

**Gospel for Sunday the 3rd May**

**The Good Shepherd**

*Gospel**of St. John* ***(****10:1-10***)**

“The shepherd opens the gate and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out to good pasture. He goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. Jesus said ‘I am the gate.’ Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

**Jesus is my Good Shepherd.**

He loves me and knows me by my name.

He cares for me. He guides and directs me as I grow.

Jesus invites me to show love and care for people e.g. grandparents, family, the needy.

Jesus invites me to connect with him in prayer each day.

He invites me to talk to him in my own words about my day i.e. my life, my joys and my difficulties. He says: “I am with you always.”

It is very reassuring and comforting to know that Jesus is always with me.

**Now that you are studying at home think of current day Good Shepherds. Think of the Good Shepherds working to care for us every day.**

Think of our President, the Taoiseach and the government.

Think of the doctors, nurses and carers working in hospitals and nursing homes.

Think of cleaners, carers and chefs in the hospitals.

Think of ambulance drivers, guards, postmen, post office staff etc.

Think of families and volunteers who shop and care for the elderly.

Think of shopkeepers, truck drivers delivering food to shops, factory-workers providing food and medical goods etc.

Think of what your family is doing to care for you. You can add to the list*………………………………*

**Name your choice of current day Good Shepherds that you admire**

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**What gifts of the Holy Spirit are they using in their work of caring for others?**

*Colour in a box for each gift you think they use.*

 

 **Wisdom Understanding Right Judgement**

 

  **Courage Knowledge Reverence**

 **A** **Prayer for our Carers who are Good Shepherds**

 Loving, caring God,

 We place into your care all our doctors, nurses and

 health-care workers.

 Give them courage of heart, understanding

 and strength of mind and body.

 Keep them safe from harm.

 May they know our prayers and thanks is with them

 for all they are doing to comfort and heal the sick.

 Bless them in these challenging days.

 Bless and protect their families.

 Bless us all. Amen.



 **Wonder and Awe**