

Saint Mary's Parish

A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 13, 2008

Our Parish Office

32 East Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Other times by appointment
Office: 607-776-3327
Fax: 607-776-3409
Email: bstmaryc@dor.org

Our Parish Staff

Deacon Ray Defendorf
Pastoral Administrator
E-mail: RDefendorf@DOR.org

Rev. Peter Anglaere
Regional Parish Priest
E-mail: peteranglae@yahoo.com

Fr. John Wydeven
Weekend Assistance

Deacon Ed Wight
Parish Deacon - 776-3258

Barbara Bailey
Parish Bookkeeper/Secretary
E-Mail: BBAiley@DOR.org

Dan Barefoot
Custodian

Mary Faucett
Parish Life Volunteer

Paula Gardner
Office Volunteer
E-Mail: PaulaGardner@DOR.org

Mary Card Wall
Youth Ministry/Faith Formation
Coordinator - 776-6944
E-Mail: Avocawals@peoplepc.com

St. Mary's Choir

Aubri Ordway, Director
Assisted by **Brad Ordway**
Brent Franklin - Keyboard

Ellie Boutwell/Carl Johengen
Saturday Mass Organists

Our Parish Council

William MacNamara
Chairperson - 556-3690

Rosemary States
Vice-Chairperson - 776-7520

Mary McConnell
Secretary - 776-3265

Jim Gallagher
Stewardship Chairperson - 776-6810

Sean McKinley - 329-4436

Barbara Perry - 776-6920

Kathy Warren - 776-4074

Jesus Calls Us By Name

Jesus talks about sheep and shepherds in the Gospel. What are some facts about these wool-bearing creatures we call sheep?

Start with a comparison. Maybe you and I remember our childhood when we turned various insects on their back and watched them struggle and never achieve their proper leg-side down position unless we had mercy on them. Shepherds tell us that an unshorn sheep is the same way: completely stranded if it gets turned on its back. The shepherd carries a crook so he can turn them right-side up when they need it. That is why they follow him. He is kind and careful with his flock.

History tells us that the many shepherds all brought their small herds down to Jerusalem, and these various flocks were kept together in one big sheepfold. How, you might ask, does each shepherd retrieve the sheep that belong to him or to his boss, since there were no brands, no markings of any kind, just a fuzzy mob.

The first way is that the shepherd can call each of his sheep by name. He has been with them on the hillsides and they are no strangers to him. The one with the nick in its ear, the one with the pretty face, the one that limps. He has a name for each because they each have a personality that is special, just like human beings. When they hear their names they come and follow.

And second, the sheep recognize not only the name but the actual voice of the shepherd. It is a much loved sound to them. It belongs to the

one who flipped them back on their feet, the one who shielded them from wolves, the one who led them to fresh pastures instead of the ones they had eaten down to nubs. A stranger's voice could not have the gentle consonance of their master and friend. Of course his sheep flocked to him.

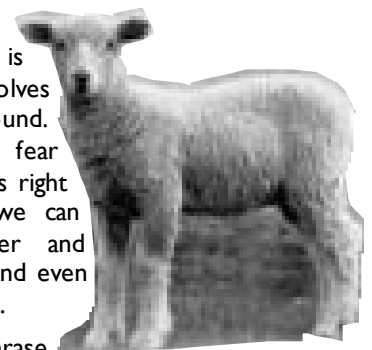
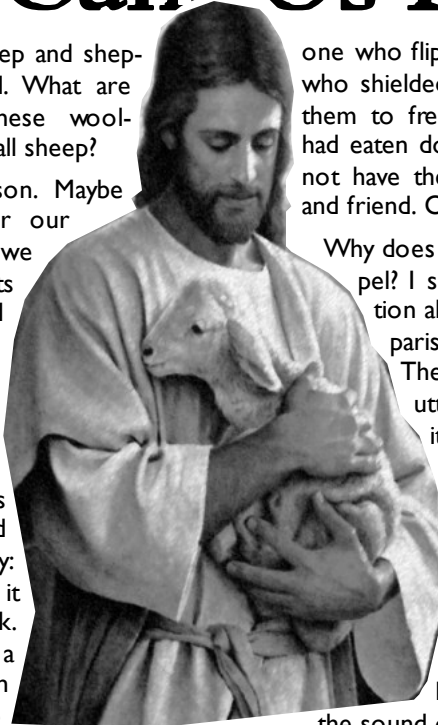
Why does Jesus use this imagery in today's Gospel? I suppose you have answered the question already, but, if you will pardon the comparison, you and I are a lot like sheep. The shepherd calls them by name and the utter God of the universe (galaxy, infinity, etc.) calls each of us by name. In Jesus God knows each and every one of us better than we know ourselves. The name he confirms for each of us finds its way down to the deepest potential of our souls. By it he calls us to be most truly who we are in our self and in God.

Like sheep, each of us knows by heart the sound of God's voice. Alright, we may misunderstand it, ignore it, resist it, slam our ears shut to it, but in our moments of sane and solitary wholeness—or in our times of trouble—our spirits pulse to the rhythm of that voice. It resounds within us.

Like the call of the shepherd, this call is safe, in spite of wolves and wildness all around. The call lets our fear drop away, turns us right side up so that we can follow our master and friend over rocks and even through dark valleys.

Sometimes the phrase, "people are sheep," is deemed an insult. This Sunday it is the greatest compliment we could get.

Fr. John Foley, S.J.
Center for Liturgy



Lenten Mass/Communion/Reconciliation Schedule

Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day

Saturday - 4:00 p.m. ✧ Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday - 5:00 p.m. ✧ Friday - 9:00 a.m.

Scripture/Communion Services

Monday - 9:00 a.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

1st and 3rd Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.



A member of the
Central Steuben
Catholic Parishes

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY April 13 Fourth Sunday of Easter
 9:00 a.m. For the Parishioners of St. Mary's

MONDAY April 14 Easter Monday
 9:00 a.m. Communion Service

TUESDAY April 15, Easter Tuesday
 5:00 p.m. In Mem. of Louise & Doris Cornaire
 By Lee Cornaire

WEDNESDAY April 16, Easter Wednesday
 5:00 p.m. In Mem. of Dorothy Rosette
 By Anna Mae, Don, Donald & Cheryl Mills

THURSDAY April 17, Easter Thursday
 5:00 p.m. In Mem. of Douglas Klose
 By Rosemary Clairemont

FRIDAY April 18 Easter Friday
 9:00a.m. In Mem. of Deceased Members of the Sutryk family
 By Joan Buck

SATURDAY April 19, Easter Saturday
 4:00 p.m. In Memory of Shirley Baxter
 By the Swartz Family

SUNDAY April 13, Fourth Sunday of Easter
 9:00a.m. In Memory of Mary Beebe
 By the Prayer Shawl Ministry

There are many weekday Masses available in the upcoming weeks (stipend \$10).
 To schedule a Mass, please call 776-3327 or come to the Parish Office.

PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

SUNDAY April 13
 10:00a.m. Coffee Hour
 3:00p.m. Sunday Supper

MONDAY April 14
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

MONDAY April 14
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do
 6:30p.m. GS Service Team meeting - 204A

TUESDAY April 15
 5:00p.m. Quota Dinner
 6:00p.m. Weight Loss Challenge, Room 101

WEDNESDAY April 16
 7:30 p.m. Prayer Group, Chapel

WEDNESDAY April 16
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do - Room 204

THURSDAY April 17
 5:30pm Weight Watchers - Hall

FRIDAY April 18

SATURDAY April 19
 1:00p.m. NA, Room 101

SUNDAY April 20
 10:00am Coffee Hour
 3:00p.m. Sunday Supper
 7:00p.m. AA, Room 101



Happy Birthday To You!

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 04/13 Logan Stratton | 04/15 Eileen Colomaio |
| 04/14 Arland Hanning | 04/18 Megan Russell |
| 04/15 Lorraine St. Pierre | 04/19 Carol Kuhnen |



Prayer List

Bruce Ayers, Joe Clancy, Nathaniel Couture, Peggy Defendorf, Mary and Jack Giblin, Esther Gerhart, Betty Hand, Joseph Kish, Merva Leckinger, Logan Manchocke, Ed Mancini, Art Moran, Fr. Gerald O'Connor, Deacon John Prave, Theresa Rodbourn, Charlotte Swarhout, Mary Carol Wall, Adam Weaver, and Stan Wraight.

Calling all Women of Faith



Join our parishioners at the 2008 retreat

May 2 - 4, 2008
 Notre Dame
 Retreat House
 Canandaigua, NY

2008 Theme:

Understanding Saint Paul A Realistic Guide for Today's Catholics

For more information and/or registration contact: Roxanne Costa at 776-6147 or Nancy Lynch at Notre Dame Retreat House 585-392-5700
 On the web at: www.ndretreat.org/

Catholic charities Turning Point

In cooperation with the following Churches:
 Bath Baptist + Bath First Presbyterian,
 Centenary United Methodist + Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints + St. Mary's Roman Catholic + St. Thomas Episcopal
 and the Church of the Good Shepherd
Presents a Delicious

Smorgasbord Dinner

Saturday, April 19, 2008
 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Centenary United Methodist Hall
 3 West Washington Street
 Bath, New York 14810

Tickets Available at Turning Point or at any of the participating churches or at the door.

Ages 12 and up: \$8.00
 Ages 6 - 11: \$6.00
 Ages 5 and below: Free

Building Faithful Citizenship

April 13, 2008

"I came that you might have life and have it more abundantly." (Jn. 10:10)

At the heart of the message on this Good Shepherd Sunday, Jesus promotes a fuller life for all people. Our challenge is to hear Christ's voice and follow it in order to embrace that life.

In "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," The US Bishops remind us that this goal of abundant life is very similar to a founding principle of our country: "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." (#2) When we follow our conscience and work to be citizens of faith, we are obligated to be people who promote an abundant life for all God's people.

- What does an "abundant life" look like - is it something other than material wealth?
- What blocks our society from promoting a fuller life for all?
- What can I do now to promote this fuller life for all?

SAINT MARY'S PARISH

"A Parish of Good Steward"
 Thank you for Making

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$
 Insurance Collection: \$
 Easter Flowers \$

Today's 2nd Collection Maintenance
 Next Week's 2nd Collection:: Can & Quarter

Assembly Schedule

April 12- Sat. 4:00 p.m.
 Precious Blood I
 April 13 - Sun. 9:00 a.m.
 Luminaries

To join an assembly call 776-3327

Team "Fishtoon Day" Needs You

Walk or Donate to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Maureen Fisher and her team will be walking on Sunday May 4, 2008 at 9am at Corning-Painted Post East High School. Join her team or give a donation that could make a difference in the lives of people with MS. Call Maureen at 776-3702.

CATHOLIC CALL IN

Have you always wondered why we Catholics genuflect?

Take advantage of the Catholic Call In to get an answer to your simple or your complicated questions. Call 1-8-4SPIRIT on April 22 between 2:00 and 8:00 p.m.



SENT TO SERVE

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

“With your crook and your staff you shall lead me.”

Three weeks ago, at St. Mary's Easter Vigil, **Kaitlyn Rumsey** joined tens of thousands worldwide who were baptized, confirmed and called to the table of the Lord. Millions more of us renewed the promises we made at our own baptism. Both today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles and Gospel reading from John share the same underlying theme: Salvation comes through baptism in Jesus Christ. Jesus describes himself as both the shepherd who calls and leads and cares for his sheep, and as the gate through which the sheep enter to be saved.

As we celebrate this Fourth Sunday of Easter, the excitement for us and many of those baptized at Easter has likely already waned. But today and for the next few weeks, the church continues to proclaim the message as urgently as she did before Easter. We are saved by baptism in Christ Jesus. And, when we grow in our personal relationship with Christ, we experience the security of those who allow the Good Shepherd to guide them through the hills and valleys of life.

“With your crook and your staff you shall lead me and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.”

April Diocesan Convocations and Events

Last week I wrote about the Diocesan Convocations for Permanent Deacons and the Priest and Pastoral Administration Convocation - both of which I recently attended. Later this month, Bishop Clark will convene two other convocations.

Diocesan Stewardship Day

On Saturday, April 26 - the third annual **Diocesan Stewardship Day** for pastoral leaders and parish council members will take place at the Burgundy Basin Conference Center in Pittsford, NY. Among the speakers will be **Bishop Matthew H. Clark** and **Fr. Daniel J. Mahan** the executive director of the Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship in Indianapolis who will address parish council members and parishioners from throughout the diocese on the topic of Stewardship as Spirituality. Stewardship Committee Chair **Jim Gallagher**, and several of our parish council members will attend this meeting with me. If you'd like to join in us, please call the parish office this week.

Did you know that our parish is featured in a DVD - **The Joy of Stewardship** which is being viewed by parishes throughout the diocese. I was among several pastors and pastoral administrators asked to witness to the importance of stewardship in living the Christian life.

About a year ago, we focused our stewardship efforts on celebrating the many people who serve in a variety of parish and community ministries. Recently, our parish council began the process of evaluating several areas that are typical of vital stewardship parishes and exploring ways that we might further involve our parishioners in experiencing the “joy of stewardship.” At Tuesday evening's parish council meeting, we discussed ways that we can welcome and involve the many new families and individuals who have recently joined our parish in our parish ministries and stewardship.

Gathering of the Ministerium

The last diocesan convocation, the annual **Gathering of the Ministerium** will take place on Wednesday, April 30 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Rochester. This annual event brings together pastors, pastoral administrators, pastoral associates, and those who minister in a variety of ministries in parishes throughout the twelve-county diocese. That day-long meeting will draw nearly five hundred ordained and lay ministers to hear two nationally recognized speakers on the topic: *Lay Ecclesial Ministry: Co-workers in the Vineyard*.

Hopefully, April's many opportunities to gather with our Bishop and colleagues in ministry will prove beneficial not only to those attending, but to parish communities that will benefit from refreshed and spiritually invigorated pastoral leaders and ministers.

Kudos to Cinderella Cast

Congratulations to several parish teens who appeared in last weekend's Bath-Haverling High School senior production of the musical *Cinderella*. The very talented cast included parishioners **Kevin Desrosiers**, **Jessica Harris**, **Fran Koehler** and **Jessica Sokolowski**. Providing strong musical accompaniment was an excellent

pit orchestra directed by **Cheryl Muller** which included **Ellie Boutwell**, **Michelle Neu**, and **Rich Rohrbach**. Well done!

Following Sunday Mass, Pat and I will get away for a few days - nothing special - just time to stop and smell the daffodils.

Have a good week. Serve one another well!

Deacon Ray

Stories You Can Share Without Blushing



Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, 'Why is the bride dressed in white?' Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.' The child thought about this for a moment then said, 'So why is the groom wearing black?'



CAR DONATIONS NEEDED

Do you have a car to donate to a parishioner in need? Currently two parishioners are in need of reliable transportation to get to work and school. Donate your car to the parish and receive a letter crediting you with a tax deductible gift for the vehicles full value. Call the office for details.



Volunteers Needed

The Health Ministry of the Southern Tier is seeking Health professionals to join teams of volunteer physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and office personnel for its Bath and Corning. HMST offers free medical care and prescription assistance.

For more information or to volunteer, call (607) 776-8085 Ext. 218



Welcome to our Parish Family