



Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday is traditionally known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. Jesus is the 'Good Shepherd' who can be trusted to guide our lives in the right direction.

Part of a shepherd's job is to look after the sheep, to guide them and help them to stay safe. In the Gospel below, Jesus encourages his disciples to put their trust in him; it is through trusting in Jesus that they will find security and hope.

There can be many things that trouble our hearts, but following and trusting in Jesus leads us on life's right and joyful path, freeing us from fears and worries.

Enjoy a special time this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **TRUST**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from Pope Francis

*"It is important to have friends we can trust. But it is essential to trust the Lord, who never lets us down. This is the key to success in life."*



## This Sunday's Gospel 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and, as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father."

Adapted from John 10:11-18  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year B

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.  
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2024 The Year of Prayer: Family Time Prayer & Share ▶

### Good News for Everyone

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, wants us to place our trust in him. When we trust Jesus to lead us, just as a shepherd leads his sheep, he helps us to make the right choices. Jesus fills our lives with goodness, so that we stay close to him and do not go astray.



# Good News for Families

## TOGETHER TIME



### Sunday Gospel Gallery

Imagine you are here with Jesus. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

## 1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd, who is ready to die for his sheep. Anyone who is hired cannot be trusted like the shepherd. They don't own the sheep. Someone who is hired may run away when they see a wolf coming and leave the sheep. Then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep. But the shepherd does not run away. I am the good shepherd. I know each of my sheep, and they know me."

**In this Sunday's Gospel, what did Jesus call himself?**

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.

## 2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"Put your trust in Jesus. He will fill your plans with meaning and joy. Open your hearts trustfully to Jesus!" *St. Pope John Paul II*

# TRUST



Ask your child what the word 'trust' means to them. Knowing who to trust is really important. A friend who can be trusted is a gift from God! Who does your child really trust and why do they trust them? Ask your child if they can think of a time when they were trusted. Perhaps you can tell your child about those people in your life whom you trust the most, and say why you trust them.



Each of you say how, in the days ahead, you can show your trust in Jesus. Perhaps, rather than worry, pray and offer any concerns to Jesus. How can we show Jesus, and others, that we are people who they can trust? Perhaps we can always try to: tell the truth; choose to do the right thing; be generous with our God-given gifts of time, talent and money; keep our promises.

3 Dear Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd who guides us through life. Please help us always to place our trust in you. Amen.

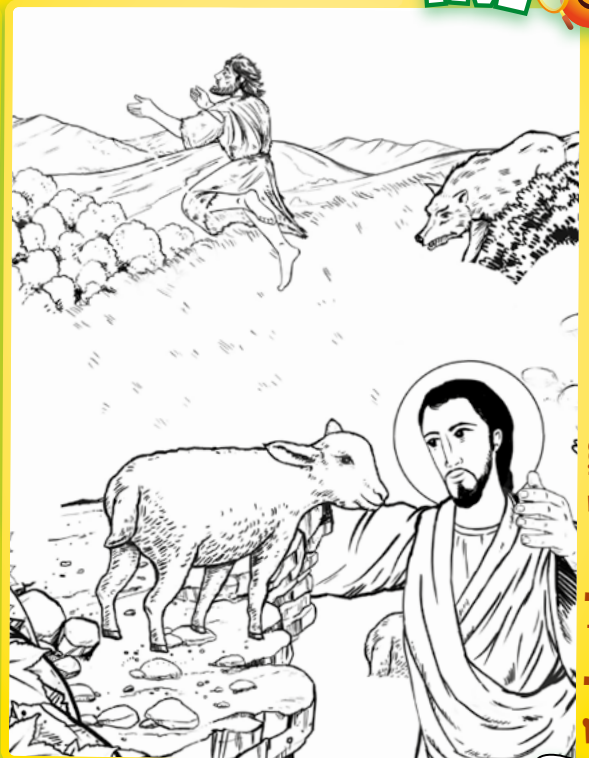
## FINDING FIVE

**WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH**

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HIRED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	MEN	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	RUN AWAY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	TRUST JESUS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	GOOD SHEPHERD	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



Find and draw 5 differences, then colour the picture

Cross out the letters **a u f** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

kanuowf ugotoda saheptherud stheepa

Jesus said, "I am the \_\_\_\_\_"

I know each of my \_\_\_\_\_, and they \_\_\_\_\_ me."



Jesus continues to be our Good Shepherd through the lives of our parents, teachers, priests and others, who show us how to live in a way that pleases God. We can be certain that we will never go wrong by trusting in Jesus.



This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley