

4th Sunday of Easter

(Acts 2.14, 36-41, 1 Peter 2.20-25, John 10.1-10)

Theme: The Way Of The Good Shepherd.

Beloved in Christ Jesus: The readings of this fourth Sunday of Easter have presented to us again the way to a good Christian life. This is the way of our Lord Jesus Christ, the *Master Shepherd*. Jesus tells us in the gospel of today, "I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." (Jn. 10:1-10)

Our Lord Jesus through the gospel is telling us that the way to life, happiness, joy and peace is to follow His footsteps. The Lord's footsteps are marked with love, compassion, forgiveness, mercy, reconciliation, sacrifice, dedication, endurance, patience and trusting in God.

"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." "When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly." (1 Pet. 2:20-25)

As Christians, sometimes we have to accept sufferings, make sacrifices, so that those around us will have a good life and happiness. Let us look at the situation of many immigrants in all parts of the world today: Many have left the comfort of their children, husbands, wives, and their extended family, to be alone in a foreign land so that their families might be better. *This is the way of the Good Shepherd.*

The same way in many families today in our country, many who are supposed to be retired and enjoying their retirement age are still working or have sacrificed the bulk of their retirement package to their children and charity. *This is the way of the Good Shepherd, Christ Jesus.* Many couples are going through many difficulties and have sacrificed their joy and happiness because they want their children to grow up with their parents around them: *This the way of Christ the Good Shepherd.*

Beloved in Christ, just like the way our Lord endured and sacrificed so that we may have "life in abundance" (Jn. 10:10), let us follow this way of sacrifice and endurance for the good of others.