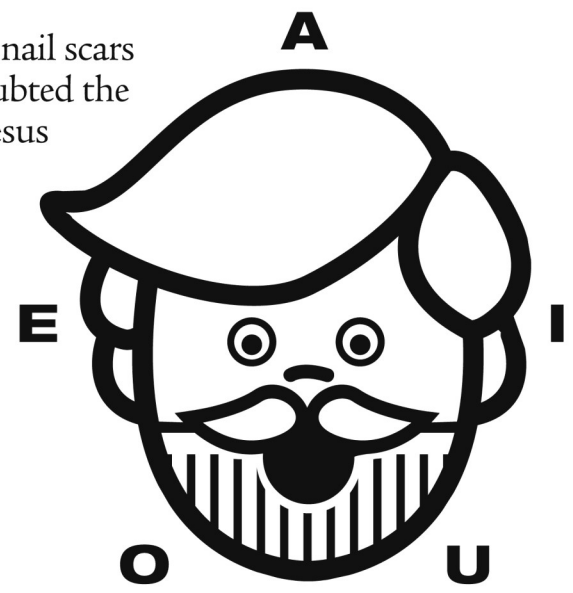




# SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?



**Directions:**  
Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete John 20:29, NIV.

"B \_ c \_ \_ s \_ y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ s \_ \_ n m \_ ,  
 y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d ;  
 bl \_ ss \_ d \_ r \_ th \_ s \_ wh \_ h \_ v \_ n \_ t  
 s \_ \_ n \_ nd y \_ t h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d ."

**JOHN 20:29, NIV**

Answer: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29, NIV

## COMMUNITY LIFE, NEWS & EVENTS

**THANK you!** We would like to thank all those who helped to make Holy Week the joyous celebration that it is due to the Resurrection of our Lord. Thank you to the ushers, cantors, altar servers, lectors, and the many other volunteers who gave of their time to assist with the services.

A special thank you to **Joan Nagy and Kate Hackney and the choir** for all the preparations that were done to provide a beautiful worship space filled with glorious music. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

We also would like to thank all those who attended the masses. May God continue to bless you and your family.

**Does your Marriage need a boost?**

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience will help you enjoy life with a new closeness to each other and God. You don't need it—you DESERVE a Marriage Encounter Experience!

For more information or to register, go to [WWME.org](http://WWME.org), click "Apply" and search for "Virginia" or your desired location. Feel free to contact Mark and Cathy Stangler at 703-378-4150 or [mstang1987@aol.com](mailto:mstang1987@aol.com) with any questions.

Upcoming dates:

- September 22-24, 2023—Crowne Plaza Hotel, Herndon
- November 17-19, 2023—Holiday Inn, Virginia Beach

**Mark your calendar!**  
**Vacation Bible School (VBS)**  
**June 19-23, 2023**

*Shine a light on Jesus' love!  
 It is going to be out-of-this-world!*

**MICHAEL DANIELS**  
 Owner/operator

**MIKE & SON**  
 The Cutting Edge Lawn Service and Painting

Lawn mowing, fertilizing, mulching  
 Aerating & seeding  
 Leaf & debris removal

Call us now 757-660-8467

Free estimates and reliable service  
[Thecuttingedgelawnservice26@gmail.com](mailto:Thecuttingedgelawnservice26@gmail.com)

**Food Pantry Needs for the Week of April 16**  
**CANNED MEAT OR FISH**

## FAITH FORMATION

**Adult Faith Formation**  
**"Apologetics for non-dummies"**

AFF will resume on Monday, April 17, 2023 from 7-8:15 PM. There will be a total of five weeks for this topic. Sign up sheets will be available in the commons for those who are interested in attending this formation.

**Children's Easter Play**

The Children's Easter Play will be on Friday, April 21 at 6:30 PM. Please join us for a wonderful lesson on evangelization as well as a moving retelling of the Resurrection story. A small reception will follow. Thank you for supporting the young members of our faith community.

**Works of Mary Book Club**

The next gatherings for the *Works of Mary Book Club* will be:

Part 1—May 3 & 17  
 June 7 & 21  
 July 5 & 19

from 7:15PM-8:15PM to discuss:

***Hail, Holy Queen: The Mother of God in the Word of God***  
 by Scott Hahn  
 (ISBN:978-0385501699)

If you have any questions, please see Johanna Arocho.

**Join us for Cookies after Mass in the Commons next Saturday, April 22 and Donuts on Sunday, April 23**

**The 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal**  
**"Sharing His Love with Others"**

It's a special joy that comes from hope. Confidently hoping for the fulfillment of our desire is a joyful state. Enduring in such hope *increases* our capacity for joy.

Oh, joy upon joy! Indeed, "All the way to heaven is heaven," as a saying attributed to St. Catherine of Siena goes. Please support our annual Diocesan Appeal so we can help others access this joy. Pray, donate, and sacrifice for our Appeal.

**As of 4/12/2023:**

Goal	\$ 16,540.00
Pledges & Cash	\$ 15,702.00
% of Goal	95%
Donors	31

We would like to thank all those who have already donated to the 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal. Thanks for your support!





# The Church of the Good Shepherd

300 Smithfield Boulevard, Smithfield, Virginia 23430  
Website: [www.cgsparish.org](http://www.cgsparish.org) E-mail: [admin@cgsparish.org](mailto:admin@cgsparish.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/cgsparish](http://www.facebook.com/cgsparish)  
Father Tony's Email: [pastor@cgsparish.org](mailto:pastor@cgsparish.org)  
Office: (757) 365-0579 Fax: (757) 365-0994 Rectory: (757) 542-3879  
Office Hours: Monday—Friday 10 AM to 3 PM  
Mass Times: Saturday—5PM & Sunday—9AM  
Weekday Mass Times: Tuesday—Friday at Noon  
Adoration is on the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month.

## Staff

- Pastor** - Fr. Tony Yllana, [pastor@cgsparish.org](mailto:pastor@cgsparish.org)
- Admin Assistant** - Vicki Dobbins, [admin@cgsparish.org](mailto:admin@cgsparish.org)
- Religious Education** - Lara Detrich, [formation@cgsparish.org](mailto:formation@cgsparish.org)
- Music Director** - Katarina Hackney, [music@cgsparish.org](mailto:music@cgsparish.org)
- Youth Ministry** – Scott Watterson, [youthministry@cgsparish.org](mailto:youthministry@cgsparish.org)

## Ministries

- Ministry to the Sick** - Deacon Stanley Stefanowicz
- Pastoral Council** - Joe Campo
- Finance Council** - Dan Falbe
- Money Counters** - Margaret Hickman
- Building** - Hart Smith and Tom Quick
- Grounds** - Tom Quick
- Liturgical Ministries Head** - Mark Lieberman
  - Altar Servers** - Joshua Arocho
  - Children's Liturgy** – Kathleen Day
  - Eucharistic Min (Sat)** - Joan Nagy
  - Eucharistic Min (Sun)** - Mark Lieberman
  - Funeral Mass Coordinator**—Joan Nagy
  - Lectors** - Michelle Romanello
  - Sacristan** - Hart Smith
  - Ushers** - Steve Reznick
- Knights of Columbus** - Brendan Wesdock, [bwesdock@gmail.com](mailto:bwesdock@gmail.com)
- Ladies' Guild** - Margaret Hickman
- Men's Club** - Bill Knapp, [billknapp1985@yahoo.com](mailto:billknapp1985@yahoo.com)
- Parish Community Life** - Debbi Gatti and Pearl Stokes
- Justice & Peace** - Mary Ellen Bebermeyer
- Haiti Committee & E-Bulletin Board** - Dave Maltby
- Divine Mercy Cenacle** - Dara Murphy
- Special Needs Ministry** - Sue Ellebracht

\*If you are interested in any Ministries, please contact the parish office.

## Mission Statement

*We, as diverse members of the Body of Christ, come together to serve God, the Catholic Church, and our community. We celebrate God in the Eucharist and the word, as we help each other in the growth of our faith, share our gifts and welcome everyone.*

## Vision Statement

*To know and love God and grow in the Kingdom Of God together.*

**Inclement Weather** - Fr. Tony plans to be at church to celebrate Mass. However, you are not obligated to come if travel is unsafe for you.

**Parish Registration and Changes** – Registration forms are available on the Church website. You may notify the office if you wish to register with, or be removed from the parish records, or if you have a change of address, telephone number, or email.

**Baptisms** – A preparation class for parents is required. Contact Lara Detrich at the church office to register.

**Funerals** — Contact the office if you would like to schedule a Funeral Service. The date and time must be approved by the priest.

**Marriage** – Registered parishioners must contact the parish at least 6 months prior to the intended date.

**Reconciliation** – Before Saturday Vigil Mass or by appointment.

**Visitation of the Sick** – Please call the office to arrange for communion, anointing of the sick, or when someone is ill or hospitalized.



April 16, 2023

## Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 2:42-47 | 1 Pt 1:3-9 | Jn 20:19-31

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

“I’ll believe it when I see it.” We’ve all said this at some point, usually in response to hearing about someone unreliable doing something out of character. St. Thomas had the same reaction in today’s Gospel when he wasn’t there when the other disciples saw Christ for the first time since he rose from his tomb – “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” Although Jesus helped Thomas with his unbelief, he blesses those who have not seen, but believe. Have any of us seen the nail marks in Christ’s hands and feet, or the wound in his side? Do we see Christ’s body and blood on the altar, or do we see only the gifts of bread and wine? Christ comes to us in ways we can understand initially – parables, bread and wine, the face of people we meet throughout our daily lives – but our faith in what we have not seen, in the great mystery of our salvation, is what makes us Christian.

## GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today’s first reading, we hear reports of the lives of the first disciples soon after Pentecost: communal living, breaking bread together, prayer, selling of their property and possessions and redistributing among themselves according to individual needs. To our ears today, this idyllic community living seems almost incredible. Yet these first disciples were infused with the Holy Spirit, who enabled them to proclaim the Gospel and think of others before themselves. As Christ’s disciples today, how are we behaving toward one another? If we truly are among those who have not seen and yet believe, let’s act in full confidence. As we heard in the second reading, our faith is “more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire.” We certainly aren’t perfect, and our faith at times can be sorely tested, and yet this is our call: to share this faith by doing good works in Christ’s name to make disciples and build the kingdom of God.

**INVITATION** People often see Christ through the words and actions of others. This week, actively seek out opportunities to be the hands of Christ. What opportunities does your community have to practice corporal works of mercy?



## LITURGY AND MINISTRY

### Today's Readings:

Jesus gives Thomas a great gift when he invites Thomas to touch his wounds. In his wounds, Christ displays his response of mercy to our sinfulness. When we doubt, we can ask the Lord for the grace to touch his wounds through prayer and to receive his mercy for us.

### Gospel Focus:

The Lord invites us to touch his wounds and encounter the font of all mercy.



*"Encounter the Joy of the Gospel and Set the World Ablaze"*

**EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...**

Follow Jesus' example of care for the weakest among us.

**FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK**

**Adults:** What could you do this week to help strengthen the faith of someone who is faltering?

**Children:** What could you do this week to encourage someone who is sad or discouraged?

## PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of April



**Evangelization:** *For a culture of peace and non violence*

We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

### Pope Tweets:

"We must never forget the moment and the way in which God enters into our lives, treasuring in our hearts and minds that encounter with Grace that enkindles faith in our hearts and sparks zeal for the Gospel within us."

### Please Remember in Prayer:

*Barbara & Jim Bonney, Gene Chappell, Leila Chevalier, Justin Evans, Ann Fjell, Ellen Gauthier, Leslie Lunger, Christopher Morris, Shirley Mutter, Alice Reece, Jean Wechsler, Marilyn Wise, Thomas Wunder and Brandon Zakaras*

### Helped by a doubting apostle

The expression "Doubting Thomas" comes from this remarkable Easter story. The apostle Thomas, one of Jesus's inner circle, was slow to believe in the resurrection. He demanded concrete evidence before he could believe that the risen Jesus had appeared to his fellow apostles. His story offers some comfort to those of us who are always nagged by doubts. With the memory of our Lord's crucifixion fresh in their hearts, the nervous disciples had locked the doors of their meeting room.

They had locked themselves for fear of Jewish reprisals. They were afraid that what was done to Jesus could be done to them. The turning point came when Jesus appeared among them and breathed the Holy Spirit into them, filling them with new purpose. "As the Father sent me, so am I sending you." In the power of the Spirit they left their self-imposed prison, to go out and spread the message of Jesus. In today's reading from Acts, St. Luke shows them witnessing to the resurrection both in word and by the quality of their living.

Some people who cannot believe profess to envy those who do. They would like to experience the certainty of believers and share the faith of their parents. And indeed, most ordinary mortals have moments of doubt during our spiritual journey. Thomas's recovery from his doubts offers a valuable insight into God's mercy and kindness.

Are we sometimes like those disciples, indecisive, inactive, unwilling to promote the faith. The "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" have dented our confidence. Are we tempted to abandon our faith journey, unable to see a way forward? Our past failures make us hesitant to try again. Today's gospel offers a solution. The Lord himself has power to revive our courage and our faith. No locked doors, nor even locked hearts, can keep him out.

Today we meet with the risen Christ, just as St. Thomas did. Sharing in the Eucharist is our statement of loyalty, our act of personal and shared faith. In praying the Eucharist together we help each other's faith and strengthen our Christian community. It was because the members of the early Church in Jerusalem met in public for prayer and seemed such a joyful little community, that so many others came to believe and the church grew steadily in those early, Spirit-filled days.

Our faith is a gift from God. But, it is not an inert gift that we can lock away like some precious heirloom. It is a living gift that needs nurturing, to grow and mature. Like other life-forms, faith can wither from neglect. We need to pray about it, think about it, and express it in actions arising from love. This does not mean that we will never have doubts. But, if like Thomas, we continue seeking, we too will come into the presence of Jesus and say, "My Lord and my God!"

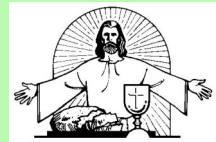
([associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/16-april-2023-2nd-Sunday-of-easter-a-divine-mercy-Sunday/](http://associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/16-april-2023-2nd-Sunday-of-easter-a-divine-mercy-Sunday/))

### Considering a call to the priesthood?

"As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." Do you have an interest to share the Lord's saving mission as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, to speak with Father Brian W. Capuano or write: [vocations@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:vocations@richmonddiocese.org).



## April 16, 2023 Sunday of Divine Mercy



### Readings for the Week

#### Monday, April 17

Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8

#### Tuesday, April 18

Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15

#### Wednesday, April 19

Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

#### Thursday, April 20

Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

#### Friday, April 21

Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

#### Saturday, April 22

Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21

#### Sunday, April 23—Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35



### Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	April 17	No Mass	
Tues.	April 18	Noon	Available
Wed.	April 19	Noon	Available
Thurs.	April 20	Noon	Available
Fri.	April 21	Noon	Available
Sat	April 22	5:00 pm	+Barbara Sullivan
Sun.	April 23	9:00 am	Good Shepherd Comm.

Parishioners are invited to remember their loved ones in a special way through prayers. If you would like to have a Mass celebrated in memory of a loved one or a special intention, please contact the parish office. **Stipends may be turned in with the collection or mailed to the office. Checks should be made out to Church of the Good Shepherd. Please write "mass intention" on the memo line of your check. Thank you.**



### Church open for personal prayer:

Monday – Friday 10AM to 2PM



Online Giving

### We invite you to check out our

**On-Line Giving Program.**

Visit our parish website: [www.cgsparish.org](http://www.cgsparish.org)

click on 'Give' then 'On-Line Giving'

### Upcoming Special Collections

Your quarterly **ALTAR FLOWER** donations provide flowers and green plants for our church in the seasons of Easter, Christmas and Ordinary Time. Our next collection is April 23.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



### Parish Life This Week

#### Monday, April 17

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

7:00 PM AFF—Apologetics

#### Wednesday, April 19

10:00 AM Divine Mercy

6:00 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Ladies' Guild

7:00 PM Men's Club

7:00 PM Youth Group

#### Thursday, April 20

6:00 PM Finance Council

7:00 PM Choir Practice

#### Friday, April 21

6:30 PM Children's Easter Play

#### Saturday, April 22

4:30 PM Rosary

#### Sunday, April 23

8:30 AM Rosary

10:10 AM Religious Education

### Weekly Offering for:

**April 1-2 & 7-9, 2023**

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 5,865.38

(The following totals include E-Giving)

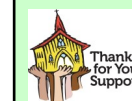
OFFERTORY:	April 1-2	April 7-9
Regular/Holy Day Offertory	\$ 6,385.83	\$ 8,553.23
<b>ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:</b>		
Mortgage	\$ 1,201.64	\$ 635.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 51.00	\$ 35.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 15.00	—
Haiti	\$ 100.00	\$ 95.00
Altar Flowers	—	\$ 2.00
Men's Club	\$ 1,938.00	—
Ladies' Guild	\$ 1,647.00	—
R.E.—"Hopping for Haiti"	\$ 291.00	—
Roof Repair	\$ 50.00	—
Other	\$ 20.00	\$ 390.00

### DIOCESAN COLLECTION:

Catholic Relief Services	\$ 262.00	—
Rice Bowl	\$ 60.00	\$ 252.00
Holy Land	—	\$ 295.20
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	<b>\$ 29,024.31</b>	

### MASS ATTENDANCE

Holy Thursday	140	Saturday/Easter Vigil	104
Good Friday	3PM— 106	Easter Sunday	365
	7PM— 72		



Thank you for your continued support of the Church of the Good Shepherd!  
**Your generosity is greatly appreciated!**