

'JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD & STUDENTS FROM YEARS FOUR, FIVE & SIX'
4th Sunday of Easter ~ 3 May 2020



INTRODUCTION

We can have five people for livestreaming a church service at present in Queensland. That includes the person doing the livestreaming. And in preparing for our Eucharist, we need to safeguard our children when using social media.

SO HOW CAN WE CELEBRATE A CHILDREN'S MASS TODAY???

WE JOIN WITH THE CHILDREN OF THE COMMUNITY AT HOME TODAY *HI TO ALL OF YOU*

FOUR OF THE YEAR SIX STUDENTS have been audio pre-recorded some days ago, singing some of the antiphons and the *Holy Holy* for this Mass.

SOME OF THE YEAR FOUR AND YEAR FIVE STUDENTS have written the intercessions for today, and a few were audio pre-recorded during the week, reading the intercessions.

SOME OF YEAR SIX STUDENTS have shared what they have been praying about lately.

One of our St Joseph's School teachers will read a staff refecton today.

In reflecting on Jesus this **GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY**, we know his voice and we follow him.

VOCATIONS SUNDAY

On this Sunday we pray for vocations – lay, religious and clergy.

We pray for more vocations, but also for –
Integrity, openness, accountability and service in living those vocations
- vocations that are centred on a loving relationship with Jesus.

CHILDREN AND THE GOSPEL

We pray that we are open to where the Holy Spirit leads us.
Jesus is the gate, and Jesus is the good shepherd.
That leaves the rest of us to decide what part we are in this Gospel passage.
We do not want to be the thief and bandit who steal and kill and destroy.
We do not want to be the stranger who causes the sheep to run away.
We want to be the sheep, with Jesus as our Shepherd and Gate.

Children, here is a question for you.

Who are the shepherds in your lives?

Who protects you, feeds you, helps you and loves you at home?

Who protects you and teaches you at school?

Let us ask God to bless them.

We thank God for them.

GOSPEL OF JOHN 10:1-10

Jesus is the gate and he keeps us safe inside the sheepfold.

Jesus says,

***“anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate
but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit.
The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.
The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice”***

Jesus knows us and we know him.

We trust Jesus.

The Gospel says about the good shepherd:

***“He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them,
and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.
They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him
because they do not know the voice of strangers.”***

Jesus talks about what he wants for us:

“I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Jesus says that he is the Good Shepherd.

In John 10:11 Jesus says ***“I am the good shepherd.”***

And again in John 10:14, Jesus says ***“I am the good shepherd.”***

How can we be like Jesus the Good Shepherd?

Let us learn from students from Years Four, Five and Six.

PRAYERS FROM YEAR FOUR AND FIVE STUDENTS FOR TODAY

In following Jesus, the Good Shepherd, **Year Fours and Fives** have written these prayers for today.

Let us join them in prayer and understand what is important for them.

World

Lord God, we are grateful for the world that we live in and the people that we have around us.

We pray that our Earth allows every family to have clean water and food at this time.

We pray for the wisdom and courage to always remember to take care of our beautiful Mother Earth. *Lord Hear Us*

Pope Francis

Lord, please help Pope Francis during this challenging time.

We pray that he continues to lead with great passion and kindness and that Pope Francis stays well.

May his special message be heard by everyone.

Lord Hear Us

Australian Leaders

Lord, we pray for our Australian Leaders, we thank them for everything they have done to support us and we ask that they and their families stay safe during this health crisis.

Lord Hear Us

Parish

Lord, we pray for Fr Gerry and the Parish of St Joseph and St Anthony.

May they know how blessed we are as a School to be part of this special community.

Lord Hear Us

School Community

We pray for the people who are sick in our community and hope that they feel better.

We pray for all the teachers and students at this challenging time, although we cannot come together as a School Community may we know that we are still one.

Lord Hear Us

Families

Lord, we pray for all the children, the mums and dads of our community; we are so grateful and happy to have the love that we do from our families, particularly at this uncertain time.

We remember to keep in our prayers the people and animals who have to rebuild after the bushfires. God, we ask that you help the families that need your strength at this time.

Lord Hear Us

Individuals

We pray that we grow in patience and understanding and that you give us courage to face any challenge that we have in front of us.

Lord Hear Us

PRAYER INTENTIONS FROM SOME OF OUR YEAR SIX LEADERS

Thank you to some of our Year Six students,
as Good Shepherds, who have been praying recently

- Prayers for the elderly people in their families, they worry about grandparents and are being extra careful during this health crisis. They love them so much and don't want anything bad to happen to them.
- Prayers for the people with Covid-19 and those experiencing health issues and living with the fear of getting sick.
- Prayers for people living in poverty, may they have clean water and food.
- Prayers for students, in home schooling or at school, learning in a new environment.
- Prayers for the teachers working so hard
- Prayers for technology
- Prayers for families where mums and dads have lost their jobs

RECOGNISING THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN OUR LIVES

Children, we include the adults in these next questions:

How do we live our lives with Jesus as our Good Shepherd?

How do we pray to Jesus, the Good Shepherd?

How do we respect others and live justly?

How do we respect the earth as our common home?

How we work ethically in our study, in our jobs and careers?

Later in John 14:6 Jesus says: ***"I am the way and the truth and the life."***

Let us repeat those words of Jesus - ***"I am the way and the truth and the life."***

Let us take some time this week and pray humbly before Jesus the Good Shepherd.

Thank you to the children and staff who have helped in the preparation of this Mass.
Thank you very much.

We now invite one of our teachers to share some of the insights
of our St Joseph's school staff at this time.

Fr Gerry

Readings: <https://universalis.com/Australia/20200503/mass.htm>