



## Living with Our Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**e live with a maze of instincts—some from the dark side and some from the light. In her book *Caste*, Isabel Wilkerson describes how cultures tend to consign certain individuals to the bottom of the social ladder. She specifically compares the caste system in India with how the Nazis sought to suppress and eliminate Jews and with the way blacks were oppressed by slavery and even in our own time. She describes the instinct in every society to relegate others to a lower class, always seeking to ensure that we are not at the bottom. This instinct can come from the dark side of people.

There is also an instinct for goodness to others, an instinct of light—to recognize everyone as brothers and sisters. As Saint John notes, “we are God’s children now”

(1 John 3:2). It is the voice of the Shepherd instilled in the human spirit that calls us into one fold, the voice of God urging us to healing goodness.

It is the dark side that nurtures white supremacy. It is the light that enables us to see beyond the color of our skin. It is the dark side that excludes those who seem different. It is the light that welcomes and offers hospitality. It is the dark side that succumbs to fear. It is the light of God’s love that confronts the wolves of hate and urges us to follow. There is always tension between darkness and light. ●

### Reflect

**How does the voice of the Good Shepherd call you to reject the dark and embrace the light?**

**Saint Benedict Catholic Church  
336-272-0303**

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**Website: [stbenedictgreensboro.net](http://stbenedictgreensboro.net)**

**Email: [Stbenedictgreensboro@rcdoc.org](mailto:Stbenedictgreensboro@rcdoc.org)**

**Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm on Monday, Wednesday, Friday**

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: As the Roman Catholic Mother Church of Greensboro, St. Benedict's Parish mission, responding faithfully to Christ's call, is to bring all people closer to God through liturgy, fellowship, service, outreach, and works of charity.**

**Rev. James Duong, Pastor**

**Lynne McGrath, Secretary & Faith Formation Coordinator**

**Weekend Mass**

**Sat.** Miraculous Medal  
Novena at 4:45pm  
Mass at 5:00pm

**Sun.** 8am & 11am

**Confessions**

Weekday before 12:15pm  
Saturday 4 - 4:30pm  
and by appointment

**Weekday Mass**

Monday - Friday  
Rosary at 11:45am

**No MASS on Thursday**

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***Weekly bulletin requests***

***must be in the Parish***

***Office by 12:00pm on***

***Wednesday, ten (10) days in  
advance of the weekend of  
publication.***

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** Welcome all new families and individuals. Membership is a condition for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at St. Benedict, and for the parish to issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be sacramental sponsors. You must be a registered, contributing member for at least three (3) months before a certificate will be given. Registration forms are available in the parish office.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** If you are seriously ill, going in for surgery or weak from old age, you may receive the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. Please contact Fr. Duong if you desire to receive this sacrament.

**HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME & SHUT-IN VISITS:** If you or any members of your family are sick and, in the hospital, or a nursing home, and you'd like Communion brought to them, please call the parish office.

**FAITH FORMATION:** All classes from Pre-K to High School are on Sundays from **9:15-10:30am** in the parish hall. For more information call Lynne McGrath.

**RCIA:** Please call the parish office for more information.

**MARRIAGES:** Arrangements must be made with a priest/deacon at least six (6) months in advance. Call the parish office for more information.

**APRIL 21, 2024**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hands who run off, “leaving the sheep to be snatched and scattered by the wolf”.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

4/20	Saturday	5:00 PM ....		For the Parishioners
4/21	Sunday	8:00 AM ....	+	Ed Sopp
			+	John P. Waterson II
		11:00 AM ....	+	Roy Hagerstrom
4/22	Monday	12:15 PM ....	+	Madeline Dineen
4/23	Tuesday	12:15 PM ....	+	James Naumann
4/24	Wednesday	12:15 PM ....	+	Don Procter
4/25	Thursday	NO MASS		
4/26	Friday	12:15 PM ....		Room at the Inn
4/27	Saturday	5:00 PM ....		For the Parishioners
4/28	Sunday	8:00 AM ....	+	Rita Bliden
		11:00 AM ....		Cindy Simerly

**INTENTIONS**



**Keeping Our Military in Our Prayers**

Kharll Skycer Villarin  
 Sgt. W.R. Williams III  
 Maj. Russel Henderson

**Sick and Shut-In**

Please remember our brothers and sisters in your prayers and at Mass:

Richard Collings, Martha Eakes,  
 Angie Kuklinski, Bonnie McIntyre,  
 Dan Popik, Cam Reitzel, Manny &  
 Laura Rodrigues, Anne Sopp, Vivian  
 Speetjens, John & Bunny Stuart,  
 Teresa Thu Tran, Beth Wilson, Brian  
 Wilson, Deborah Wilson, Jean Wilson

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

Weekly Offertory ....	\$ 3,347.00
Maintenance Fund ....	\$ 295.00

## THANK YOU

## MINISTER SCHEDULE: April 27 and 28, 2024

<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>E.M.</u>	<u>CANTOR</u>
5 PM	Kim Garcia	Geoff Stephany	Tom Garcia
8 AM	Christine Gnaster	Trudy Menzzentto	
11 AM	Myra Vazquez	Laura Rosic	



## REFLECTION

“I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice.” - JOHN 10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Him what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many times Jesus responds in “quiet whispers” that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

## LEAVE A LEGACY

If we give ourselves to God and let Him use our talents to serve others, we will be amazed by the results. Not only will our lives be changed but so will the lives of others.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

In what specific way can I lay down my life this week for someone who needs what I can give them?



# PARISH NEWS

**DIOCESAN  
SUPPORT  
APPEAL** 2024

**ONE** *Body in* **CHRIST**

## DSA 2024 DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL (DSA)

We are now 12 weeks into the Diocesan Support Appeal campaign, and *as of today 31 of our parishioners have contributed.* We need each of you to help us reach our goal of \$28,753.00. Thank you.

PARISH DIRECTORIES are here! Any family whose pictures were taken for the directory may pick up their copy in the church office after Mass on the weekend or during the week. Anyone else who would like a directory should call the office.

PASTORAL COUNCIL is in need of new members. Anyone who would be interested in serving St. Benedict's in this way should contact Father Duc.

NC MARCH FOR LIFE – Join the 26th annual North Carolina Rally and March for Life in Raleigh, on Saturday, May 18. Parishioners from the Diocese of Charlotte are encouraged to march as groups with an identifying banner representing the church, school, or community. The day-long event kicks off with a youth rally at 12:45 p.m. at Halifax Mall, the grassy area behind the NC General Assembly building. Buses are planned from the Greensboro area. Please email FamilyLife@rcdoc.org with any questions.



## FAITH FORMATION

*Sunday School 2024 is for those age 3 through high school from 9:15 am to 10:30 am every Sunday in the parish hall.*

This week let us say **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to:

Madje (Carla) Akouegnon (4/20), Yasmin Garcia (4/20),  
Susan Cummings (4/24), Juan Espitia-Garcia (4/24), Holly Bessey (4/24),  
PG Sorbito (4/26)



## **HOW TO INVOLVE YOUR FAMILY AT MASS**

Families involved in their church feel more of a connection than those whose participation is limited to simply attending Mass.

**Altar servers.** Our parish welcomes children to become altar servers somewhere around third grade.

**Ushers.** Welcome parishioners as they enter the church and help them find a seat at the beginning of Mass.

**Eucharistic Ministers.** Adults and confirmed teens who give out Communion discover a deeper sense of the parish community.

**Music Ministry.** Praise God at Mass with your voice.

**Catechists.** Discover the joys of sharing your love for Jesus, His Church, and our Catholic faith with young, inquisitive minds.

**Hospitality.** If you're good with doughnuts, coffee, and smiling, this ministry needs you.

Please consider helping our parish in one or more of these ministries. For more information, call the parish office.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC SCHOOL** is now enrolling students from pre-kindergarten through 8th grade for the 2024-2025 school year. St. Pius X offers a loving and supportive learning environment that focuses on the development of the whole child. The rigorous academics are grounded in Catholic faith and virtues. Financial assistance is available. For more information or to schedule a tour, contact Amy McKee, Director of Admissions, at [amckee@spxschool.com](mailto:amckee@spxschool.com) or (336) 273-9865.

**ROOM AT THE INN EVENTS** - May 2 is the date for the 2024 Amy Elizabeth Disney Memorial Golf Tournament at the Greensboro National Golf Club in Summerfield. Open registration. On May 3 the Rose Gala will be held at The Blue Heron Event Center, High Point, and includes an auction. Also, raffle tickets are on sale now. You can have a chance to win \$5,000 while helping mothers and children in the process. The drawing will be held at the Rose Gala on Friday, May 3. You need not be present to win. All events support Room at the Inn. Learn more at <https://www.roominn.org/events>.

**VOLUNTEER COACH NEEDED** The Point College & Leadership Academy is seeking a volunteer to coach youth basketball from Kindergarten to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Practices are Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday, 6 to 7 p.m. Games are on Saturday at 9 or 10 a.m. Contact Jeffrey Surgeon for more information at [Jsurgeon@thepointcollegeprep.org](mailto:Jsurgeon@thepointcollegeprep.org)



April 21, 2024

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:8-12 | 1 Jn 3:1-2 | Jn 10:11-18

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

### **GROW** AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Several years ago I went to a shopping mall with my six-year-old son, and I could tell he was overwhelmed by the fast-moving crowds; he stuck close to my side. Not long into our trip, he turned a corner and, suddenly, his face lit up. He pointed at a young boy ahead. "That's James! I know him! He's in my class!" he exclaimed, and ran up to talk to him. Out of the sea of strangers was someone he *knew*, and who knew him. That changed the whole experience for him. Today's readings are all about that kind of knowing. In the Gospel Jesus tells us that, like a good shepherd, he knows his flock and they know him. How comforting it is to know that Jesus not only knows each one of us, but he willingly chose to lay down his life for each one of us as the ultimate sacrifice of love. But how do we get to know our Good Shepherd better? By immersing ourselves in Scripture and prayer and seeking a personal relationship with him. If we stay close to the Lord, we'll know his voice when we hear it - in the quiet of our prayer, in the everyday promptings of the Spirit in our decision-making, and even, in the midst of all the noise, as the calming and guiding voice leading us along the right path.

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Being known is one of the most fundamental human and spiritual needs. When my son recognized his friend, he also instinctively recognized - without being able to articulate it - this need, in the midst of the anonymity of the mall. And his reaction was so pure: "I know him, and he knows me!" But he didn't leave it at that; he went to engage with his friend. He *encountered* his friend. This is what Christ desires for, and with us - not just to know us, to simply recognize us from afar, but for us to want to encounter him! We are meant to be in community; Jesus is always here for us: in the Church, in the sacraments, in Scriptures and in our hearts.

**PRAY** Spending time in prayer and reading the Scriptures are essential in order to get to know the voice of Jesus. Read the Gospels this week, even a chapter a day, and contemplate what passages stand out for you. Pray about it at Mass. The Scriptures and the sacraments are how Jesus speaks to us, like a good shepherd speaks to his flock so the sheep will know his voice and follow it.

# Dear Padre,

**My son was raised Catholic and still claims he is Catholic, but he and his wife go to a Protestant church. How should I deal with my frustration?**

Many parents and grandparents today share your frustration. They raised their children Catholic, maybe even sent them to Catholic schools, but the children have grown up and chosen not to continue to be faithful Catholics. A recent survey showed that nine out of ten people say they believe in God, but often they are not committed to a single religion or house of worship. About

half of the people questioned attend religious services less than once a month, or never. The loyalty to one Church that was evident in our own lives, or in our parents' and grandparents' lives, is lacking in today's people under age fifty-five.

What can one do about this situation? Certainly pray for your children and continue to give a good example through your own loyalty to the Catholic Church and attendance at Sunday Mass. Invite your son and his wife to attend with you when they visit. As your children age, they may become more interested in your family's history and traditions, and the religion of their childhood may again appear attractive. Try to be patient and continue to pray that your children will return to the Church of their roots. ●



MARCOVICION / SHUTTERSTOCK

## The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28
Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	St. Mark, Evangelist	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10	Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30	Acts 12:24- 13:5a Jn 12:44-50	1 Pt 5:5b-14 Mk 16:15-20	Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6	Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14	Acts 9:26-31 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone.... He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God....The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.**

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 25, 2021

ZVONIMIR ATLETIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

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