

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 22, 2018

LIVING GOD'S WORD

The divine instinct to lay down and to take up is how the Lord Jesus shepherds us, modeling so well what it means to be divine that we find ourselves imitating him and growing in his likeness. That divine instinct is how the Spirit shepherds through us.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK APRIL 23, 2018

Monday, April 23, St. George
12:10PM Cleo Gross
Tuesday, April 24, St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
NO MASS – Meeting with Bishop
Wednesday, April 25, St. Mark, Evangelist
10:30AM Special Intention
Thursday, April 26
NO MASS
Friday, April 27
8:15AM Judy Smith by Danny & Bonnie
Saturday, April 28, St. Peter Chanel
5PM For The Parish
Sunday, April 29
9AM Dorothy Ebers by Bill & Linda Smith

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK APRIL 22 THRU APRIL 29

Sunday	9AM Mass 3PM World Day of Prayer Service
Monday	12:10PM Mass 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Pork Sausage & Kraut/Fried Chicken 6PM School Board Meeting
Tuesday	10AM Meeting with Bishop, Belleville
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs 1:30PM Confessions at Ruma Convent
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 7 & 8 Liturgy) 1:30PM Dismissal – BUS SERVICE
Saturday	Brockmeyer Fundraiser in Gym 5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: All of creation has the power to lay down its life. The yearly seasons lay down the bounty of their harvest, and daily, our lives pour forth their energy into tasks and labors. Most people want to be and are generous. Most want to forgive, to be patient, to sacrifice for the sake of love, to give back what is received. Most want to give of themselves for the happiness of others, to do service for the community, to donate blood, to be able to forgo their own way for the sake of harmony, to be courageous even at great cost. All of creation also has the power to take up life again. Springtime returns; weakened bodies heal. We also have the power to take up life. We seek relationships of love, desire to en flesh that love with children. We work hard, long to be creative, strive to be good, seek to create harmony and peace. We hunger for a relationship with our God. And we succeed more often than not. That dual rhythm of laying down and taking up is but the echo of the Lord Jesus and how he chose to live among us. It was his Father's command to him, bred in his bones and in his spirit, and it is a command that continues to show itself in our lives.

TITHE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 2018

Mary Help of Christians: \$7,210.00
\$561.00 Cemetery; \$150.00 Improvement Fund;
\$11.00 Votives; \$5.00 Sister Anne
WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00
YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,728.03
Fiscal Year Week: 42
YTD Actual Giving: \$282,577.00
YTD Budget Need: \$294,000.00
YTD Budget Difference: (\$11,423.00)
YTD Weekly: (\$271.98)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for April 28 & 29: 5PM, Kolton Jany, Isaac Jany; 9AM, Gage Hopkins, Garrett Hopkins, Paige Vasquez

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: When we look back on our lives, it's easier to recognize how God has led us. At this point in your life, do you know the Good Shepherd better than you did in your youth?

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS will be held at Mary Help of Christians on Sunday, April 22, at 3PM. Currently our Diocese has 106 parishes and only 39 native priests, many of those being of retirement age. Please come to pray with us that more men and women will accept the call to religious life.

CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY will host the mobile market on Wednesday, April 25, at 10AM in the Cohen Complex. Volunteers are needed. Please call Bob Koenegstein at 826-5264 to help with the distribution.

ST. JAMES COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN will have their Spring Noon Luncheon, "Country Western Hoedown" at the Parish Center, Millstadt, on Wednesday, April 25. Cost is \$12.00 per person. For advance tickets, please call Christy Lehr at 618-476-1874.

K OF C FISH FRY Friday, April 27, from 4:30-7PM. This week's fish fry will benefit the Human Service Center. Thank you to all the dedicated frying crews, kitchen workers, dining hall workers, cashiers, and supporters of the fish fries. Without all of your hard work and generous donations these fundraisers would not be possible.

GIBAULT'S SPRING MUSICAL, The Little Mermaid, will be Thursday, April 26, through Saturday, April 28, at 7PM. A 2PM matinee will be on Sunday, April 29.

CHURCH RENOVATION MEETINGS: Following the Masses on Saturday, April 28, and Sunday, April 29, members of the Church Renovation Committee will offer a presentation with Q & A for all parishioners who are interested. The meetings will address the progress which has been made to date and the plans for implementation. Please try to attend.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL will be taken up next weekend. The envelope is in your bimonthly packet. Right now, over 40% of dioceses in the United States are considered home mission territory because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support of this appeal helps ease the struggle of these dioceses. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

CATCH & EAT FISHING TOURNAMENT to benefit the James Brockmeyer Memorial Foundation will be held at the K of C Hall on Saturday, April 28. There will be a Silent Auction from 2-7PM and a Street Dance from 8-Midnight. See the flyer on the bulletin board for other events of the day. For more information or to make a silent auction donation, please contact Gina Scott at 615-2004.

OPEN POSITIONS: The Diocese is currently seeking a Director of Education and a Director of Faith Formation. Application deadline is Friday, May 11. Additional information can be found on the bulletin board in the back of church.