

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO  
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, QUEENSPORT  
ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT FELIX**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR, 366-2927  
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 358-2346**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Donna Jackson,, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer, Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,  
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne, Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at [www.cansoparishes.org](http://www.cansoparishes.org)*

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 21, 2024**

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**Saturday, April 27** - 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph, Port Felix - ♥*For the Faithful*

**Sunday, April 28** - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Mary Cecile Sampson*

**Sunday, April 28** - 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea, Canso - †*Ronald Cashin Sr. & Jr*

**WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:**

Thursday, April 25 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

**NOTES:** The church of St. Vincent de Paul is closed for the winter months. **MASS will resume the May 5, 2024.**

**COMMUNION CALLS** - If you know of anyone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

**REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS:** *Jesus, The Good Shepherd*

*One of the oldest Christian representations of Jesus is that of the **Good Shepherd**. Pictures of Jesus carrying a sheep on his shoulders were found in the catacombs of Rome, painted by Christians who were being hunted down by the Roman soldiers because of their faith in Christ. In this most trying time, they got their courage in their belief that their Master was watching over them. They could not deny Jesus who had offered his life for them. We can well imagine the catacombs echoing their prayer of trust: "**The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want**" (Ps 23).*

*The allegory of the Shepherd reflects directly the person and the mission of Christ. The voluntary offering of His life for his sheep is the reason for which the Father loves him. The sheep definitively belong to the Father; he who gives his life for the sheep is loved by the Father. The principle of belonging to the sheepfold is that of mutual belonging and true communion between the shepherd and the sheep. It should be a communion as deep and indissoluble as the communion between the Father and the Son.*

**BUTTERFLY MEMORY TREES** - in Star of the Sea/St. Joseph Church/St. Agnes Hall will remain until Pentecost Sunday, May 19. If you wish to remember a loved one in this manner please fill out a Memorial Card (available in the entrance of the church) and place it in the Collection Basket. A donation of \$5.00 is requested per Butterfly. Donations will be deposited to the parish of your choice. For more information contact the parish office.

**STAR OF THE SEA NEWS**

**Property/Finance Committee** - Tuesday, May 7 at 6:15 p.m. **New members needed!!**

**Ministries Schedule, April 28**

Lector - Buzz Lumsden

Cleaners - April 28 - May 4 - Irene/Juanita

### Ways & Means Events

Trivia Night - special thank you to all who helped out in any way, it is much appreciated! Profit was \$1,100.00

Club 100 Tickets - are available and can be purchased from committee members. Draw date is April 30

Spring Fling/Lobster Card Play - May 4, 12 noon, flyer will be available next week. Donations for Variety Wheel, Bake Table and Chocolate/Candy Wheel would be appreciated!

**PLEASE CONTACT A COMMITTEE MEMBER OR THE PARISH OFFICE TO HELP OUT**

### **ST. AGNES NEWS**

Bingo - Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall

### **ST JOSEPH NEWS**

Regular Weekly Bingo - continues Saturdays, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Joseph Parish Hall.

Card Plays - continue Tuesdays, at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

### **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU!**

Star of the Sea (28)	915.00
Easter Sunday (4)	80.00
Good Friday, Holy Lands (2)	50.00
Winter Fuel (2)	40.00

St. Agnes (15)	210.00
Loose	10.00
Easter (1)	20.00

St. Joseph (18)	177.00
Cemetery	50.00

### **AUGUSTINIAN HEALING MINISTRIES -**

Healing Mass - Saturday, April 27, 2:00 p.m. Our Lady of Grace Monastery Chapel, Celebrant - Father Albert Mac Pherson, O.S.A. There will be anointing with blessed oil and prayers for healing of body, mind and spirit.

### **ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF DEACON DAVID RANKIN**

St. Ninian Cathedral, Antigonish - May 31, 3:00 p.m. Deacon David Rankin warmly invites all to his ordination to the priesthood by Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick on the Feast of the Visitation. There will be a light reception to follow at St. Ninian Place.

All are also invited to his First Mass at 4:00 pm on Saturday, June 1 at 4:00 p.m. (vigil for Corpus Christi) at his home parish, St. Mary's in Mabou. RSVP here:

<https://forms.gle/84gSED3igMoVV99z9>

# No One Forces Him

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Acts 4:8-12 - The stone that has become the cornerstone
- ▶ 1 John 3:1-2 - The children of God
- ▶ John 10:11-18 - The Good Shepherd

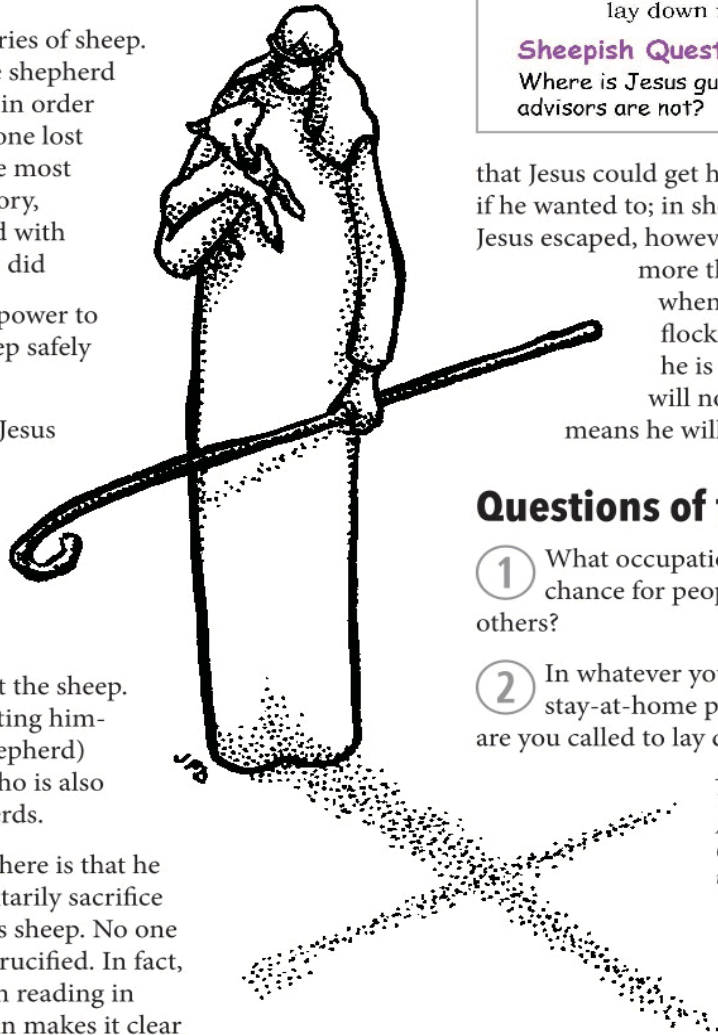
In Jesus' time and culture, raising sheep was such a common vocation that it was easy for Jesus' listeners to identify with metaphors about sheep, flocks, and shepherds. Many stories, parables, psalms, and commandments in the Old Testament revolved around sheep and shepherds. You might think here of Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want..."

Jesus also told stories of sheep. The parable of the shepherd who left 99 sheep in order to search out the one lost sheep is one of the most famous. In that story, Jesus equated God with the shepherd who did

everything in his power to bring the lost sheep safely home.

In today's gospel, Jesus is even more direct. He identifies himself as the ultimate good shepherd who is willing to die in order to protect the sheep. He is clearly equating himself (the Good Shepherd) with the Father who is also the best of shepherds.

Jesus' main point here is that he is willing to voluntarily sacrifice his own life for his sheep. No one forces him to be crucified. In fact, during the Passion reading in John's Gospel, John makes it clear



"I am the good shepherd and I will lay down my life for the sheep."

**Sheepish Question:**  
Where is Jesus guiding me that other leaders or advisors are not?

that Jesus could get himself out of his predicament if he wanted to; in short, he does not have to die. If Jesus escaped, however, he would be like nothing more than a hired hand who runs away when he sees a wolf coming for the flock. Jesus tells us ahead of time that he is willing to stand fast, and that he will not abandon his sheep, even if it means he will die for them.

## Questions of the Week

- 1 What occupations in today's world offer the chance for people to lay down their lives for others?
- 2 In whatever your life situation is (paid work, a stay-at-home parent, a retired person, etc) how are you called to lay down your life for others?

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