

Subject: Worship for Sunday 3rd May 2020
From: Anglican Church <anglicanpollenca@gmail.com>
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Dear everyone

Please find the Gospel reading and reflection from Father Simon plus the link to the Menorca service lead by Father Paul

Our opening prayer

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever

AMEN

John 10:1-11

Jesus the Good Shepherd

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Sunday 3 May 2020

The Gospel - John 10/vs 1 - 11

The Shepherd and His Flock

Good Morning and let us celebrate together, our safe arrival in the glorious month of May. As many of you will know, I am very much a 'new-comer' to this lovely island, so I have yet to see those flocks of sheep, if there are any, which finance other island communities and remote settlements across the world. In both Australia and Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan), I have been left speechless, by the huge flocks of sheep, several thousand strong, being grazed on upland pastures under the ever-watchful eyes of the mounted shepherd and the ever faithful dog. Their teamwork is supreme, as shepherd and flock move across vast tracks of wilderness.

This Sunday is commonly known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday', as we recall Our Lord's words. "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" vs 11. The symbolism of the role of the shepherd is important to Christ as he seeks to educate his disciples. Their pastoral ministry in the hills above Galilee will have brought the disciples into frequent contact with shepherds on the move, but Jesus in this morning's Gospel is seeking to explain the sacrificial role of the shepherd. In Kyrgyzstan, the greatest threat to the flock is the snow leopard and perhaps in Australia it is the sheer vastness of their grazing territory. The dangers are many; and the shepherd has to risk his life to protect his flock. All this, we understand, but how does this impact upon our lives here in Pollenca?

The challenge is I believe, to share the role of the shepherd with those within the Church Community who bear the burden and joy of leadership. And who are they? Your Parish Priest, the Churchwardens and the Church Council share the role of the shepherd with the Man from Galilee. Without your love, your prayers and your dedication, they will fail in their task. Each one of us, ordained or lay, is challenged through our close relationship with Jesus to become an 'alter Christus = Another Christ!' Those whom we seek to serve in the Pollenca community, must see Christ in us....But do they?

In 31 days, we shall be celebrating that Great Feast of Pentecost, the Birthday of the Church, now is the time to pray for the transformation of our lives through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, that St Andrews Pollenca may burn brightly with God's love and care, during these challenging times.

Canon Simon Stephens

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

For anyone needing to get in touch

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The cost of maintaining the chaplaincy of St.Andrew's is completely self-financed locally, and during the church, there is no income from the weekly collection. If you would like to support the ministry of Church in Puerto Pollensa bank details are below.

Bank of Santander – Parroquia Anglicana de san Felipe, Port Pollensa

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“please do pray for us, as we pray for you”

Here is the link for the service in Menorca

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJforlplwg8#action=share>

Blessings and prayers

Vicky