

# The Young Christ as the Good Shepherd

Thomas Gainsborough, 18th century, oil on canvas



from Bridgeman Images

Prayerfully look at the above picture and quietly reflect and answer questions together. Begin and end with the Sign of the Cross.

**Let's pray together:**

*Dear God, as we look at this beautiful work of art, help us always to keep our eyes on Jesus.*

*Look at this picture of the child Jesus. (Pause.) Do you see the glow coming out of Jesus' halo? (Pause.)*

*Here we see Jesus as a young shepherd boy. He is guiding his sheep.*

*Who do you think that Jesus is looking at? (Pause.)*

*Look carefully at Jesus, who is looking toward God the Father, who is in Heaven. (Pause.)*

*Now, close your eyes and imagine that you are one of Jesus' sheep and that Jesus is leading you to Heaven. (Pause.)*

*Dear Jesus, you are our Good Shepherd. We look to you because we love and trust that you will lead us to Heaven. Please help us always to follow you. Amen.*