



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



"Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." - Jn 10:2-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### May 3, 2020

Our mission at Immaculate Heart of Mary - is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to praise His name, by being a Christ-centered, welcoming, unified community. Called to holiness, we celebrate the love of God through prayer and worship, the Eucharist and other sacraments, catechesis, evangelization and service to all. Always His people, we strive to be good stewards of our time, talent and treasure.

#### PASTORAL STAFF

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#### PARISH LIFE CENTER

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#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS: CLOSED

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Sharon Kowalski  
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Call for information or appointment

## Gospel Meditation ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

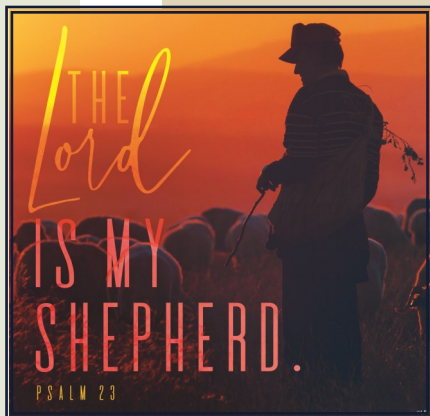
With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we

find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor.

Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our of lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home. ©LPi



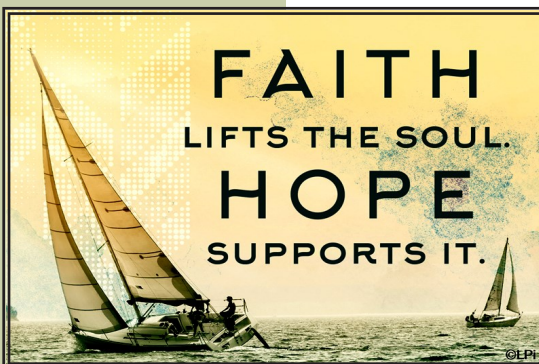
## RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS ~

### Recognizing the Voice of Jesus

When my wireless provider introduced HD Voice, the voice I heard on my phone was unbelievably clear, and it felt at times like both the caller and I were in the same room. The best aspect of this feature is that it didn't cost the customer any additional fees, and it didn't require any changes to the phone. I could say it was free, but I suspect I was already paying for it in my monthly bill anyway. At least it felt free.

The clearer the voice calling you, the easier it is to recognize who it is on the other end of the line. In John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the gatekeeper who opens the gate and calls for his sheep. They respond because they know his voice. Others try to lure the sheep when the gatekeeper is not there, but the sheep find their voices unclear or unfamiliar.

Jesus is our gatekeeper. But unlike receiving something for free from a wireless company, to be able to hear his voice we need to pay attention and practice listening. By developing a stewardship way of life that is mindful and prayerful, we become attuned to his voice and are able to discern when the call is from our Lord and when it is from an imposter. It is great to talk about all the things we can do and all the gifts we can share, but if we are not listening for his call to hear where our offerings are needed, we can end up like a lost sheep searching for the gatekeeper. —Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



**The PARISH OFFICE is CLOSED until further notice.**

Parishioners may still continue to mail in their weekly parish envelopes OR drop them off at the 7th Ave Entrance Door MAIL SLOT .

Your continued commitment in supporting the parish is greatly appreciated, thank you and God bless you.

**MARY'S SOUP KITCHEN is temporarily closed at this time.**

### Please Note:

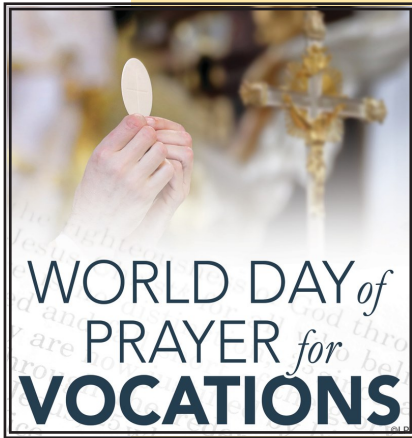
Since all regularly scheduled Masses are canceled until further notice, we will NOT be scheduling any new Mass intentions until this directive is lifted. Intentions that have been previously reserved will be rescheduled at a later date before any new intentions are taken.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding of this situation.



## In Memoriam ~ 2020-21

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p>In loving memory of our Families:<br/>The Carlsons, The Mardigans,<br/>The Foleys &amp; The Butlers<br/>requested by Bob &amp; Carol Carlson<br/>2/7/21</p> | <p>In loving memory of<br/>Albert P Morelli,<br/>Donald &amp; Eileen Gallagher Hogan<br/>requested by Don &amp; Patti Hogan<br/>1/10/21</p> | <p>In loving memory of<br/>Joseph V Germano<br/>requested by the Family<br/>1/10/21</p>  |
| <p>In loving memory of<br/>John A O'Brien<br/>requested by the Family<br/>10/25/20</p>   | <p>In loving memory of<br/>William T Sr, Julia F<br/>and Robert A Fahr<br/>requested by the Family<br/>8/23/20</p>                          | <p>In loving memory of<br/>Bryan T Roberts (son)<br/>Raymond &amp; Helen Werner (parents)<br/>requested by Judith Pope<br/>7/19/20</p>                 |
| <p>In loving memory of<br/>The Barron &amp; Rys Families<br/>requested by the Family<br/>7/19/20</p>   | <p>In loving memory of<br/>John T Sherlock<br/>requested by his wife and Family<br/>7/19/20</p>   | <p>In loving memory of the<br/>Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family<br/>&amp; Monticup Family<br/>requested by Rose Brooks &amp; Family<br/>5/24/20</p> |
| <p>In loving memory of<br/>Adam &amp; Katherine Novak<br/>John &amp; Rosalie Novak &amp; Florence Szpot<br/>requested by the Family<br/>5/10/20</p>            |   |  |



### First Reading:

Peter said to them,  
"Repent and be baptized, every one of  
you,  
in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness  
of your sins;  
and you will receive the gift of the Holy  
Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

### Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing  
I shall want. (Ps 23) or Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

He himself bore our sins in his body upon

the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.

By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Pt 2:24)

### Gospel:

"I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved,  
and will come in and go out and find pasture." (Jn 10:9)



Watch your local Watervliet 1303 TV station  
for the video of Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Weekend Mass.



**IHM PRAYER MINISTRY~** We believe as  
faith-filled people, prayer matters and offers hope.  
The prayer tree ministry is made up of a group of  
people who pray for others — if you would like  
prayers said for a family member, relative, or friend  
contact Brenda at 518 271-6184.

Let us also continue to pray for one another and for an end to this virus  
that has afflicted so many people

### Readings; Week of May 3, 2020

**Sunday:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a,  
3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3,  
4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:11-18

**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5,  
6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday:** Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-  
3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22,  
25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20

**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-  
11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab,  
3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14

**Next Sunday:** Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5,  
18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

**EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL —** The Easter  
Memorial listing for 2020 has been prepared with  
the names that have been submitted on  
the envelopes. If any parishioner  
would like a copy of the listing,  
please contact Judy; (518) 273-6020  
ext. 301 and leave your name, address &  
envelope number or email: [jpope@ihm.rcpw.org](mailto:jpope@ihm.rcpw.org).  
A copy of the list will be sent to you.



### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Contributions received within the week of  
April 15-22, 2020 .....\$5718.00.  
This total includes the tithing envelopes and  
Electronic Giving (We Share).