

# *St. Augustine Catholic Church*

*April 21, 2024*

*4th Sunday of Easter*



Photo courtesy of Artist Vernon Adams

*Rev. Stephan Brown, SVD, Pastor*

*Rev. Mr. Curtiss Talley, Deacon ~~~ Rev. Mr. Andrew Terry, Deacon*

## **PASTORAL TEAM**

### **Office Manager**

Karen Owens

### **Pastoral Team Asst.**

Lenora Morris

### **Bookkeepers**

Brandy Oltremari

Dianna Crawford

### **Ministers of Music**

Gwen Atkins

Robert Clayborne

Leo Davis, DMA

### **Dir. of Religious Education**

Henry & Ruby Snowden

### **Maintenance Engineer**

Luke Mukenge

### **Health Ministry**

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## **Spiritual Food for The Journey...**

This week we arrive at Good Shepherd Sunday. As we are in the Easter season, but today we here one of the "I Am" statements. For many the image of shepherd may seem strange or unfamiliar because they don't see shepherds. I remember well as a theological student, during my overseas mission experience, I often saw shepherds with their flocks. In Mexico in the state of Hidalgo shepherding was the role of the women and children. The shepherd led the flock, but also at moments walked amongst the sheep and at moments also walked behind the sheep. This gives us good insight into the role of the shepherd.



Jesus says "I Am" the Good Shepherd. He as the Good shepherd listens, guides, and cares for the sheep. Jesus models for us a shepherd for pastors and bishops how we are to lead. A true shepherd guides the sheep, the shepherd walks in front of the flock because of the role and calling to set the direction for the flock, to see ahead what the flock cannot see. A true shepherd ought to have the spiritual sight to look where the sheep cannot or may not be able to envision. But a good shepherd cannot just stay ahead of the sheep because he can become disconnected and even irrelevant to the sheep. For this reason, as a shepherd, we need to walk amongst and with our sheep. In the words of Pope Francis "**To smell like the sheep**" To share in their joys and sorrows, to celebrate achievements but to also be present to them in their, pain, grief or disillusionment. A true shepherd has to at times be one with the sheep. I also noticed that shepherds also would be behind them sheep, encouraging, pulling them back, their when they are lost and wondering away and astray.

Pope Francis says

"The Good Shepherd is meek. A pastor who is not meek is not a good pastor. He has something to hide, because meekness makes itself seen as it is, without defending itself. In addition, a good shepherd is tender; he has that *tenderness of closeness*, he knows the sheep one by one, by name, and he takes care of each one as if it were the only one, to the point that when he returns home tired after a day of work, and realizes that one is missing, he goes out to work again in search of that one, and carries it back home with him, on his shoulders (see *Lk 15:4-5*). This is a good shepherd, this is Jesus, this is the one who accompanies us all on the path of life. And this idea of the pastor, this idea of the flock and of the sheep, is a Paschal idea. The Church, in the first week of Easter, sings that beautiful hymn for the newly baptized. "These are the new lambs". Similar to what we heard at the beginning of the Mass. It is an idea of community, of tenderness, of goodness, of meekness. It is the Church that Jesus wants, and He guards this Church."

This is a Beautiful weekend in that it also reminds us of God tender love for us as church. As Pope Francis mentions in the above quote. We have not been left alone, the Lord watches over us, protects us, loves us and through the gift of good shepherds to care for His flock. Let us also pray for our shepherds our pastors and bishop. We pray that God give them the insight and vision to lead the flock gently, as they walk into new pastures and besides still waters as the psalmist states. We are not left alone to fend for ourselves, nor to figure things out on our own. God is present to us through Christ our Good Shepherd and He continues the care of of sheep by placing men over the flock to Shepherd through listening, guiding and caring for the people of God. I ask my flock to pray for me that might at times walk ahead of the flock providing a guiding light into a new direction. Allow me to walk with and amongst you so that I might identify with you, learn from you, share in your joys and miles stones in life. May also be present to you to hold and comfort you with tenderness, mercy and love. May I as your shepherd walk behind you, to bring you back to the fold, to encourage when you've fallen away, to lift you when you've fallen and journey with you so that when lost you may find your way back to the Father's house where there is peace, love and joy



**REV STEPHAN BROWN, SVD, PASTOR**

## PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

### Next Sunday's Readings-April 28, 2024

*Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31 ~ Paul is Accepted in Jerusalem*

*1 John 3:18-24 ~ Love One Another*

*John 15:1-8 ~ Jesus is the Vine*

### Your Daily Prayer for the Week

Lord, today I come to you and ask you to strengthen my faith, keep me grounded in your love. Help me to see Christ in others, help me to be a beacon of light for those who are lost and more importantly, help me to live my life as a faithful servant of God.

Amen



*Merlynn Clemons, Gary Schasa —4/21*

*Charles Todd — 4/22*

*Jonathan Howard, Al Hudson, Loletha Norman,*

*Franklin Shelton, Ernest Witherspoon—4/23*

*Edna Bond, Alivia Davis —4/24*

*Jewel Nathaniel—4/25*

*Kera Armstrong—4/27*

### *Prayer for Healing...*

Foster Adams, Gloria Alsandor, Harold Adams Beamon, Annie Beck, Gerald Bond, Eugene Brassell, Gwen Collins, Patricia Cowart, Tina Crawford, Robert Crowley, Raye Dudley, Sharl Golden, David Green, Verna Green, Vivian Harris, Bernice Hayes, Darrell Hollimon, Marvin Housley, Sr., Mae Johnson, Dorothy Katoe, Mary King, Audrey McGhee, Florine McMillan, Hattie Moore, Raymond Moore, Sr., Oliver Peyton, Polk Puryear, Altonette Robinson, Floyd Shavers, Mayme Tuggle, Ben Wells, Eric Wells, Bertharene Young, Joyce Young, Joseph Young

### **LORD, MAY OUR DEARLY DEPARTED REST IN EVERLASTING PEACE**

- April 17 ~ John Parker (was omitted from previous bulletin)**
- April 21 ~ Arnesta Thompson, Ida M. Flythe, Florida Washington, Ruth S. Jones**
- April 22 ~ James Anderson, Henree G. Moore, Lloyd R. Lynom, Jr.**
- April 23 ~ Karen R. Cole, James Wray**
- April 24 ~ Rosa L. Terry, Logan Williams, Margaret Scott, Essie Cooper**
- April 25 ~ Angietee Brooks**
- April 26 ~ Reginald Siggers, Alice V. Foster, Rodric Samuels**
- April 27 ~ Edna Hayes, John Cooper**







# Announcements



**Karen Jane Sweet passed away on April 11, 2024. She was the daughter of Mrs. Lockey Sweet and the sister of Chrisidia, William Chester and Stephanie Sweet. The funeral was held on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please keep Mrs. Sweet, her loved ones and friends in your prayers.**

**Join St. Monica Sodality on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00 PM in the gym with their 2024 Spring Concert featuring Cordova High Choir. We know you do not want to miss this exciting occasion so gather your relatives, friends and join us. Tickets are \$10.00, and can be purchased from any St. Monica member. Refreshments will be served immediately after the program. We hope to see you there!!**

**Celebrate mom this year with the KPC, Ladies Auxiliary at their Mother's Day Spring Breakfast on Saturday, May 4, 2024, 9 a.m. in the Gym. Ladies wear your fancy hats, pearls, and gloves for "The Hat Parade!" Enter to win door prizes! Tickets are \$20 each and may be purchased from any member of the Ladies Auxiliary. Ads and patrons for the program/souvenir booklet will also be available. Full page is \$50. Half page is \$25. Patrons are \$5. The KPC Ladies Auxiliary will present a service award to an outstanding lady in our parish for her service to the Church, Community and Mankind. This award will be presented at the Mother's Breakfast. Nomination forms will be located on the KPC table.**

**Issues related particularly to our more seasoned community. Lets talk about them. It will be held on the last Wednesday or Thursday of each month in Mizicko Hall. Everyone is invited. The 1st meeting will be April 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am, with Mass at 12:00pm and a light lunch after Mass. The 1st topic will be "What to do with my stuff and whom do I want to make decisions on my behalf." Wills, Living Wills, Guardianships and more. This class will be facilitated by Mrs. Ruby Wharton. For more information and to R.S.V.P., please contact the church office.**

**The Archbishop James P. Lyke, O.F.M Memorial "G" Drive. We would like to invite 100 members to make a financial gift of \$1,000. Please note that the number is not limited to 100. This gift will support our 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund to secure continued funding for our Capital Improvements and Repairs and the future of St. Augustine. We would like to invite the 100 members to make their \$1,000 restricted gift by June 24<sup>th</sup>. June 24<sup>th</sup> is the Ordination Anniversary of the Late Archbishop Lyke, and we would have a celebration for the contributors to the "G" Foundation to commemorate his life and dedication to St. Augustine and his leadership in the African American Catholic community. Let's keep the momentum going, and let's come together for the benefit and good in securing the future for our Spiritual Home here at St. Augustine. Make Your Gift out to "St Augustine Church" in the Memo place the "Archbishop Lyke "G" Drive.**

**The revised weekday Mass schedule is as follows: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 12:00pm. Other Masses will remain the same: Saturday, 4:00pm and Sunday, 8:00am and 11:00am.**



# NAACP TEENAGER OF THE YEAR





## 1916: Committee for the Advancement of Colored Catholics

Led by Thomas Wyatt Turner, the Committee for the Advancement of Colored Catholics forms during World War I to care for black Catholic servicemen, neglected by both the Knights of Columbus and the black YMCA.

After the war, the group broadens its focus. Its advocacy gives birth to a new national forum for black Catholics. Its purpose: "Collection of data concerning colored Catholics, the protection of their interests, the promotion of their welfare, and the propagation of the faith among colored people."

The U.S. bishops, despite requests from Rome to act on behalf of blacks during the race riots and lynchings of 1919, avoid the topic at their first annual meeting.

In response, the committee publicly urges the bishops to denounce discrimination and consult with black Catholics, saying, "At present we are neither a part of the colored world (Protestant), nor are we generally treated as full-fledged Catholics."

### *MASS TIMES*

#### *Weekday*

*Monday ~ Wednesday ~ Thursday*

*12PM Chapel*

#### *Weekend*

*Saturday Vigil 4PM*

*Sunday 8AM and 11AM*

