

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter “B”  
2018**

Yesterday was the opening of wedding season here at Corpus. Between now and December we will invite thousands of people through the doors of this church. Mostly people who have never been here before. Lots of them will be from outside of Lawrence and even outside of Kansas.

Some of the brides and grooms will have grown up here – and their families are part of our everyday life in the parish. But many will not be from Corpus – or will have moved here after college.

Grandparents will marvel at the beauty of this church – and the care with which the community looks out for it. Aunts and Uncles will be taken aback by the size of the church and how their own church could fit inside of here. Even parents who helped to build this church will see it in a new light as their son or daughter walks down this aisle.

Since I was 1<sup>st</sup> assigned here – hundreds of couples have walked down this aisle and have spoken words that changed them. Some of them are now parishioners – a few of them have enrolled children in the parish school and religious education program. They sit on the pastoral council are parts of the Knights of Columbus and choir – they have become lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. They take communion to the homebound and help with youth activities in parish.

It’s the beginning of wedding season – and I can’t wait to see what good things will be said about this church and community. I can’t wait to see the pride on parents faces as people speak kindly of Corpus Christi. I can’t wait to see what God will call these young couples to – here in the Corpus Community or wherever they land. It’s wedding season – and the Holy Spirit has a great deal planned.

This weekend every year is Good Shepherd Sunday. A time when we recall that Jesus is

guiding us to be a community of people that stand together. A time each year that we remember that Jesus calls us to be like him – always looking to bring his love others. A love that is so strong that even death could not hold it. A love that calls us outside of ourselves.

As a community of believers – Corpus Christi stands as a flock who does so many things to bring Jesus and his love to the world. We have a number of outreach programs for those on the fringes of society – we have educational ministries for children and adults – we gather weekly as a community to remember God’s love. We **ARE** living as a flock of the Good Shepherd – but sometimes it is hard to see.

Sometimes because we get busy – or because of life happening around us – we might miss how amazing this community is. If that has happened to you – as it sometimes happens to me – then remember that today is Good Shepherd Sunday – and we are his flock – remember that wedding season opened yesterday and thousands will be by these next months and they will be guests of your hospitality. And the Holy Spirit will be calling these young men and women into their new lives. Let us offer a prayer for them today – even as we prayer in gratitude for the Good Shepherd guiding us.

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