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Church of St. Joseph,

The Rock, Ballyshannon,

Parish Office - Fourth Sunday of Easter - 21st April 2024.

www.magheneparish.ie

Parish of Magh Éne (Bundoran & St. Joseph's Ballyshannon). Website: www.magheneparish.ie Facebook: Magh Ene Parish Office Opening Times: 9.30am - 12.30pm Monday to Friday.

# THE GOOD SHEPHERD WHO LAYS DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS SHEEP

Beloved in Christ, today, as we gather in worship, we are called to reflect on the profound metaphor of the Good Shepherd, a theme that runs through the readings especially the gospel according to John. This imagery speaks to us on multiple levels, offering comfort, guidance, and hope in our journey of faith.

In Acts 4:8-12, Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, boldly proclaims the name of Jesus Christ as the cornerstone of our salvation. He emphasizes that there is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved. In this declaration, Peter echoes the sentiment of Jesus Himself, who in John 10:11-18 identifies Himself as the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep.

The image of the Good Shepherd evokes a deep sense of care, protection, and sacrifice. It reminds us that we are not alone in this world, but rather, we are lovingly tended to by a shepherd who knows each of us by name. Just as a shepherd watch over his flock, Jesus watches over us with unwavering love and devotion. 1 John 3:1-2 further expounds on this theme of love, affirming that we are indeed children of God, beloved and cherished beyond measure. As children of God. we are called to live in accordance with His will, to walk in the light of His love, and to reflect His love to others. This is made possible through our intimate connection with Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who leads us into abundant life.

Yet, being a sheep in the flock of the Good Shepherd is not without its challenges. We face trials, temptations, and uncertainties along the way. However, in John 10:11-18, Jesus assures us that He is not a hireling who flees at the first sign of danger, but rather, He is the Good Shepherd who willingly lays down His life for His sheep. His sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate expression of His love for us, securing our salvation and offering us eternal life.

As we contemplate the metaphor of the Good Shepherd, let us take comfort in the knowledge that we are never alone, that we are cherished beyond measure, and that we are called to live lives marked by love, obedience, and service. May we trust in the guidance of the Good Shepherd, following Him faithfully wherever He leads, and may we find peace and rest in His loving embrace Let us pray: Loving God, we thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd. Help us to trust in His guidance, to follow His example, and to live lives that honour and glorify you. Grant us the courage to face life's challenges with faith and resilience, knowing that you are always with us. Amen.

# <u>Confessions in Bundoran Church:</u> Every Saturday from 5pm to 6pm.

<u>Coeliacs:</u> gluten intolerance hosts are available, please contact a member of the Sacristan team.

A special Mass in memorial of **St. Joseph the Worker** on Wednesday, May 1st @7pm.

#### <u>Church of Our Lady, Bundoran:</u> <u>Eucharistic Ministers for April:</u>

**7pm** Hubert Gallagher & Bernie Fox.

8.30am. Olga Gilliland.

11am Orla McMorrow & Marian Ward.

#### **April Ministers of the Word:**

7.00pm. Rhya Doherty. 8.30am. Olga Gilliland. 11.00am. Orla McMorrow.

April Altar Society:

Mary Mulreany & Faye Gallagher.

#### Church Collectors for April:

**7pm** Cindy O'Beirne, James Keenan & Hubert Gallagher.

**8.30am**. Kevin Garvin and Mary Mulreany. **11.00am**. Donal Breslin, Jim Herrity, Grainne McGloin and Marian Ward.

#### St. Joseph's Church, Ballyshannon: Eucharistic Ministers for April:

Catherina Dilworth & Patricia McInerney.

#### April Ministers of the Word:

Karl Duggan.

#### April Altar Society:

Maureen Connolly & Kathleen Lawless.

<u>Church Collectors for April:</u>

Patrick McKenna.

### St. Joseph's Church, The Rock:

#### Sunday - April 21st at 10am:

Patsy Lally (Cliff Top, Rossnowlagh) M.M. Margaret & Thomas Loughlin (Higginstown). Tommy McGoldrick (The Mullins).

#### Sunday - April 28th at 10am:

Charlie Maguire (Rathglass). Mary Gallogley (West Port).

#### Church Finances: April 13th & 14th 2024:

#### St Joseph's Church: Offertory Collection:

Envelopes: €437.50 Baskets: €166.50 Total: €604.00

St Joseph's Development Fund:

Envelopes: €188.47 Church of Our Lady, Star of the Sea.

Envelopes: €845.00 Baskets: €922.00

**Total:** €1,767.00

### Church of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Bundoran.

#### Saturday - April 20th Mass at 7pm

Charlie & Dec Mbs Boyle Family (Ardfarna).

Kathleen Conroy, Eamonn Gilmartin & Steve Leigh.

Patricia Carty (Magheracar Cottages).

Sunday—April 21st Mass at 8.30am: Geraldine & Willie McNeely (Kildoney).

#### Sunday- April 21st Mass at 11am:

People of the Parish.

Monday - at 10am.

Private Intentions.

<u>Tuesday</u> – at 10am.

Private Intentions.

Wednesday – at 10am.

Prayer Service.

Thursday – at 10am.

Jimmy Murray (East End).

Friday - at 10am.

Anne Loughlin (East End).

## Saturday - April 27th Mass at 10am

Jim Kelly (Irvinestown).

#### Saturday - April 27th Mass at 7pm

Bridie Tarbuck & Dec Mbs Campbell Family (Tullaghan & St. Patrick's Tce). Josephine Kelly (Drumacrin Ave). Seamus O'Reilly (Church Road).

# Sunday – April 28th Mass at 8.30am: Private Intentions.

## Sunday- April 28th Mass at 11am:

Michael Walsh (Church Road) M.M.

### May all who died recently Rest in Peace.

Sr. Claudine (Bundoran & Knock).

Patsy McCauley (Belleek)

Patsy McCauley (Belleek).
Anne Loughran (Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone),

sister of Marie Rafferty (West End).

May the Lord protect, guide and help us in the week to come.