

# Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

CATECHUMENATE SESSION: JESUS AND HIS FATHER ARE ONE

Fourth Sunday of Easter • Year B • April 21, 2024

**Good Shepherd,  
you care for your sheep  
and you know us by name.**

**Thank you for all who shepherd  
your Church on earth,  
especially deacons,  
our pastor,  
our bishop,  
and Pope Francis.**

**Help them be good shepherds,  
just like you.**

**Amen.**



## Sunday Word

**Acts 4:8-12**

**Psalms 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29**

**1 John 3:1-2**

**John 10:11-18**

The above readings are available at  
[usccb.org/bible/readings](http://usccb.org/bible/readings).

## To Help You Remember



1. Salvation comes through Jesus alone.
2. In Baptism we became God's daughters and sons, God's children.
3. Jesus is the Good Shepherd, who knows us, loves us, and protects us.
4. Jesus and his Father are one.

## Key Teachings



### Jesus and His Father Are One

The closeness Jesus has with his Father is special, as is their closeness with the Holy Spirit. The Church expresses the mystery of this closeness, this oneness, as the Holy Trinity.

### Jesus Is the Good Shepherd

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, lays down his life for his sheep. Through Word and sacrament, and under the care of the shepherds of his Church on earth, Jesus shepherds us in the way of life and love, the path that leads to Heaven.

## Faith Words



### Heaven

Heaven is everlasting life with God, Mary, and the saints.



### Holy Trinity

The mystery of the Holy Trinity is that God is One in Three Divine Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This is the central belief of the Christian faith.

## The Shepherd's Crook



The shepherd's crook is shaped with a curved "hook" at the end to make it easier for a shepherd to rescue a fallen animal by wrapping the hook around its neck or leg. A bishop's crosier is shaped like a shepherd's crook and symbolizes the bishop's role as the shepherd of God's flock, the Church on earth.

## With My Family



### We Listen

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is often called Good Shepherd Sunday because the Gospel is about the Good Shepherd. We hear how well the sheep and shepherd know each other. And we hear about how the shepherd will lay down his life for his sheep. Read the Gospel again and count how many times Jesus, the Good Shepherd, says he will lay down his life. (Hint: He says it more than twice!)

### We Believe

The mystery of the Holy Trinity describes the close relationship between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit united in one God. The Christian family is a communion of persons, a sign and image of the Trinity.

### We Live As Disciples

We are the sheep. We follow our shepherd, Jesus, knowing that he laid down his life for us. How do you lay down your life for others? Give an example of how you have laid down your life for a friend or family member, or for someone you do not even know.

### We Pray

Pray together the following prayer, and complete it in the quiet of your hearts, using your own words:

*O Good Shepherd,  
you know when I am lost.  
You know my voice.  
Hear me now as I ask . . .*