

St. Agnes Catholic Church

Terrier & Cherry Rd. Intersection, Sarcoxie, MO

April 25, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Easter

St. Agnes Catholic Church
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MASSES FOR April 25 – May 2

Saint Agnes

Sunday	10:30 a.m.	+Phyllis Schoen
Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Justice & Peace
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	+John & Rose Graskemper

St. Mary's

Mon.	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Service
Wed.	8:15 a.m.	
Friday	8:15 a.m.	
Sat.	4:00 p.m.	
Sun.	8:30 a.m.	

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Sunday, April 25

Catholic Home Mission Appeal

Wednesday, April 28

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Thursday, April 29

Memorial of Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr

Friday, April 30

Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Saturday, May 1

Memorial of Saint Pius V, Pope

Memorial of Saint Joseph the Worker

UPCOMING EVENT:

Monday, May 3

Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostle

Thursday, May 6

National Day of Prayer

Saturday, May 8

Father Matt's 29th Ordination Anniversary

Your Gift to the Church: \$610.00 Holy Land \$10.00 Home Mission \$20.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

READERS

May	2	Sandy Thorn
	9	Martin Wagner
	16	Doug Pickering
	23	Cheryl (R) Elbert
	30	Kathy Heidlage

MONEY COUNTERS

Cheryl (K) Elbert & Jane Kutz
James Campbell & Doug Pickering
Ron Wagner & Steve Schmitt
Cheryl (K) Elbert & Jane Kutz
James Campbell & Doug Pickering

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Sharon Wolfe, Paul Mettlach, Marie Jasumback, Mary Lenore Droska, Jim and Veda Perrin, Marion Tomlinson Williams, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

FATHER PETER'S NEW ADDRESS: Springfield Mercy Villa, 1100 E. Montclair, Room 326, Springfield, MO 65807

THE ANNUAL DIOCESEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND appeal will be held on May 2. This effort is conducted in every parish of the diocese to help finance the activities and ministries of the Catholic Church in southern Missouri. Our parish goal is \$10,338.00. We ask you to keep the DDF campaign in your prayers.

THE ROSARY will be said before weekday masses starting in May.

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:8-12
Ps 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29
1 John 3:1-2
John 10:11-18

Monday April 26
Acts 11:1-18
Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4
John 10:1-10

Tuesday April 27
Acts 11:19-26
Ps 87:1b-7
John 10:22-30

Wednesday April 28
Acts 12:24 – 13:5a
Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8
John 12:44-50

Thursday April 29
St. Catherine of Siena
Acts 13:13-25
Ps 89:2-3,21-22,25,27
John 13:16-20

Friday April 30
Acts 13:26-33
Ps 2:6-11ab
John 14:1-6

Saturday May 1
Joseph the Worker
Acts 13:44-52
Ps 98:1-4
John 14:7-14
or Matthew 13:54-58

Jesus is our Good Shepherd. We are the sheep for whom he has laid down his life. He put everything aside for our sake – his human desire for an easy life, the security and familiarity of a home of his own, his time, his sleep, his tiredness, and his natural preference to avoid persecution, torture and death.

We are the sheep who recognize our Shepherd's voice and willingly follow him to better pastures. We *want* him to be our Good Shepherd. We want his protection, his guidance, and his love.

However, sometimes we forget to listen for his voice. This usually happens when life doesn't go as planned, the way we want it to. In frustration and fear, we assume that Jesus has left the sheepfold. We think he's gone after the lost sheep and left us behind to fend for ourselves, and – oh no! – this is surely when the wolves attack! Doesn't he

realize that? How could he do this to us if he really cares as much about us as he says he does? Why is he more concerned about the sheep who strayed than he is about us who are good sheep?

However, no matter how busy Jesus gets and no matter how far he has to go to rescue lost sheep, he never leaves our side. He is always with us. When the path of life takes us to dead ends or dangerous cliffs, it's not



because he's abandoned us. The pain we feel is his shepherd's staff tapping and prodding us to get us to move in a different direction, and we just haven't understood.

We don't want to go in that other direction. We like the familiarity of this old pasture. We're getting annoyed at the

tap-tap-tapping of the staff on our heads. And we won't discover the blessing of this discipline until we turn again to Jesus with eyes of trust and ears that are attentive to everything he says, even if at first we don't like what he's saying.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. In what areas of your life do you feel lost and alone or abandoned?
2. What activities can you do that will restore your vision and your hearing so you can recognize the presence of your Good Shepherd?
3. Name some of the ways that the Good Shepherd's voice calls out to us.
4. Share the story of a time when Jesus prodded you but at first you didn't realize it was him. When did something feel painful until you realized that you were going in the wrong direction? What helped you recognize the voice and the staff of the Good Shepherd?