A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (John 10:11)

This familiar passage about the good shepherd calls to mind soothing images from children's books that portray Jesus as a gentle shepherd carrying a lamb on his shoulders. But Jesus paints a much more powerful picture. His good shepherd is a protector; he watches over and guards his sheep. He doesn't sit by passively when predators approach; he acts swiftly to keep his flock safe. He doesn't flee or abandon them; he stands his ground and defends them (John 10:12). He even "lays down his life for the sheep" (10:11).

We know, of course, that Jesus is talking about himself. He is a shepherd unlike the "shepherds" of Israel. In the previous chapter of John's Gospel, the Jewish leaders responded to Jesus' miraculous healing by casting out the formerly blind man from the synagogue (9:34). Jesus offered healing and revelation to God's people, yet these shepherds both rejected him themselves and prevented their "sheep" from receiving the abundant life that Jesus came to give them (10:10). In contrast, Jesus sought out the healed man, comforted him, and led him to faith (9:35-38). This is what a good shepherd does.

Jesus is not just "the" good shepherd; he is *your* good shepherd! Unlike a hired hand who works only for pay, Jesus is moved by a deep love for you. His love is so fierce that he freely, gladly offered his life on the cross for his sheep. For us. For you.

Today, rejoice that your good shepherd is guarding and protecting you. He is leading you securely along the perilous paths of life. He is defending you against the wolves and thieves that seek to "steal and slaughter and destroy" you (John 10:10). He is giving you new life that he won by laying down his life and taking it up again in his resurrection (10:18). He will never forsake you.

"Thank you, Jesus, for being my strong good shepherd!" Acts 4:8-12 Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29 1 John 3:1-2~ The Word Among Us.



The Sanctuary Candle in St. John's Church is offered as a special intention, for the living and deceased family members of † Antonio Rodriguez, requested by his daughters Marta & Annalisa Rodriguez.



Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish

Jenny Cosby & Family, Josefina Gomez, Teresa Brezenski, Laura Pena, Elisa Casanova, Maria Villarreal, Rudy Reyes, Jessica Lozano, Socorro Pastrano, Laura Moreno, George Menjares, Agnes Kubesch, Maria Luisa Rodriguez, Susana Ruiz Velasco, Rome Escobedo, Maria del Carmen Morales, Richard Gonzales, Tanya Marie Paveglio, Graciela Bernal, Sr. Cecilia Rodriguez, Julio Villarreal, Roselie Marquez Gonzales, Brenda Kaye Cosby, Oralia Ortiz, Mayra Maricela Martinez, Amalia Villarreal, Juliana Villarreal, Paula Montalbo, Sue Lira, Christian Vasquez, George Garcia, Tony Garza III, Carmen Flores, Viola Sanchez, Melissa Sanchez Lara, Ruben Sanchez, Dalia Morales, Michael Morales, Rene Hernandez, Pablo Flores, Luciano Soto, Hector C. Alvarez, Kathleen May, Esiquio Perez, Gene Flores, Jean Vargo, Bobby Garcia, Noelia Pantoja, Saundra Ornelas, Greg Wood, Art Martinez, Margaret Burke, Deziree Vanessa Ibarra, Belle Bird, Richard Jr. & Rachel De La O, Janie Frausto, Patricia Sanchez, Annalisa Rodriguez, Leti McNerney, Ricardo "Richie" Mejia, Rosa Maria Villarreal, Maria Martinez, Jerelynn Meek, Guadalupe R. Duenas, Fiorenza Bruni, Gloria Moreno, Noe Roberts Lopez, Theresa McHugh, Norma Mendez, Cecilia Morales, Carmen Messer, Mary Ann Valdez, Debra Martinez, Sam Solano, Armando & Martha Davila, Antonio Briones Ortega, Ofelia Anzaldua, Jerry & Lydia Slaughter, Yvonne Garcia, Emilio & Carmen Rodriguez, Nepthali Luna, Teresa Elshire, Matthew Gonzales and family, Joann Hamm, Elizabeth Benavides, Zackry Hernandez, Jennifer Nicole, Mario Guerrero, Keith Daily, Joel Gonzales, Sr. Luz Moreno, Evelyn Medina, Norma Navaira, Maryann Droitcourt, Antonio Bruni, Guadalupe Pacheco, Carlos Flores Jr., Servando Perales, Libby Roussin, Eva Flores, Gilbert Vasquez and Ben Countrman.

To Add or Remove names, call the Parish office at 738-2201

WEEKLY MEETINGS:

<u>Legion of Mary:</u> Tuesdays at 5:30pm in the Casa de Juan. <u>That Man is You:</u> Saturday's in Casa de Juan

7:00am-9:00am. Contact Kevin Collins 210-685-2735 or

Rafael Martinez 210-782-6313

<u>Guadalupanos:</u> Recites the Rosary every Wednesday at 7pm in the Church.

Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions: Every Thursday 12pm to 6pm.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

<u>Guadalupanas:</u> Recites the Rosary on the 12th day of each month. Contact Maria Gomez at 210-268-7760.

Knights of Columbus: 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm. Contact Ricardo Valdez 210-842-1551.

Altar Society: 3rd Sunday of the month after the 12:00pm Mass. Contact Parish Office 210-738-2201.

Youth Group: Contact Marisol Ramirez at 210-723-1355.

ACTS: Contact Julie Constantino at 210-288-1405.

Adult Religious Education (RCIA) & Faith Formation: Contact the Parish office at 210-738-2201 ext. 105

Young Adults Ministry: 2nd Thursday of each month 7pm to 9pm at Casa de Juan. Contact Anna Gomez at 210-331-3044.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, April 22nd ~ 11:30am Marcel Gutierrez (Happy Birthday)

Tuesday, April 23rd ~ 11:30am

† Blanca S. Gonzales

St. George, Marty, St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr

Wednesday, April 24th ~ 11:30am Josette Lowe (Special Intention)

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr

Thursday, April 25th ~ 11:30am

† Joseph Steven Perez

St. Mark, Evangelist

Friday, April 26th ~ 11:30am

† Anna Marie Martinez † Juan R. & Nellie B. Chavez

Saturday, April 27th ~ 5:00pm

† Margarita Garcia

Sunday, April 28th

8:00am † Sofia Solis Palacios

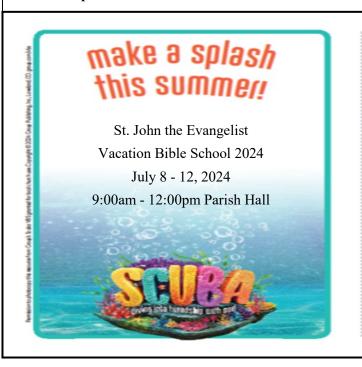
9:30am Gabriela Alonso (Special Intention)

† Guillermo Alonso

12:00pm Poor Souls in Purgatory

7:30pm † Edward Castoreno

People of the Parish







Scan here, for Sunday giving.

Escáner aquí, para dar el domingo.

Parish Support:

April 13th and 14th, 2024

Church Support:	\$5,390.00
Online Giving:	\$361.00
Maintenance Fund Donation:	\$1,319.61
TOTAL:	\$7 070 61