

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF
BOGNOR REGIS AND SLINDON

We are followers of Jesus, on fire with his love,
sharing that love with each other and with the world.



4th Sunday of Easter: I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full

All the content below is for you to make your own, please do read through it, pick what would work best for your children and would best engage them.

Rest assured of my prayers for your family and you this coming week!

Dan, Tommy, & Evie McNamara

In today's bible reading Jesus describes himself as a shepherd, someone who's job is to look after sheep.

There's lots of talk of sheep in the bible, it says Jesus is the Lamb of God, the shepherds were the very first people to see Jesus after he was born, David was a shepherd, there's all kinds of stuff about this in the bible. And all of this helps show us how God especially loves the most normal (shepherds) and those in need (sheep).

But today we're going to look at what Jesus means when he calls himself a good shepherd.

If you're exploring this with older children do read them the passage in full:

John 10:1-10

Jesus said:

'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again:

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'I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.

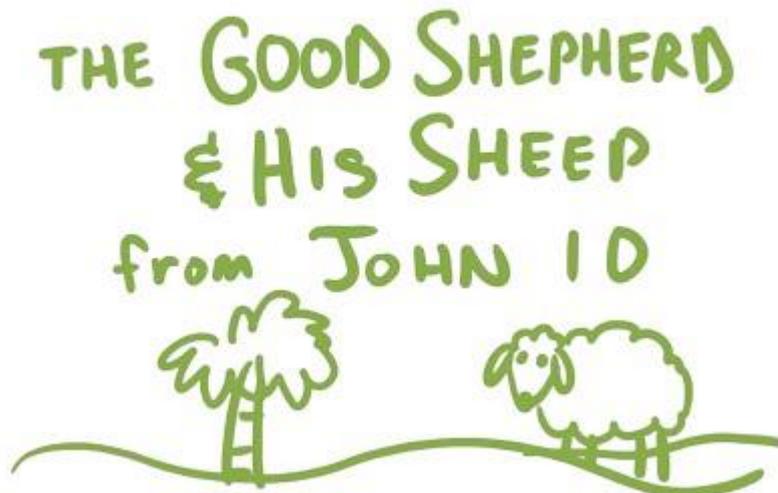
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

If your little ones are a younger you could watch this video together, or you could act it out with toys or anything you have to hand.



Watch it at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKtW_3yQXBw

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Some things you could ask or talk to your children about:

- **Why do you think the bible, and when Jesus talks, there is so many mentions of sheep?**
- **Why do sheep need shepherds?**
- **In the bible who are the shepherds?**
- **If we're the sheep, what do we protection from/help with?**
- **Where should we go if when we feel like helpless sheep?**
- **If your children are older, perhaps ask them are there/is there anyone like the thief in the passage who we should not listen to?**

Take your time talking on some or all of these. If you need a steer on what to say you could all give some answers to the above questions and then watch the below video.

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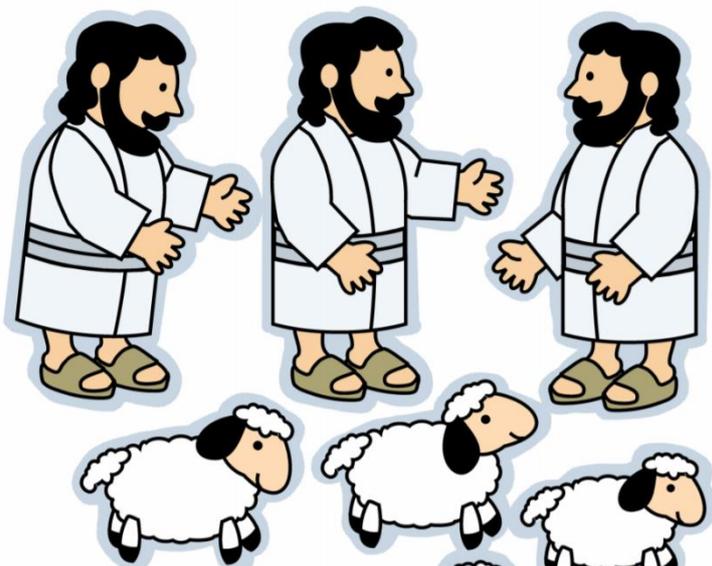
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Some activities you could do as a family to remember what you've learned and talked about.

Make a Shepherds story board



All the cut outs you need are on www.bognorcatholicparish.org.uk/kids-church

When you're done, now or during the week you could do a good shepherd puppet show? Do share your puppet shows on the parish Facebook page, search for Bognor Catholics.

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Colouring sheets

Lots to be found at

<http://theclipartwizard.com/lamb-god-coloring-pages.htm>

