



“It is necessary to go back to seeing the family as sacred – ‘the heart of the culture of life’ ”.

Pope St. John Paul II, 39

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Acts 13: 14, 43-52

Psalm 99: 1-3, 5

Revelation 7: 9, 14-17

John 10: 27-30

rejected them violently. Despite the opposition, they continued to preach until they were thrown out of the land. Even though they were expelled, they were filled with joy. By their example, we are inspired to be brave and to continue to speak of the Good News so that others may hear Jesus’ voice.

We are the multitudes in John’s vision in the second reading. We are the people of all nations, race and tongue. Like our ancestors, and perhaps our descendants will too, we have passed through all kinds of challenges, including that of faith. This reading assures the faithful that God will always protect us from danger. **The Lamb will shepherd us and lead us to living water and wipe away every tear, only if we remain faithful.**

The Gospel reading uses the imagery of shepherd and sheep, something the Jews definitely understood. The sheep are known to be weak and needy. They wander aimlessly and often get lost. So shepherd and sheep spend a lot of time together and often form a relationship of intimacy and familiarity. So when Jesus said that His sheep hear His voice and He knew them and that they follow Him, He would have struck a chord with the Jews. He expressed His confidence and trust in the Father, that the flock also belongs to God and none will be lost. Then to the indignation of the Jews, he proclaimed that the Father and He are ONE.

We are called to give pastoral care to each other. Care givers and receivers need to know each other well and to do that there must be communion among us. We need to pay attention to each other’s feelings and needs and to respond accordingly. Thank you, Jesus, for showing us the way. ✚

NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | 4th Sunday of Easter | 11 May 2025
(Good Shepherd Sunday)

CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE

MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE

FAMILY – CALLED TO ACCOMPANY FAMILIES FACING CHALLENGES

We Are His People, the Sheep of His Flock

We celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday today knowing and praising Christ for being our good shepherd, protecting us and always bringing us back to the fold.

The first reading transports us to the time after the ascension of Jesus. The apostles were going around spreading the word of God fearlessly. In Antioch, Paul and Barnabas preached to both Jews and Gentiles. While the Gentiles joyfully received the Good News, the Jews were filled with jealousy and

