving Memory of Jeanne Toussaint by Gladys Jean

Friday April 26

**8:30** AM In Memory of all deceased OLM Parishioners by OLM

### Saturday April 27

**8:30** AM Prayer for peace and unity among all people by OLM **5:30** PM In Memory of Raymond Perine by Dolce Bernadette

Mass in Celebration of the Solemnity/Enthronement for Families & Individuals

Friday June 7th 2024 7:30 PM Holy Family Worship Site 9719 Flatlands Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11236

We invite you to join us in the Triduum Prayers with Benediction in preparation for the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Triduum June 5th 2024 9:30 AM (after 9AM mass) June 6th 2024 9;30 AM (after 9AM mass) June 7th 2024 9;30 AM (after 9AM mass)

Fellowship to follow at the auditorium on Friday, June 7th 2024 after the Solemnity Mass.

**Registration/Certificate: \$20** 

For more information please call Elvie Pereyra 347-417-2471 Lucymar Sambo 347-410-3102 Tess Sugaste 646-353-3968



## Please Pray for ALL Our Sick In Our Parish

Gino Pizzuti, Ann Jacobs Deryck Ming, Maureen Ming, Dorthea C Hogarth, Marie Kernizan, Ann Bethany, Sue Vales, Rosemarie Campanilla, Rosamund Gilkes, Dexter Stiell, Joseph Esposito, Tyra Plaisimond, Noel Toussaint

We will keep names on the sick list for three weeks.

Our Parish needs your Weekly Support TIME People

Saturday	5:30 PM	Eng	65
Sunday	8:30 AM	Eng	180
Sunday	10:30 AM	Eng	105
Sunday	12:30 PM	French/Kreyol	174

Weather: Sunny DayOur weekly goal is\$4850.00This Weeks Total was\$4,785.00Previous Week\$4,710.00Your generosity is greatly appreciatedSecond Collection

Coming Up This Week 4

Monday: April 22 8:30 AM Mass Tuesday: April 23 8:30 AM Mass Wednesday: April 24 8:30 AM Mass Thursday: April 25 8:30 AM Mass Friday: April 26 8:30 AM Mass Saturday: April 27 8:30 AM Mass & 5:30 PM Mass Sunday: April 28 8:30 AM English Mass &10:30 AM English Mass 12:30 PM Haitian Mass

Our Lady of Miracles Rectory Office Hours Monday 10AM-5PM, Tuesday 10AM-5PM, Wednesday 10AM-5PM, Thursday 10AM-5PM, Friday 10AM-5PM, Saturday Closed, Sunday Closed

Our Lady of Miracles Rectory office is now open from Monday-Friday 10AM-5PM



Pope Francis's Reflection for Sunday April 21st 2024 Fourth Sunday of Easter

### Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good morning!

It is a joy for me to celebrate Mass with you in this Basilica. I greet the Archpriest, Cardinal James Harvey, and I thank him for the words that he has addressed to me. Along with him, I greet and thank the various institutions that form part of this Basilica, and all of you. We are at the tomb of Saint Paul, a great yet humble Apostle of the Lord, who proclaimed him by word, bore witness to him by martyrdom and worshipped him with all his heart. These are the three key ideas on which I would like to reflect in the light of the word of God that we have heard: proclamation, witness, worship.

In the First Reading, what strikes us is the strength of Peter and the other Apostles. In response to the order to be silent, no longer to teach in the name of Jesus, no longer to proclaim his message, they respond clearly: "We must obey God, rather than men". And they remain undeterred even when flogged, ill-treated and imprisoned. Peter and the Apostles proclaim courageously, fearlessly, what they have received: the Gospel of Jesus. And we? Are we capable of bringing the word of God into the environment in which we live? Do we know how to speak of Christ, of what he represents for us, in our families, among the people who form part of our daily lives? Faith is born from listening, and is strengthened by proclamation.

But let us take a further step: the proclamation made by Peter and the Apostles does not merely consist of words: fidelity to Christ affects their whole lives, which are changed, given a new direction, and it is through their lives that they bear witness to the faith and to the proclamation of Christ. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks Peter three times to feed his flock, to feed it with his love, and he prophesies to him: "When you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish to go" (Jn 21:18). These words are addressed first and foremost to those of us who are pastors: we cannot feed God's flock unless we let ourselves be carried by God's will even where we would rather not go, unless we are prepared to bear witness to Christ with the gift of ourselves, unreservedly, not in a calculating way, sometimes even at the cost of our lives. But this also applies to everyone: we all have to proclaim and bear witness to the Gospel. We should all ask ourselves: How do I bear witness to Christ through my faith? Do I have the courage of Peter and the other Apostles, to think, to choose and to live as a Christian, obedient to God? To be sure, the testimony of faith comes in very many forms, just as in a great fresco, there is a variety of colours and shades; yet they are all important, even those which do not stand out.

Worshipping him! The passage that we heard from the Book of Revelation speaks to us of worship: the myriads of angels, all creatures, the living beings, the elders, prostrate themselves before the Throne of God and of the Lamb that was slain, namely Christ, to whom be praise, honour and glory (cf. Rev 5:11-14). I would like all of us to ask ourselves this question: You, I, do we worship the Lord? Do we turn to God only to ask him for things, to thank him, or do we also turn to him to worship him? What does it mean, then, to worship God? It means learning to be with him, it means that we stop trying to dialogue with him, and it means sensing that his presence is the most true, the most good, the most important thing of all. All of us, in our own lives, consciously and perhaps sometimes unconsciously, have a very clear order of priority concerning the things we consider important. Worshipping the Lord means giving him the place that he must have; worshipping the Lord means stating, believing – not only by our words - that he alone truly guides our lives; worshipping the Lord means that we are convinced before him that he is the only God, the God of our lives, the God of our history.

Scriptures For The Week

Monday April 22 Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10(279) Tuesday April 23 Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30(280) Wednesday April 24 Acts 12:24—13:5a Jn 12:44-50(281) Thursday April 25 1 Pt 5:5b-14 Mk 16:15-20(555) Friday April 26 Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6(283) Saturday April 27 Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14(284)

## Our Lady of Trust Catholic Academy

up coming events Open House for Pre-3, Pre – K4 & Pre K 9:00 to 11 AM For more information call 718-241-6633

#### **Record of PARISH contributions**

If you use our church envelopes and need to have a record of your contributions to Our Lady of Miracles Church for the past year(2023) for income tax purposes, please contact the rectory during office hours or send a stamped, selfaddressed envelope with your request to

Our Lady of Miracles Church, 757 East 86th street, Brooklyn, New York 11236. We will be happy to forward the information to you.

Due to the Corona Virus we will not be serving the Precious Blood we will let you know when we will be serving the precious blood.

Haitian Prayer group meet every Monday night at 7:00 Pm in the church. All are welcomed

## **Office Of Faith Formation News**

Celebration of the sacraments: 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation classes of 2023-2024.

- 4/20/2024 @ 12 noon—Retreat for confirmation at St Laurence Church
- 4/27/2024 @ 4PM—Reconcilliation at **OLM**
- 5/4/2024 @ 5PM- Celebrating the sacrament of confirmation at **Holy Family Church**
- 5/7/2024 @ 4PM- Rehearsals for 1st Holy Communion
- 5/11/2024 @ 11AM- Celebrating the sacrament of 1st Holy Communion at **OLM**
- 5/19/2024 @ 10:30 AM- Celebrating 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation for older students at OLM
- 5/26/2024 Last day of class

Adults who are interested in learning more about Catholic Faith, please contact Sr Francesca at 718-649-1006

### **Our office Days and Hours**

Tuesday: 9:30AM-4:00PM Friday: 9:30AM-4:00 PM Email: dre101163@diobrook.org

All children beginning the first grade in Public or Catholic school must register their child for the 2 year communion preparation program. After communion all public school children must register for on-going classes till the 7th grade at which time all Public and Catholic school children must register for the 2 year confirmation preparation program.

You can donate to the parish by using our electronic giving page at https://givecentral.org/olm-brooklyn Or simply text the word SUDAY to 646-736-4700 or mail your envelopes to the rectory at 757 East 86TH St Brooklyn NY 11236

From February 2023 All Mass Intentions are now \$20 each

Alleluia A Grace to Hold Life's Interruptions A New Book by Sister Ave Clark, O.P.

Order from Amazon, or directly from: Sister Ave Clark, 718-428-2471

Heart to Heart Ministry 151-58 17th Road, Whitestone, NY 11357

Cost per book \$10.00 plus \$3.50 shipping Please make check payable to Sisters of St. Dominic

For more information Visit Heart to Heart Ministry Website at www.h2h.nyc

## **Exposition of Blessed Sacrament**

Every Friday, from 9:30 AM till 12:00 Noon, we have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and Benediction. We are looking for people to sit in church while the Blessed Sacrament is on the altar. Please come to the rectory to put your name down for an hour or two.

### The only time we will not have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is if we have a funeral

### Annual Catholic Appeal 2024 CATHOLIC APPEAL PRAYER

Loving Father, through Baptism you have made us members of the Body of your Son and His Priestly People. You have enriched us with the outpouring of the gift of your Holy Spirit. You continue to make your Son present among us through the Sacrament of His Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

We are ever grateful for what you do for us and we seek to respond by revealing your goodness through the witness of our lives.

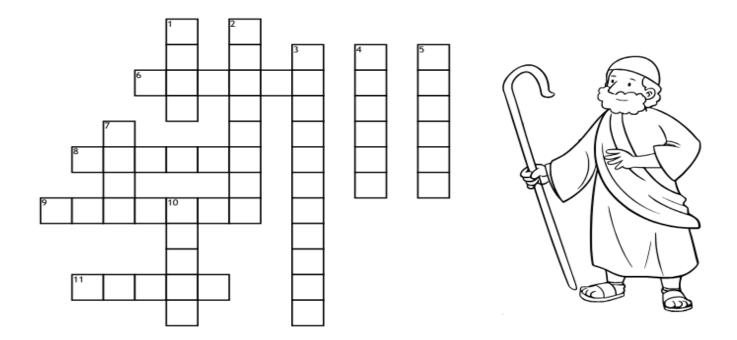
Help us to nourish and support those members of the Body of Christ who are in need of our generous sharing of our time, talent and treasure.

We make this prayer through Christ our High Priest and Lord. AMEN

Annual Catholic Appeal 2024 Goal at Our Lady of Miracles R.C is \$35,000 Thank for your generous support. God bless you!

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE WHEN YOU ARE ENTER-ING THE CHURCH. THIS IS QUITE DISTRACTING TO THE PRIEST AND OTHER PARISHIONERS THANK YOU.

# Bible Characters



### <u>Across</u>

6. What bible character gave Samuel a little sleeveless coat each year?

8. What was Samson's fathers name?

**9.** What bible character prayed not for riches, but for an obedient heart?

**11.** Who began to sink because they gave way to doubt?

### <u>Down</u>

1. Who lived to be 950 years old?

**2.** Which son of Saul became David's close friend?

**3.** Who went with Isaiah to deliver a message to King Ahaz?

4. What bible character played the musical instrument tambourine?
5. Who was thrown into a lions' pit because he prayed when ordered not to?

7. Who supported his ministry by making tents?

**10.** Who did Jehovah inspire to write the bible books Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Job, as well as Psalm 90 and perhaps 91?