

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 04/26 (IV Easter Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids after the Mass. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the church hall.
- 05/02 **Clergy Conference in Webster, MA.**
- 05/03 (V Easter Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids after the Mass. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the church hall. *Mass intention: For JAN PIEKARZEWSKI on the occasion of his birthday.*

- **Mass Intentions Announcement:** If you have a particular date in mind for a Mass Intention, please be sure to book it in advance, as we are able to schedule only one intention per Sunday. At this time, the first available Sunday with no intention is May 24, 2026. Please contact the parish office to reserve your date.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042

Official website: www.saintjohnspncc.org

Facebook: [John the Baptist, Manchester CT](https://www.facebook.com/JohntheBaptistManchesterCT)

Rectory phone: 860-643-5906

PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarczywski

April 26, 2026

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

IV SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS INTENTION

For + JOHN W. JEPEAL (Mass after the funeral)

INTROIT

C: You, My sheep, you are the sheep of My pasture, and I am your God, says the Lord God. Alleluia.

R: Then we, Your people and the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; through all generations we will declare Your praise. Alleluia.

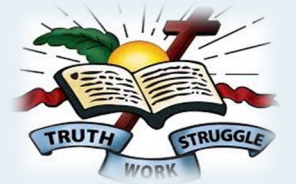
C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



HOLY MASS

10.00 am



MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

We encourage you to offer a Mass on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special personal (family) need.

READING 1

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will

ACTS 2:14A, 36-41

receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call." He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 23

„The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.“

READING 2

A reading from the First Letter of St. Peter.

If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.

When he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed himself

over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

1 PT 2:20B-25

GOSPEL

JN 10:1-10

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory be to You, Lord.

Jesus said:

"Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers."

Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus presents Himself as both the Good Shepherd and the gate for the sheep. At the heart of His message is a deeply personal relationship: "He calls His own sheep by name." This image reminds us that our faith is not anonymous or distant - Christ knows each of us individually, speaks to us, and desires to lead us. Yet this also raises an important question: whose voice are we listening to? In a world filled with competing influences - fear, pressure, distraction, and noise - it becomes easy to lose the ability to recognize the voice of the Shepherd. The sheep follow Him not because they are forced, but because they know His voice. True discipleship begins with learning to listen.

Jesus also declares, "I am the gate... whoever enters through me will be saved." He does not merely show the way - He *is* the way. Through Him we find not only safety, but "life... more abundantly." This promise stands in sharp contrast to all that diminishes life: sin, false promises, and the many "voices" that lead us away from truth and peace. Christ does not come to restrict us, but to lead us into freedom, purpose, and fullness.