



LOOKING INTO THE SKY

As Jesus ascended into heaven, two angels had a message for his disciples.

Directions: Underline the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write it on the line below to complete the angels' message in Acts 1:11, NIV.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. strange
same
odd | 2. Lazarus
Jesus
Martha | 3. who
then
there | 4. pear
been
apple | 5. taken
cat
dog |
| 6. sky
from
earth | 7. you
work
toil | 8. desk
chair
into | 9. house
hallway
heaven | 10. can't
will
won't |
| 11. breakfast
come
lunch | 12. nose
back
mouth | 13. see
the
hear | 14. oval
round
same | 15. way
girl
boy |
| 16. his
her
you | 17. white
have
black | 18. one
seen
two | 19. go
low
high | 20. sea
heaven
ocean |

" This _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ , _____ 3 _____ has _____ 4 _____
 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ ,
 _____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____ in _____ 13 _____
 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____ 16 _____ 17 _____
 _____ 18 _____ him _____ 19 _____ into _____ 20 _____ ."
 Acts 1:11, NIV

"This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11, NIV

COMMUNITY LIFE, NEWS & EVENTS

Annual Haiti Fund Drive

The annual Haiti Fund Drive to support our twin parish in Croix Fer, Haiti runs through the end of June. Your gracious donations help Good Shepherd support our twin parish's schools by providing teacher salaries and the only meal of the day for most of the students. One hundred percent of the funds collected go directly to Haiti. The easiest way to donate is through our parish e-giving page on the parish website. Father Camy, the students and teachers appreciate our loyal support to St. Anthony of Padua. Can you spare \$100.00? \$50? Please see Mary Ellen Bebermeyer or Dave Maltby for further information.



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

Today, the Gospel reveals that Jesus' disciples still struggled with doubt even after He rose from the dead. He didn't rebuke them this time. Instead, Jesus gave them the mission to "Make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

Jesus knew they needed help to believe Him, even after seeing Him rise. He knows us, too. Seeing is not enough! Many of His would-be followers abandoned Him despite miracles. That's why Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to strengthen our weak faith.

We ask you to make an act of faith by giving to our Annual Diocesan Appeal. Like the disciples in today's Gospel, after worshipping Jesus atop a mountain, we worship Jesus at the "source and summit" of our Eucharistic faith. After worshipping, He sends us out to make disciples. The word Mass comes from the word *missa*, which means "sending". We make disciples in our homes, workplaces, and our neighborhoods. We need your prayers and financial contributions to fulfill our commission to make disciples in our community. Help us fulfill it so that He will find us busy with the good work when He comes back. God be with you.

As of 5/16/2023:

Goal	\$ 16,540.00
Pledges & Cash	\$ 19,823.00
% of Goal	120%
Donors	43

We would like to thank all those who have already donated so generously to the 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal.

Prayer

May I be open every day
to courageously share
how encountering the Risen Lord
changes our life as beloved disciples.
May I take advantage of opportunities
that occur within the normal course of my day
to share the Good News.



FAITH FORMATION



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!

Register at: <https://vbspro.events/p/goodshepherdvbs2023>



Join Michael Matthews in the Cry Room
each Sunday after Mass
as we take a "Deeper Dive"
into the readings.

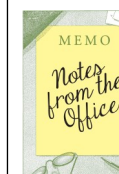
Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

Married Couples: A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like Spring-time. It's a weekend away with your spouse, the rebirth of romance for the two of you, and a chance at new beginnings. If you'd like to make your marriage even more special than it already is—come check it out! Weekends are limited to 25 couples so register early!

For more information or to register, go to 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 with any questions.

Upcoming dates:

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



Mark your calendar—the office will be
CLOSED on Monday, May 29, 2023 in observance of Memorial Day.

The parish office will have **new Summer Office Hours beginning on Monday, June 5, 2023.**

The office hours will be:

Monday & Wednesday	10AM-4PM
Tuesday & Thursday	9AM-3:30PM
Friday	CLOSED

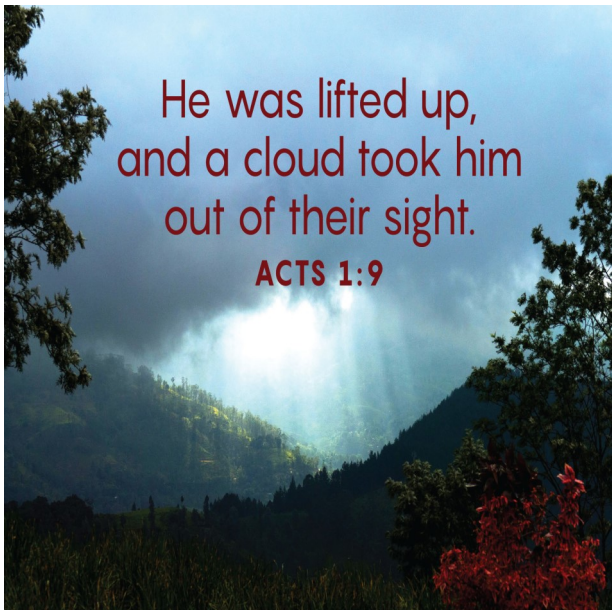
As a reminder—ALL announcements must be into the office by 10:00 AM on Mondays or they will not be posted until the following week.



**Food Pantry Needs for the
Week of May 21
CANNED MEAT OR FISH**

The AED is located in the Commons
by the fire extinguisher outside the office.





The Church of the Good Shepherd

300 Smithfield Boulevard, Smithfield, Virginia 23430
Website: www.cgsparish.org E-mail: admin@cgsparish.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/cgsparish
Father Tony's Email: 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
Admin Assistant - Vicki Dobbins, admin@cgsparish.org
Religious Education - Lara Detrich, formation@cgsparish.org
Music Director - Katarina Hackney, music@cgsparish.org
Youth Ministry – Scott Watterson, 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
Ladies' Guild - Margaret Hickman
Men's Club - Bill Knapp, 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.



May 21, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Eph 1: 17-23 | Mt 28: 16-20

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

Actions speak louder than words. How many of us have heard or said this exact phrase? I suspect most, if not all of us are quite familiar with this old adage. In fact, this is exactly what we are being told by Jesus himself in today's Gospel when he says, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." Jesus continues his direction of *action* by telling us to baptize "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." We are not directed to simply speak about Jesus with our families and church communities, we are told to GO among all nations and add to Jesus' flock. We continue Christ's mission when we seek to spread his love. Before Jesus joined his Father in heaven, his instructions were very clear. This is an opportunity to think about the commission we were given as part of the baptized community, and how Jesus is asking us to take action in his name.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Easier said than done. We've all heard that one as well. It's hard to feel equipped to spread the word and the will of God. We worry our words will fail us and we will look foolish. We know we are not perfect, and wonder if that means we cannot possibly be Christ's hands and feet on this earth. However, today's reading from Ephesians provides us with the perfect prayer to give us hope and faith in the Holy Spirit as we set out to fulfill the Great Commission given to us in this week's Gospel: "May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him." We are challenged to act for God, but not without being given the tools to do so with confidence.

PRAY Meditate on today's second reading from Ephesians.

Read it as if your priest was giving you a blessing before you head out of your house each morning. Let it fill your soul with love and awe for our Father, and let it give you the confidence you need to play an active role in building his kingdom until he comes again.

LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

Today we celebrate the ascension of Christ to his eternal glory at the right hand of the Father. He was lifted up that he might be present to all in every age. As the disciples stood before the Lord on that first Ascension Day, so let us now come before him with confidence in his forgiveness and mercy, and in the promise that he is with us to the end of the age.

Gospel Focus:

Jesus, lifted to glory, is present to all his disciples in every age.



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

EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...

Seek, nurture, and enjoy the company of other Christians.

FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Adults: With whom have you shared the Good News of Jesus in the past month?

Children: What Good News about Jesus could you share with someone?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of May



Evangelization: For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

Pope Tweets:

"We discover we are children of God at the moment we discover we are brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. This is why it is essential to be part of a journeying community. No one goes to the Lord alone."

Please Remember in Prayer:

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

Today's Reflection

Last Will and Testament

In the Gospel we have just heard Our Lord's final instructions, His Last Will and Testament. Just before leaving them, He reminds them of what He expects of them. Earlier, He had sent them out to spread the Kingdom of God. Those who go in His name, do so with *His* authority. The authority goes with the mission, so to speak. In Matthew's version He now adds this great promise, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Mark says that the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it". And Luke emphasizes that they will be "clothed with power from on high", that is, with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.



Jesus is very definite about what He has to say. Like any gathering of people, the feelings of His disciples were varied. But, He sends them out to speak and act in His name.

Their mission was both easy and hard: easy to understand but hard to carry out. It was to teach others all that He had taught them. Just as He asked them to follow His way, they were to ask that others should follow that way too.

Has a doctor ever put you on a course of antibiotics. The most basic guidance about antibiotics is to complete the course. Even if the patient starts to feel well after a few days, to discontinue taking the medicine can let their condition grow worse.

Similarly, the message of salvation must continue to be shared until the end of time. With all the changes in the church and in society, neither Jesus nor His message have changed. His Gospel remains a call to live our lives to the full.

You write a new page of the Gospel each day, through all that you do and whatever you say. Others read what you write, be it faithful or true. So what is the Gospel according to you?

He is with us always. This can be a real help against loneliness. Being alone is not the same as being lonely. One can feel lonely in a crowded street; or alternatively, like Cicero, *never less alone than when alone* ("minus solum, quam cum solus"). This applies especially to those who believe the promise, "I am with you always." Talking with Him doesn't even need words. If we are open to His presence in our heart, and treasure it, we can experience fully that "Joy of the Gospel" so warmly described for us by our good Pope Francis.

(associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/21-may-2023-the-ascension-of-the-Lord-a/)

Considering a call to the priesthood?

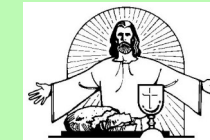
"Go and teach all nations, says the Lord." Do you feel a calling to be a teacher of the Word as a priest or consecrated religious? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, to speak with Father Brian W. Capuano or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



Solemnity of Pentecost is Sunday, May 28, 2023.
Please wear red to Mass.



May 21, 2023 Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord



Readings for the Week

Monday, May 22

Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday, May 23

Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday, May 24

Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday, May 25

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday, May 26—Memorial of St. Philip Neri

Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday, May 27

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday, May 28—Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	May 22	No Mass	
Tues.	May 23	Noon	Available
Wed.	May 24	Noon	Available
Thurs.	May 25	Noon	Available
Fri.	May 26	Noon	Available
Sat.	May 27	5:00 pm	Carol Tassone (Birthday)
Sun.	May 28	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



We invite you to check out our On-Line Giving Program.

Visit our parish website: www.cgsparish.org
click on 'Give' then 'On-Line Giving'

Upcoming Special Collections

May 28—Barron Dempsey Fund

June 4—Mortgage

June 11—Peter's Pence

*Your donations are needed and appreciated.



Parish Life This Week

Monday, May 22

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

Tuesday, May 23

7:00 PM Ministry to the Sick Training

Wednesday, May 24

6:00 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Youth Group

Thursday, May 25

7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday, May 19

11:30 AM Adoration

Saturday, May 27

4:30 PM Rosary

Sunday, May 28

Pentecost

8:30 AM Rosary

Weekly Offering for:

May 13 & 14, 2023

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 5,865.38

(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular/Holy Day Offertory \$ 5,212.41

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage	\$ 431.00
Haiti	\$ 160.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 11.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 250.00
Roof Repair Fund	\$ 115.38
Other	\$ 15.00

DIOCESAN COLLECTION:

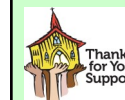
Catholic Relief Services \$ 1.00

Mortgage Balance \$ 27,750.83

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday 120

Sunday 188



Thank you for your continued support of the Church of the Good Shepherd!

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



If you are new to our parish, you can find the registration form on our website www.cgsparish.org or contact the parish office.