

# HOLY FAMILY PARISH

4/21/2013 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



1451 Strachan Road SE,  
Medicine Hat, AB T1B-4V3

Phone: 403-527-6933 Fax: 403-526-2482

email: [contact@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:contact@holyfamilymh.ca)

website: [www.holyfamilymh.ca](http://www.holyfamilymh.ca)

Office Hrs: Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 4:30pm

Closed on Statutory Holidays

Calgary Diocesan: [www.rcdiocese-calgary.ab.ca](http://www.rcdiocese-calgary.ab.ca)

**Pastor** - Rev. Philip Le - [frphilip@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:frphilip@holyfamilymh.ca)

**Associate Pastor** - Rev. Matthew Emmelkamp

[fmatthew@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:fmatthew@holyfamilymh.ca)

**Deacons:**

**Rev. Mr. Robert Risling & Rev. Mr. Bill Schnitzler**

Pastoral Care of the Sick - pager: 403-458-1445

**Youth NET Ministry**

[medhatcatholicyouth@gmail.com](mailto:medhatcatholicyouth@gmail.com)

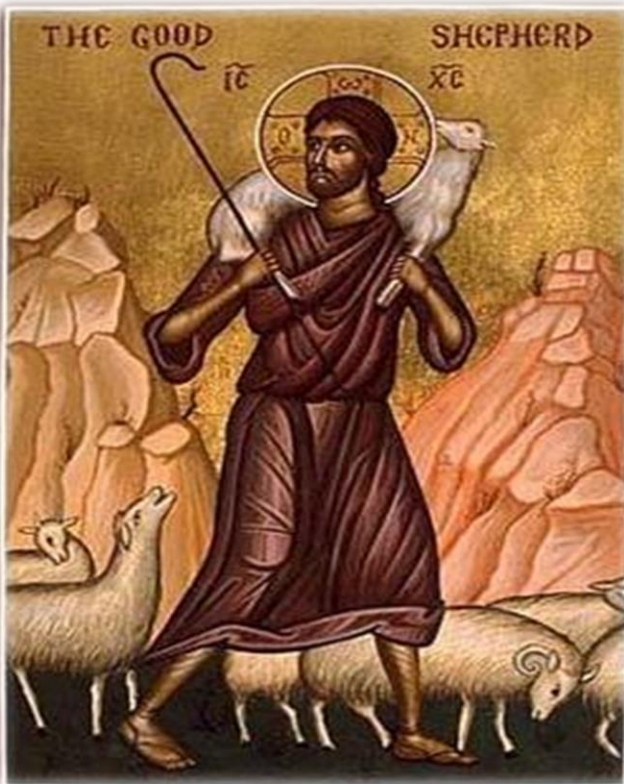
Medicine Hat Catholic Youth on Facebook

**Mass Times**

**Saturday - 5:00 pm**

**Sunday - 8:30am, 10:30am & 6:00pm**

**Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00-4:00pm**



Gospel Acclamation (John 10.14)

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

I am the good shepherd,  
says the Lord; I know my sheep,  
and my own know me.

**Alleluia.**

**Welcome To Holy Family Parish**

You have entered this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. Being a human, you enter this church as a creature of God; as a baptized person, you enter it as a son or daughter of the Father in Christ. This house of God is therefore your family home. Come in then with humility of mind, joy of heart and thanks on your lips. Acknowledge the Lord's presence in the Tabernacle and adore Him. Come in and pause in prayer in the midst of your busy life and its many worries. Be grateful for those who, for the Glory of God, built this place of worship with faith and sacrifice, and sanctified it with their songs and prayers.

Anyone who wishes to practice the Catholic faith by attending this church may consider this parish as his/her own parish. You simply need to register. Please indicate whether you are a new parishioner or have moved and are providing a new address. Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 20/21, 2013

## SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading** (Acts 13:14-43-52). Everywhere Paul and Barnabas go, they preach the Gospel first of all to the Jews, but when the Jews reject it, they turn to the Gentles who receive it with gratitude and joy.

**Second Reading** (Rev. 7:9, 14-17). This contains a vision of those who will come triumphantly through times of great tribulation and persecution. They will owe their victory to the care of Christ, the Good Shepherd.

**The Gospel** (John 10: 27-30). Christ is the true Shepherd and no one can snatch from his care the sheep that his Father has given him.

## OPERATING FINANCES

(April 11<sup>th</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013)

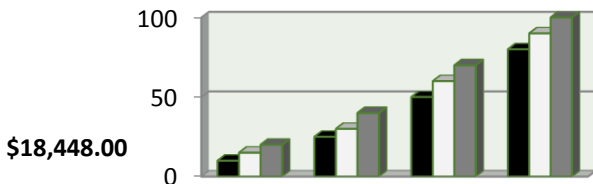
-Cost to operate our Parish (Budget 2013)		\$15,600
-General Collections:	\$13,287	
-Debt reduction (Mortgage)	\$2,800	
-Total Collections:	\$16,087	
-Exceed or (Shortfall)		\$487

### Special Collections

***Together in Action:.....	\$990
***Priests Retirement Fund:.....	\$10
***World Missions:.....	\$22
***St Vincent de Paul:.....	\$911
***CARO:.....	\$70
***Mission Mexico:.....	\$15
***NET Ministries:.....	\$80

Together  
in Action

2013 Goal - \$55,151.48  
YTD Donations: \$18,448.00



## 2013 TOGETHER IN ACTION -TIA-

“...You will be my witnesses... Acts: 1: 8).

Please contribute to the Together in Action.

Thank you for your Generosity and Support!

## PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS & INTENTIONS

DAILY MASS MAY BE CANCELLED

IN THE CASE OF A FUNERAL

SUNDAY, APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- + **Mass: 8:30am** (Intention: Jack & Verna Bischoff)
- + Library: open after morning Masses
- + **Mass: 10:30am** (Intention: Holy Family Parish)
- + Children's Liturgy at 10:30 Mass
- + Tribute to Carmelite Sisters: 11:00am at St. Patrick's Parish
- + 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights of Columbus Supper: 5:30pm in HFP Hall
- + **Mass: 6:00pm** (Intention: Laura & Darcy Enger & Family)
- + UNCHAINED after 6:00pm Mass in the Faith Room

MONDAY, APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>

- + **Mass: 9:00am** (Intention: Adam & Kathryn Schafer)
- + Funeral Lunch Committee: 4:00pm in Holy Family Parish Hall
- + Circle of Friends Prayer Group: 7:00pm at St. Joseph's Home

TUESDAY, APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>

- + SVDP Meeting: 4:00pm at St. Patrick's Parish
- + **Mass: 7:00pm** (Intention: Sofron Fejsa †)
- + **Adoration after Mass until 8:30 with the NET Team**
- + Light Weigh: 7:00pm in the Hope Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>

- + Women's Praise & Worship: 6:45am in the Faith Room
- + **Mass: 8:00am** at St. Patrick's School
- + **Mass: 9:00am** (Intention: Sheilagh Lockert †)
- + Breakfast after Mass in Hall
- + Bible Study: 9:30am in the Faith Room
- + Ministry to the aged: 1:30pm - Sunnyside
- + Ministry to the aged: 3:30pm - Good Samaritans
- + Choir Practice (6pm Mass): 6:00pm
- + RCIA 7:00pm in the Faith Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>

ST. MARK, EVANGELIST

- 
- + Men's Prayer Group: 6:30am in the Charity Room
  - + **Mass: 9:00am** (Intention: Michael Hertz Sr. ☩)
  - + Breakfast after Mass in Hall
  - + Liturgy Meeting: 4:30pm in the Hope Room
  - + **Holy Hour: 6:00pm**
  - + Choir Practice for 8:30 & 10:30 Masses at 7:00pm

---

## FRIDAY, APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>

---

- + **Mass: 9:00am** (Intention: Anton & Dorothea Hertz ☩)
- + **Adoration after Mass until noon.**
- + Breakfast after Mass in Hall
- + Ministry to the aged: 10:00am – Meadowlands
- + **Mass: 10:00am** – The Wellington
- + Seniors Tea: 2:00pm in HFP Hall
- + EQUIP: 7:00pm at Holy Family Parish

---

## SATURDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>

---

- + 1<sup>st</sup> Communion/Reconciliation Retreat: 1:00-4:00pm at HFP Hall
- + **Reconciliation 3:00 – 4:00pm**
- + Confirmation Class: 4:00pm at St. Patrick's Parish
- + Choir Practice for 5:00 Mass at 4:00pm

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- + **Mass: 5:00pm** (Intention: Holy Family Parish Benefactors ☩)
- + Library open before 5:00pm Mass

---

## SUNDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>

### **THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

---

- + **Mass: 8:30am** (Intention: Holy Family Parish Deceased ☩)
- + Library: open after morning Masses
- + **Mass: 10:30am** (Intention: Holy Family Parish)
- + Children's Liturgy at 10:30 Mass
- + Confirmation Class: 5:00pm at HFP in the Faith Room
- + **Mass: 6:00pm** (Intention: Holy Family Parish Deceased ☩)
- + UNCHAINED after 6:00pm Mass in the Faith Room

---

## EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION/ADORATION

---

**Spare an hour with the Lord...**

**Tuesday: After 7:00pm Mass until 8:30pm**

**Thursday: Holy Hour from 6:00pm to 7:00pm**

**Friday: After 9:00am Mass until Noon**



**NET TEAM NEWS**

---

**Equip Gr. 6-9** - Did you ever think saints are just people from a long time ago who never did anything wrong and wear shiny gold halos? Come find out about some awesome saints, and what it really means to

be a saint! Friday April 26th at Holy Family Parish, 7pm-9pm!

**Equip Overnight Retreat: Open Wide the Doors to Christ**  
Join us for an epic overnight retreat of awesomeness for anyone in grades 6-9! Come out to St. Mary's Junior High School on Saturday May 4th starting 3:00 pm, overnight until Sunday May 5th at 3:00 pm! There will be games, new friends, talks, prayer, skits, music, food and fun! Bring your sleeping bag, pillow, pj's, change of clothes, and toiletries. Don't miss out!

**Unchained Gr. 10-12** - Do you have what it takes to win the **GREAT MATTRESS RACE**? Join us for a crazy fun night and see what team comes out on top, Sunday April 21st from 7pm-9pm at Holy Family Parish! Be there!!

Have you ever wondered what your purpose is or what you should do with your life? Come find out how God can help you find out what you were created for! Join us for a night on **Vocations**, Sunday May 5th from 7pm-9pm at Holy Family Parish!

**Unchained Overnight Retreat: Living for Greatness**; what are you living for? Come discover what you're living for at the UNCHAINED Overnight Retreat, for anyone in grades 10-12! Join us at Monsignor McCoy High School on Saturday April 27th starting 7:00 pm overnight until Sunday April 28th at 6:00 pm! There will be music, new friends, talks, prayer, skits, games, food and fun! Bring your sleeping bag, pillow, pj's, change of clothes, and toiletries. Feel free to bring a friend! Don't miss out on this awesome event!

**Parish-wide Adoration** Come spend time with Jesus at our Adoration night, Tuesday April 23rd following the 7pm Mass at Holy Family Parish! Don't pass up this opportunity to grow closer to God!

**Volunteers** - Interested in volunteering in Youth Ministry? The NET Team invites you to share your love for God and your gifts with the youth of our parish! There are a variety of different things that we would love your help with, including giving a talk, leading a game, or leading small group for our Middle School/High School youth groups or Family Fundays, or helping with set up or background work. If you feel like you could help in other ways, you also have the options to donate snacks for our events, offer your home to host members of the team, or pray for the ministry. We will be starting our Leadership Training Series very soon, so please contact us at [medhatcatholicyouth@gmail.com](mailto:medhatcatholicyouth@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering!

**Why the NET?** The main goal for the NET is to build a stronger Catholic youth community. The host homes invited the NET into their homes, for two weeks, and during that time they had the opportunity to spend time with the families who struggle with prayer and prayer balance. The NET Team is working very hard to strengthen our catholic community through Fun Days, Equip (Gr 6-9), Unchained (Gr 10-12), Retreats, Church Programs and School Activities. It's a huge commitment!

**How often have you heard this expression?** "Where are the young families? How can we bring them back to the church? Our part, as a whole parish, is to continue to pray for our youth, invite them into various church ministries, and continue to encourage and support them. As a

community, we can make it happen! **Where do we begin?** Let's begin by inviting!

**Would you help the host home families?** The NET has been in our community since October 2012. Since then, many families and individuals have already given generously and were a tremendous help in supplying a few groceries, cash and baking. Every single donation was received with great gratitude! If you wish to help the remaining 8 host homes, call 403-527-4338, for more information.

**You are invited!** If you shared your time, talent and treasure to the NET this past year, you are invited to a BBQ May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in St. Patrick's parish hall. Please mark your calendar and call to confirm your attendance.

### **Thank you to the host homes April 18 – May 2, 2013**

- ✓ Jamie & Marta Marroquin 3-M
- ✓ Stewart & Jackie Metcalfe 2-F
- ✓ Marie-Anna & Bob Stephens 2-F

### **ANNUAL FINANCE MEETING MAY 8, AT 7 PM**

**We are grateful to have your financial and spiritual support. The Annual Finance Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 8 at 7 pm in the HALL. All parishioners are welcome! We invite your questions and concerns at this meeting. We would like your input as to where we go from here in regards to future projects of our church. Please join us!**

1. **2012 finance review**
2. **Building a baptismal font?**
3. **Expanding the hall?**
4. **Building a columbarium?**
5. **Building a grotto?**

### **SPECIAL THANK YOU**

I would like to personally thank all those who helped me in every way for the great Canadian barn dance supper and show Friday evening, and the dance on Saturday evening. It turned out to be a great success and enjoyed by all. Thanks from Bob!

### **CAMP McCOY**

Camp McCoy is looking for photos of Camp McCoy for a power point presentation, the older the better. We need photos of the old hall inside and out, Camp activities and/or photos of the grounds before cabins and extra buildings. All photos will be returned to their owners once scanned. Not all photos will be used for the power point. You could also email me photos. Please contact: Michael Anctil 403-529-7815 (cell) [manctil@memlane.com](mailto:manctil@memlane.com)



**C.W.L.**

The CWL Our Lady of Good Counsel Mass will be on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.

## **SUMMER BIBLE CAMP**

### **LEADERS and HELPERS for SUMMER BIBLE CAMP NEEDED**

The topic for the bible camp this summer for both Holy Family and St. Patrick's is "St. Patrick and the Holy Trinity"! The program that will be used for this camp has everything we need to run a tight ship with fun, food, frolic and best of all faith building for children K to Gr. 5.

I just need people like you to help! It's in the early stages but a committee **for each parish** is needed. We'll have to get together soon and start planning.

The weeks are

St. Patrick's Church – Monday July 8 to 12 from 9am – 12 NOON

Holy Family Church – Monday July 15 to 19 from 9am – 12 NOON

Please call Sally Myers at 403-527-6933 for more information. This will so much fun for our kids and for us too!! =) Please help make it happen!

### **SACRAMENTAL PREP CLASSES**

Only 3 classes left!! My how time flies! Please check schedules for class dates and retreats!

1<sup>st</sup> Communion Retreat will be Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at Holy Family Parish Hall 1:00pm – 4:00pm. This retreat is for candidates only.

### **CENTENNIAL MASS COMBINED CHOIR**

On Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating with Bishop Henry 100 years of our Catholic Diocese in Southern Alberta. This is an open invitation to anyone who would like to help support our music ministry by signing up in leading the congregation in song. A sign-up sheet is posted in the choir practice room at Holy Family Parish or you can call choir leader Sally Myers at 403-527-6933 for more information. Practice will begin Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup> from 4:15 to 5:15 and continue on every Tuesday until May 26<sup>th</sup>. If you work and aren't able to get to practice until 5:00 or so Sally will stay longer to practice with those individuals.

### **FEEDING THE HOMELESS SCHEDULES**

The new schedule for the "Feeding the Homeless" program starting May 23<sup>rd</sup> can be picked up in the folders beside the vestment room.

### **YOU ARE INVITED TO A BARBECUE!**

In appreciation for all that St. Patrick's and Holy Family Parishioners have done to help the NET team, we would like to invite you to a Barbecue: **Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in St. Patrick's Church Hall.** If you have volunteered, in any way, by becoming a host family, donated food to help host families, brought snacks for Youth Nights, all who donated cash, and for everyone who prayed for the success of the NET and our youth in the parishes, please join us, and mark your calendars! Since this is a catered event, we need to know the number of people, as well as **the ages of any children** attending, please call/email, if you can attend, no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>, to either: **Dianna 403-527-4338** ([hdfrey@shaw.ca](mailto:hdfrey@shaw.ca)) or **Trish 403-529-6824** ([btcarr@shaw.ca](mailto:btcarr@shaw.ca))

## **MOUNT ST. FRANCIS RETREAT**

Many of our retreatants have requested an early reminder of the ladies mid-week retreat at Mount Saint Francis so they are able to do some planning prior to summer.

Mount Saint Francis Ladies Mid-week retreat, Cochrane, AB Tuesday September 10th - Thursday September 12th /2013 Contact: Kathy Oczkowski 403-246-0660 or Roni Cooper 403-271-8812

## **ROSARY BOUQUET FOR THE CALGARY DIOCESE**

The diocese of Calgary is grateful for the blessings received in the past hundred years. We continue to seek God's blessings upon all individuals, families, religious and the clergy of the entire Diocese.

We pray the Rosary interceding through our dear Blessed Mother. The Legion of Mary is collecting your Rosary Pledges on their website until the end of the Centennial Year.

Please visit [www.LoMCalgaryDiocese.ca](http://www.LoMCalgaryDiocese.ca) (Rosary section) for details or contact Joan [403-208-6887](tel:403-208-6887) / Sally [403-547-1770](tel:403-547-1770) or e-mail us at: [info@LoMCalgaryDiocese.ca](mailto:info@LoMCalgaryDiocese.ca)

Kindly pass on this message to your friends requesting them to pray for our diocese.

## **A FATHER'S PROSPECTIVE**

I said to my son "Listen, I will be very clear about this, I think buying that thing is a stupid idea. It is, after all, a toy, and 350.00\$ is a lot of money to spend on a toy. I can say with almost certainty, that you will regret buying it. I have some better ideas of things you can buy with that money. But, that being said, it is your choice, and your money, and if you choose to waste it in that way, I will not stop you." My son, even after this warning couldn't imagine a time when he wouldn't want that toy, he thought he would always be of the same mindset so he chose to spend his money on the toy despite my warnings. I think about from God's point of view. We are not able to look too far into the future, we think we will always be in this world but God knows there will be a time when we will move beyond toys, and will see what we have wasted. However, like a father, He tries to direct us into things we won't regret later, but, will not force us, always allowing us to have free will. If we choose not to listen, then we will suffer the regret of what was wasted.

## **OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**

**World Day of Prayer for Vocations:** You are invited to a holy hour of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life on **Sunday April 21, 2013**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at **7:30 p.m.** Homilist: Fr. Pius Harding, O.S.B. Place: **St. Anne's Parish, Calgary**. For further information contact Fr. Gaffney at 403-245-2753.

### **Information Day on the Diocesan Priesthood**

This day is for men between the ages of 17 and 35 years. It includes talks given by Bishop Henry and priests of the diocese, as well as the celebration of the Eucharist.

**Location:** Sacred Heart Church, 1307 – 14th St. S.W., Calgary, (new Lower Hall/14th Street entrance)

**Date:** Saturday, May 11th, 9:00 a.m. -- 2:00 p.m.

For further information and to register contact: Office of Vocations

**Phone:** 403-245-2753: **E-mail:** [mjgaffney@telusplanet.net](mailto:mjgaffney@telusplanet.net).

## **YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR**

St. Patrick and Holy Family Parishes are in need of a highly-motivated and confident coordinator of Youth Ministry.

**The successful candidate for this position will have:**

- Personal Catholic Faith conviction and active participation in a Catholic Parish
- Good organizational skills
- Self-motivation to work flexible hours with a minimum supervision
- Good communication skills
- Commitment to the teaching and practices of the Catholic Faith
- Education and/or experience in youth ministry

**Specific tasks for this position:**

- Continue to develop youth ministry at St. Patrick and Holy Family
- Encourage and assist those engaged in youth ministry in the parishes and schools
- Work with three level of youth: elementary, junior and high schools

**So far we have 5 applications**

**For further information, contact Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat, Alberta 403-527-6933**

**Candidates are invited to submit a resume before May 31, 2013 by email: [frphilip@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:frphilip@holyfamilymh.ca)**

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

This Sunday April 21/2013 Catholics are invited to reflect on the meaning of God's call and to pray for vocations.

The Vatican Council documents speak at length on the ways in which God calls us to serve and to work for the spread of God's Kingdom. Christ, the Good Shepherd continues to lead his people through bishops, priests, deacons, religious brothers and sisters, and calls many to follow him in this way.

Priestly, diaconal and religious vocations should be a constant concern in the hearts of God's people throughout the year. The whole Christian community shares the responsibility for fostering vocations. The first step is to live a full Christian manner. Families with a lively spirit of faith, love and reverence contribute greatly to this work. Spiritually active parishes, where people take a full part, help to promote vocations also. Please pray for vocations this week.

## Taken from Pope Francis' Homily on Holy Thursday

The priest who seldom goes out of himself, who anoints little – I won't say "not at all" because, thank God, the people take the oil from us anyway – misses out on the best of our people, on what can stir the depths of his priestly heart. Those who do not go out of themselves, instead of being mediators, gradually become intermediaries, managers. We know the difference: the intermediary, the manager, "has already received his reward", and since he doesn't put his own skin and his own heart on the line, he never hears a warm, heartfelt word of thanks. This is precisely the reason for the dissatisfaction of some, who end up sad – sad priests - in some sense becoming collectors of antiques or novelties, instead of being shepherds living with "the odor of the sheep". This I ask you: be shepherds, with the "odour of the sheep", make it real, as shepherds among your flock, fishers of men. True enough, the so-called crisis of priestly identity threatens us all and adds to the broader cultural crisis; but if we can resist its onslaught, we will be able to put out in the name of the Lord and cast our nets. It is not a bad thing that reality itself forces us to "put out into the deep", where what we are by grace is clearly seen as pure grace, out into the deep of the contemporary world, where the only thing that counts is "unction" – not function – and the nets which overflow with fish are those cast solely in the name of the One in whom we have put our trust: Jesus.

Dear lay faithful, be close to your priests with affection and with your prayers, that they may always be shepherds according to God's heart.



To see the complete Homily go to...

[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/francesco/homilies/2013/documents/papa-francesco\\_20130328\\_messa-crismale\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/homilies/2013/documents/papa-francesco_20130328_messa-crismale_en.html)



# Bringing Home the Word



4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER April 21, 2013

## What Makes a Good Shepherd?

By Diane M. Houdek

Pope Benedict's resignation just before the beginning of Lent has stirred more than the usual amount of papal election speculation. The question of his willingly relinquishing the most powerful position in the Roman Catholic Church took many by surprise. Some saw it as a sign of humility. Others saw it as a dangerous break with tradition.

In our instant information age, the leader of the universal Church is far more visible than in the past, when often people knew the pope primarily from a formal portrait in the church hall. The election of a new pope was international news, but ordinary people didn't give it much thought until it was announced. In this election, we had detailed accounts of any cardinal who might be eligible to be voted in as

pope by his brother cardinals in the conclave. We heard about how many languages they spoke, their educational and professional background, and any scandals that might keep them from the top job. There's a pretty good chance that Peter the First wouldn't have made it to the first ballot!

Today's Gospel offers a way to think about leadership in the Christian community. It's always a position of service, not power. Again and again theologians and commentators tried to remind the news media of this through the run-up to the papal conclave. The papacy has a long history interwoven with the monarchs of western European history.

In John's Gospel, part of which we hear today, Jesus offers an extended reflection on his statement, "I am the Good Shepherd." This is an image with deep roots in the Hebrew Scriptures, which emerged, like the Gospels, from a rural, pastoral culture in which sheep and goats provided much of the food, clothing, and shelter for the people. The prophets speak of God acting as a shepherd to the people. David, the greatest king in the Old Testament, was chosen while caring for his flock and was referred to as a shepherd king.

Jesus frames the metaphor in terms of a protective love, a shepherd who risks his own life for the life of the flock. The threat of predators is very

real, both for sheep and for humans. The pope is ultimately the pastor and protector not only of the doctrines of the faith but of the people of God entrusted to him.

Being a shepherd is no task for the weak. A tiny lamb is cute and cuddly, but in a very short time that lamb is heavy, strong, stubborn, and unwieldy. The shepherd must be strong enough to tend the sheep but gentle enough not to frighten them into heart failure. Our God takes much the same approach with us. And so we come to reflect on the Good Shepherd with both a child-like faith and an awareness of adult dangers. It is an image of comfort, but an image of strong comfort.

Especially this year, we might think that the pope, the cardinals, the bishops, and the clergy, carry the leadership responsibility in the Church. But all of us are called to this task to some extent. Like Jesus, who was both the Lamb of God and the Good Shepherd, sometimes we're sheep and sometimes we're shepherds. We have a responsibility to care for others in the way that we ourselves have been sheltered and protected. Take some time this week to reflect on your role as shepherd. Unite your efforts in a special way with the loving care of Jesus the Good Shepherd and notice how it makes a difference in your attitude and approach to your daily tasks. †

- What are your hopes for the Church with a new pope following in the footsteps of St. Peter?
- The image of shepherd has its roots in the nomadic culture of the early Hebrews. What can it say to us today?
- How do you see the exercise of Christian leadership?