



April 17, 2005 • Fourth Sunday of Easter

I will never forget my very first day of school. In those days, class sizes in Catholic grammar schools were quite large; my first grade class had fifty-two students. Our teacher made large name tags for each of us to wear that first day. Unfortunately, my name tag read "Edward Gallagher." This is not my name. When I saw this, I tried to protest, "Sister, that's not my . . ." She immediately responded, "Now, Edward, there will be no talking back to Sister." I tried again, "But Sister . . ." With her hands more than full with fifty-two of us, there apparently just wasn't time for this conversation. So, I went through my first day of school named someone I was not. I will never forget my mother's face as she stood on the front porch ready to welcome her first-born son home from his first day of school. She took one look at "Edward Gallagher," frowned, and immediately went to the phone to straighten things out with the school.

CALLED BY NAME

This early life experience taught me much about the value and importance of my name. In today's Gospel we hear the Lord Jesus tell his followers that sheep learn to recognize the voice of the shepherd. They will not follow a stranger's voice. In the Rite of Baptism, the very first question put to the parents is, "What name do you give your child?" And just before the words "I baptize you . . ." the priest or deacon calls the one to be baptized by name. In a sense, we learn to hear our name called by God from the moment of our rebirth in the waters of baptism. This is the root of all vocational calls, whether to marriage, holy orders, or the consecrated life. On a day when we remember that Jesus is our caring shepherd, let us listen once again to the Lord calling us each by name into loving service.

Today's Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23:1-6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

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8:30 am (English)
7:30 pm (Polish)

KOMENTARZ LITURGICZNY

Cykl A, 4 Niedziela Wielkanocna

Czytania: Dz. 2:14a, 36-41; 1P. 2:20-25; J. 10:1-10

Ja jestem bramą owiec...

Przypowieść o Dobrym Pasterzu idzie w poprzek współczesnej mentalności. Wielu niewierzących chciałoby zachować dla Chrystusa Pana najwyższy szacunek, ale zarazem stawiają Go obok Buddy, Sokratesa, Mahometa czy innych olbrzymów ludzkiego ducha. Jest to gruntownie nie zgodne z tym, co On mówi sam o sobie. On i tylko On, jest bramą owiec, i tylko przez tę Bramę, przez Niego, można wejść do zbawienia.

W ogóle cały Nowy Testament przepelniony jest wiarą, że Jezus Chrystus jest jedynym i powszechnym Zbawicielem ludzi. Już Jan Chrzciciel rozpoznał w Nim *Baranka Bożego, który gładzi grzechy świata*. Sam zaś Pan Jezus mówił o sobie nie tylko to, że jest bramą owiec, ale również, że *nikt nie przychodzi do Ojca inaczej, jak tylko przeze Mnie*. Mówił ponadto: *Kto trwa we Mnie, a Ja w nim, ten przynosi owoc obfity, ponieważ beze Mnie nic nie możecie uczynić; kto we Mnie nie trwa, zostanie wyrzucony jak winna latorość i uschnie*.

Kto uważa, że Chrystus to tylko wielki geniusz religijny i duchowy olbrzym, ten w Niego nie wierzy. Wierzyć w Chrystusa to znaczy przyjąć Go jako Syna Bożego i Zbawiciela, który ma moc wprowadzić nas do życia wiecznego. Tylko On jeden może prawdziwie powiedzieć, że ludzkość jest Jego owczarnią. Wszyscy - wierzący i niewierzący - jesteśmy Jego owcami, i to aż z dwóch powodów. Przez Niego, przez Syna Bożego, wszyscy zostaliśmy stworzeni. To nie jest tylko tak, że chrześcijanie tak twierdzą. Wszyscy naprawdę zostaliśmy przez Niego stworzeni. Ponadto, On za nas wszystkich umarł - niezależnie od tego, czy ktoś to uznaje, czy nie. To właśnie dla tego, jeśli ktoś dotychczas niewierzący spotka się z Nim i w Niego uwierzy, od razu może wejść na Jego pastwiska i czerpać z Niego życie, a czerpać w obfitości.

Na koniec zauważmy, że tym różni się Chrystus Pan od zwyczajnych pasterzy owiec, że jest On Dobrym Pasterzem absolutnie bezinteresownym. Zwyczajni pasterze mają ze swoich owiec mleko i wełnę. On ma z nas tyle, że życie swoje za nas oddał, a mimo to ciągle spotyka się z naszą niewdzięcznością. Ale właśnie tą swoją cierpliwą i bezinteresowną miłością prowadzi nas do życia wiecznego. I ufajmy, że nas tam doprowadzi.

Marriage Banns

Steven Brunasso and Raquel Prati (2)

FOLLOWING THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The joyful tone of the past three Sundays of Easter is a little darker today. All three readings remind us of suffering, death, and sin. We, like Peter's audience in the first reading, can ask, "What are we to do?" And the answer will be the same: we must reform. Or, as Peter says in his first letter, we have strayed like sheep and must return to the shepherd.

Jesus describes himself as a shepherd in today's Gospel, and we know it was one of the earliest images of Christ in the apostolic church. Today's passage continues the darker theme of the first two readings. Danger lurks and the sheep need protection. They might follow a false leader; they might be stolen or destroyed. Only in Jesus Christ will we be safe. Only in him will we have eternal life.

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Z LITURGII POGRZEBOWEJ JANA PAWŁA II

Rzym 8 kwietnia, 2005 roku

Wyjątki z Homilii Kardynała Józefa Ratzinger

... Dziś serca nasze są pełne bólu, jednocześnie pełne radosnej nadziei i głębokiej wdzięczności Bogu. Wierzę, że oblicze, które znikło z naszych oczu ogląda teraz Boże oblicze...

...W październiku 1978 roku, gdy Chrystus zapytał Kardynała Wojtyłę: *Karolu, czy mnie miłujesz?* on odpowiedział: *"Panie, Ty wszystko wiesz. Wiesz, że Cię Kocham"* Miłość Chrystusa była dominującą siłą w życiu Jana Pawła II. Widzieliśmy to w modlącym się i nauczającym Ojcu Świętym.

... *"To nie wyście mnie wybrali, ale ja was wybrałem... Dobry pasterz daje swoje życie za owce... Tak jak Ojciec was umiłował, tak ja was umiłowalem Trwajcie w mojej miłości... W tych trzech wersetach (ewangelicznych) widzimy serce i duszę naszego Ojca Świętego...*

... *"Wstańcie, chodźcie!"* tymi słowami Jan Paweł II budził nas z letargicznej wiary. *"Trwajcie w miłości Chrystusa; w szkole Chrystusa uczymy się sztuki prawdziwej miłości"*

...W początkach swego pontyfikatu, kiedy jeszcze młody i pełen energii, prowadzony przez Chrystusa, Ojciec Święty szedł do krańców ziemi. Lecz potem coraz bardziej jednoczył się z cierpieniami Chrystusa, misterium miłości, aż do końca. Jan Paweł II cierpiał i miłował Chrystusa. Kochał i służył Bogu do ostatniej chwili, dając siebie bez ograniczenia...

...Nigdy nie zapomnimy Ojca Świętego, jak w tę ostatnią niedzielę Wielkanocną na tej ziemi, mimo ogromnego cierpienia, ukazał się w oknie Pałacu Apostolskiego i udzielił błogosławieństwa pasterskiego *"urbi at orbi"*. Jesteśmy dziś pewni, że *nasz ukochany Papież stoi teraz w oknie domu swego Ojca, spogląda na nas i błogosławi nam*.

.. ŻEGNAMY CIĘ OJCZE ŚWIĘTY

Żegnamy Cię przeto Ojcie Ukochany,
Pograżeni w smutku, żalu i boleści,
Za dar Twego życia od Boga nam dany
Jemu dziękujemy w serc naszych skrytości.
Niech Cię Bóg powita z poczetem swych świętych,
Matka Częstochowska tuli w swoje łono,
Za Twą służbę wierną, czyny niepojęte
Niechaj Cie obdarzą niebiańska korona
Niech Ci szumi Bałtyk, wiatr Tatrzański wieje,
Kwiaty polskie pachną, gaje, łąki, pola,
Ziemia lekką będzie, i Polska się przyśni.
Darzy szczęście wieczne, Boża, święta wola.
Wypraszaj nam łaski, gdy świat ten zmierzamy
Bądź nam drogowskazem i prowadź do Boga
Z sercem pełnym bólu, Ojcie Ukochany!
Który jesteś w niebie! Dzisiaj Cię żegnamy.
Lila Cieciek

**The 10:30 a.m. Mass on
Sunday, May 15, will be
offered for the
Intentions of the
1st Communion Children
from our Center.**



The shepherd calls
his own sheep by name
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Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 17, 2005



He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. — 1 Peter 2:24a

POPE JOHN PAUL II FUNERAL LITURGY
Rome, April 8th 2005

Excerpts from the Homily of Kard. Joseph Ratzinger

...Our hearts are full of sadness, yet at the same time of joyful hope and profound gratitude...

...*"Follow me."* The Risen Lord says these words to Peter. This lapidary saying of Christ gives us understanding of the message which comes to us from the life of our late beloved Pope John Paul II.

...*"Rise, Let us be on our Way"* is the title of his next-to last book. *"Rise, let us be on our Way!"* - with these words John Paul II roused us from a lethargic faith, from the sleep of the disciples of both yesterday and today...

...The Holy Father was a priest to the last. As a Good Shepherd who loves his sheep he offered his life to God for his flock and for the entire human family, in a daily self-oblation for the service of the Church especially amid the sufferings of his final months. He gave of himself unreservedly...

...He, who had an ability to forgive and to open his heart to all tells us once again, that by *abiding in the love of Christ* we learn, at the school of Christ, the art of true love...

...In October 1978 to the Lord's question, *"Karol do you love me?"* archbishop of Krakow answered from the depths of his heart: *"Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you!"*. The love of Christ was a dominant force in the life of our beloved Holy Father. Anyone who ever saw him pray or heard him preach, knows that...

...In the first years of his pontificate, still young and full of energy the Holy Father went to very end of the earth, guided by Christ. But afterward, he increasingly entered into *the communion of Christ's sufferings*, giving us a new meaning to suffering, opening up a new dimension, a new order: the order of love...

...None of us can ever forget how on that last Easter Sunday of his life, the Holy Father, while suffering so much came once more to the window of the Apostolic Palace and one last time gave pastoral blessing *"Urbi et Orbi"*. We can be sure that our beloved Pope is standing today at the window of the Father's house, that he sees and blesses us...

Weekly Collections

THANK YOU/DZIEKUJE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

	First	Second
4/2/05 4:00 p.m.	\$2695	\$322
4/3/05 8:30 a.m.	\$2226	\$308
4/3/05 10:30 a.m.	\$2862	\$420
4/3/05 5:00 p.m.	\$1279	\$277

Easter Mailers: \$716; Mass Stipends: \$135; Funeral Donation: \$500 The 2nd

Collection each week is for the Building Fund at our Center. This year's fiscal budget requires our Polish Center collections to average \$3,900 each weekend in order to meet the financial budget and expenses.

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CENTER CALENDAR

- ◆ BINGO THURSDAY EVENINGS, DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 P.M.
- ◆ Seniors Club Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at the Center at 12 Noon.
- ◆ Ladies Guild Meetings the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Center. The next meeting will be Tues., April 28, 2005.

Pray for

Sylvia Abbott, Henryk Antonienko, Virginia Basista, Glen Brunk, Aubrey Bucholtz, Julia Carlson, Michael Ciecok, Mildred Creger, La Verne Felper, John Hansler, Alice Herzog, Stasia Horaczko, Wanda Kaminska, Brian McDuffi, Wladyslaw Michalski, Julian Mossakowski, Ryszard Nowak, Zofia Nowak-Przygodzki, Grace O'Regan, Wladyslaw Rejkowicz, Barbara Reott, Ann Rex, Shirley Richardson, Thomas Riley, Diane Rowland, Laura Sidorski, Kazimiera (Kay) Sowizral, Nancy Stahovich, Stan Stingyn, Malgorzata Sulik, Ed Terhall, Edward Witoslawski, Rudolf & Cecilia Zatoka.

MASS INTENTIONS

- 04/16 4:00pm + Kristen Di Benedetto from Rick & Patti Kobzi
04/17 8:30am + God's Blessing for Cecilia Kenney - from family
10:30am + Stefania i Mieczyslaw Kowalewski od Marii Romańskiej
04/24 8:30am + Maureen Martinez
10:30am + Bernard i Stefan Ciesielski od Marii Romańskiej
04/30 4:00pm + Henrietta Powell from husband
05/01 8:30am Intention Ladies Guild
10:30am + Stanislaw Nikliborc w rocznicę urodzin od mamy i brata

~ FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH ~

- 05/06 8:30am + Sam Grace from Chuck & Marlene Hosick
7:30pm W int. Lili i Mieczysława Ciecok w 56 rocznicę ślubu
05/07 4:00pm + Marcille Alystock from Jackie Lorio
05/08 8:30am Sister Gloriana Bednarski R.S.M. 70th Birthday from Gloria Shkoler
10:30am + Maria i Alfons Eckert od Alexandra i Marii Romański
05/14 4:00pm + Louis Bowdon from Theresa Kelton
05/15 8:30am + Joseph Stepniak from Jean Carter
10:30am W intencji Moniki z podziękowaniem za otrzymanie łaski z prośbą o Bożą opiekę

EUCCHARISTIC CONFERENCE 2005

In Honor of the Year of the Eucharist as proclaimed by the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. **Saturday, April 23, 2005**, at Anaheim Convention Center Ballroom. Registration: 9-9:30 a.m. Program: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mass from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Admission is free. Bishop Dominic M. Luong, Bishop of Orange will celebrate the Mass. Speakers include Fr. Michael Sears, Fr. Sy Nguyen, Fr. Vincent Gilmore and Fr. Patrick Moses. Please register by phone to (714) 974-6688. For further info., please call Dee Dee @ (714)974-6688 or Cecilia at (562)943-8939. E-mail to eucharisticconf@sbcglobal.net

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The bus will depart at **9 A.M.** from the Center on 4/25/05.

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