

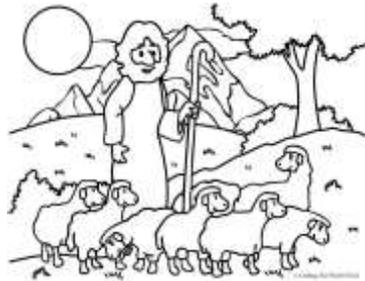
St. Mary's Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 17, 2016

Dear parishioners,

As I looked through the clipart trying to find a meaningful picture of the Good Shepherd, I settled on



this one. Don't those sheep all look so happy to be with the Shepherd?! That's how we ought to be!

The gospel says: "My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me." If we really pay attention to those words, we will be happy sheep. How can we absorb the reality that God is so interested in us? Perhaps it's because we don't take enough time to contemplate it. We are so involved with our day to day world—which is really a very materialistic world—that things clog our spiritual insight and blind us to how great God is and how infinitesimally small we are.

The gospel says we are in Jesus' hand, and no one can take us out. We are in the Father's hand, and no one can take us out. Jesus and the Father are one. Now there's another deep, deep mystery that is beyond our comprehension and calls on real faith. We can merely bow before the mystery of the Trinity.

We are surrounded every minute of every day by love and care beyond our understanding from a God beyond our understanding. A God, nonetheless, who wants always to be with and near us. Just because we don't understand it doesn't make it nonexistent or untrue.

Let's thank our gracious God for the immense love given to us. Let's be really happy sheep that show the world we believe God's love!

Sister Carol

We extend our sympathy to Ruth Badertscher on the death of her husband Jim. May he rest in peace.

Weekend Masses

Sat Apr 16	4:00 p.m.	Jim Alt
Sun Apr 17	10:00 a.m.	Dorothy & Cyril Sterrett
Sat Apr 23	4:00 p.m.	Anna & Guido Schroeder
Sun Apr 24	10:00 a.m.	Janet Maenle

Communion Services

Tue Apr 19	10:30 a.m.	Richland
Fri Apr 22	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,498.00	Loose	\$887.00
Children	\$26.50	Total	\$3,411.50

76 envelopes returned = 37%

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for April 23 & 24, 2016

Money Counters: Barb Galvan and Janet Begg

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Jeanne Parinello

Cantor: Dave Roby

Ushers: Hank and Carol Schroeder

Lector: Jenny Roby

E.M.: Bob Minto and Edna Conkling

Servers: Alyson Kettels and Kendal Giesige

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Deb Buck

Greeter-West Door: Judy Lester

Cantor: Katie Hohenbrink

Ushers: Nick Marcum and Joseph Schriener

Lectors: Lisa Welch and Jan Schulte

E.M.: Michelle Risner, Betty Gerten, Tom Schulte,
Linda Kinn

Servers: Brayton Businger, Josh and Nathan Meyer

Readings for April 24, 2016

Fifth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 14:21-27

2nd Reading: Rv 21:1-5a

Gospel Reading: John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Please continue to bring in your Community Market receipts so we can turn them in for Reward dollars. This money is used for Religious Education programs here at St. Mary's.

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Thank you to all of you who stepped up to do the seventh corporal work of mercy—to bury the dead; that is, to all who brought food, set up, cooked, served, came to the funeral home, and celebrated the Mass of Resurrection. **Thank you** to all who came to the Family Promise training meeting. What a great showing! **Thank you** to Beth Yarger for coordinating the blood drive and to all who assisted her with registration and food.

The Year of Mercy This month of the Year of Mercy we direct our attention to the practice of the corporal works of mercy:

Feed the hungry.

Besides the food collection and monetary collection we suggest these ideas also:

- When you make a meal, double it and give it to a needy family.
- Make a donation to Catholic Relief Services or Food for the Poor.
- Do some research on local or world hunger.
- Try to buy only the food you need so as not to be wasteful.



Plan ahead If you are hoping to go to Booneville with us this year, mark your calendars now! We will

begin sign-ups very soon. The dates are June 3-4. We leave near noon on Friday, June 3; work Saturday, June 4, and share Mass and a potluck with the parishioners of Holy Family Parish; and drive home on Sunday, June 5. The number is limited to 12.

Next Sunday, April 24, we will be celebrating First Holy Communion with 16 children at a 1:00 o'clock Mass: Madison Beasley, Jenna Downey, Isabella Ellerbrock, Emily Granger, Evan Grothouse, Allison Herrmann, Ethan Hoffman, Elizabeth Honse, Abbey Johnston, Elijah Jones, Nicholas Lovett, Ashley McLaughlin, Chase Meyer, Macy Schaadt, Ava Smallcombe, and Blair Utendorf. You are all invited to join us for this special occasion.



Save the date! By popular request the second annual parish picnic to celebrate being a parish, being around for 151 years, being generous on a regular basis.... The second annual parish picnic will be held Sunday, August 14, 2016, after the 10 o'clock Mass. If you'd be willing to help with the planning and the execution, talk to Lisa Welch.

Our Lady of Consolation Shrine, Carey, Ohio will offer a Mass for victims of cancer, their families, friends and caregivers on Friday, May 6th at 7:00 pm. We welcome all to come and pray together. Following Mass, visitors are invited to participate in special prayers for healing.

Hope after Abortion *"I don't deserve to be happy."* **God wants to restore your happiness.** Come back to God who is love and mercy. For hope and healing after an abortion, contact the local confidential Project Rachel Helpline at 1-888-456-HOPE or projectrachel@toledodiocese.org. Learn more at www.hopeafterabortion.org.

Let's face it! Not all of us are runners, but we still want to help out and give back to a great cause. **Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo** needs volunteers to run our water stop during the Glass City Marathon on Sunday, April 24, 2016. Let's show we are the hands and feet of Christ! We'll cheer on and refuel the marathon runners, handing out water and Gatorade at the **11.5** mile mark, at Park and Orchard in Ottawa Hills. If you are interested, please contact Dan Stephens, Catholic Charities Volunteer Coordinator, at 419-244-6711, ext. 231 or email dstephens@toledodiocese.org Thank You!

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Next class is Wednesday, April 20th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Jr. Hi & God Squad: Classes are finished until fall.