

FROM FR. DEO

April 26, 2026



Dear brothers and Sisters,
He is truly risen! Alleluia!

This Fourth Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The Church invites us to reflect on God's call and to pray for those discerning a life of service in the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. The Good Shepherd continues His work through those He calls, reminding each of us to listen to His voice, and to follow Him.

Today's Gospel (John 10:1–10) describes the Good Shepherd who lovingly cares for His flock. John gives us two powerful images: Jesus is the Shepherd and the Gate. As the Good Shepherd, He knows His sheep and calls each by name (John 10:3). We are not numbers to Him—each of us is personally known, loved, and called by name. At the same time, Jesus is the Gate. Through Him we are led to life and salvation. He does not only guide us to eternal life—He is Himself the way into it.

Christian discipleship means following Christ—trusting Him and allowing His voice to shape our lives, even when the path is unclear. The challenge is to recognize His voice, which often comes through others. As St. Óscar Romero said, “Each one of you has to be God's microphone... a messenger, a prophet.” This is the witness Christ asks of all who are called to shepherd others.

Following His example, we are all called to be good shepherds—leading, nurturing, comforting, correcting, and protecting those entrusted to us. This mission belongs not only to Church leaders, but also to parents, civic leaders, and all who have responsibility for others.

Join me in honoring our first responders at the 9:00 Mass today—firefighters, police officers, and paramedics who respond in moments of crisis. Like the Good Shepherd, they run toward danger, risking their lives to protect and save others while others are running away.

Thanks to those who have contributed reflections, personal stories and individual perspectives to our “Parishioners' Corner” page. Each article has been uniquely valuable. If you have not contributed to this forum, I invite you to share your thoughts and faith experiences with our parish community.

In parish news, you are warmly invited to a Candlelight Rosary to begin the month of Mary and honor mothers and grandmothers. Together, we will pray for all mothers—those with us, those who have gone before us, and those who nurture life with love. We are also organizing a Mother's Day raffle to support our parish ministries. See page 10 of this bulletin.

Next Saturday, our children will receive Communion for the first time. In the Eucharist, they will receive Jesus, who truly loves them and draws close as their friend and guide. Let us support them by our example of faith, prayer, and love, and may this moment renew in all of us a deeper love for the Eucharist.

May we grow in our ability to recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd, trust in His care, and follow Him more faithfully each day.

God is good all the time... All the time God is good!

Fr Deo

