



**SCRIPTURE  
of the DAY**

Acts 2: 14, 36-41  
Psalm 22: 1-6  
1 Peter 2: 20-25  
John 10: 1-10



✠  
"The Church has confidence in you and she thanks you for the joy and energy that you contribute. Generously put your talents to use in the service of the proclamation of the Gospel."

- Pope Benedict XVI

Peter's preaching in Acts leads to conversion not through fear, but through clear truth spoken with conviction and compassion. And Saint Peter reminds us that Christ leads through self-giving love, not domination.

This is an important message for how we guide young people. Leadership in the Church is not about control, but about forming conscience, confidence, and courage.

At MCYD, youth expressed a strong desire: "We want opportunities to lead and serve, not only to assist. We want to grow as disciples who can guide others." (MCYD Synthesis, Leadership & Participation)

A synodal Church creates pathways for leadership. A prophetic Church dares to entrust responsibility to the young.

Youth empowerment is not giving young people everything but giving them real responsibility with guidance and mentoring. When young people are trusted, they rise. When they are accompanied, they mature. When they are sent, they become missionaries in society.

**Good Shepherd Sunday reminds us: we are not only caring for today's flock, but we are also forming tomorrow's shepherds of faith, justice, and compassion.**

Good Shepherd Sunday reminds us that vocations grow not from pressure, but from encounter, belonging, and trust. When young people are accompanied, believed in, and given real responsibility, they begin to hear God's call more clearly.

A true culture of vocation is built through joyful witness and loving communities that show life given for others is a gift.

If we hope for future priests, deacons, religious, and committed lay leaders, we must first be a Church worth giving one's life to – and when we shepherd our young with faith and patience, God will raise shepherds after His own Heart. ✠

# NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | Good Shepherd Sunday | 26 April 2026

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

*A People for Missionary Discipleship*

MONTHLY FOCUS: SOCIETY: Youth Empowerment



## Leading Without Controlling Forming Young Shepherds of Tomorrow

Jesus tells us that the Good Shepherd does not push from behind and does not trap from above. He leads from within the flock. He calls by name. He walks ahead. He protects so that others may flourish.