



30 April 2023
Fourth Sunday of Easter



INTRODUCTION:

We have the opportunity today to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.

READINGS:

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Second Reading: 1 Pet 2:20-25
Gospel: Jn 10:1-10

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Called together in the Holy Spirit, we are God's people, the sheep of his flock. With great confidence we bring our prayers before him:

Response: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

For Francis our Pope, Oswald our Bishop and all the pastors of the Church that they may listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd and lead his people in the ways of eternal life. We pray to the Lord.

For parents and teachers, that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit and encourage young people to hear and respond to God's call in their lives. We pray to the Lord.

For all who feel distant from the love of the Father, that they may be gathered into the loving embrace of God, through the ministry of the Church and the power of the gospel. We pray to the Lord.

For all who are lonely, sick, frail, or housebound, that they will feel the touch of God's healing love. We pray to the Lord.

For the intentions we now pray in the silence of our hearts. (p-a-u-s-e). We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Almighty and ever-loving God, you have made us your children, confident to call you Father. Increase your spirit of love within us and bring us to our promised inheritance. We ask this through Christ our Lord.