

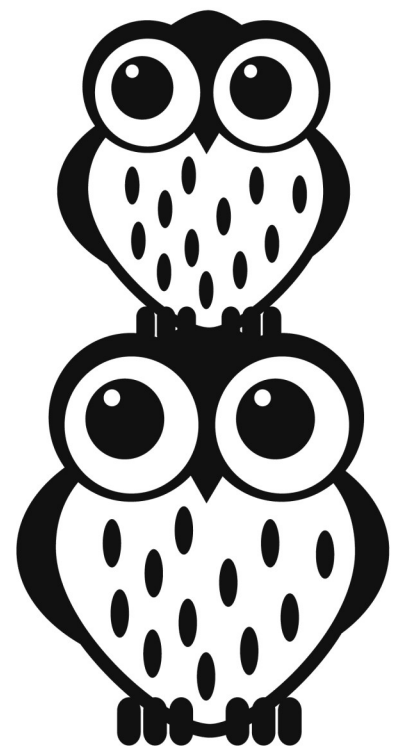


PUZZLE

WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

Directions: Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.



- school _ _ _ _
- paper _ _ _
- wisdom _ _ _
- read _ _ _
- play _ _ _ _
- learn _ _ _ _
- grow _ _ _ _
- pencils _ _ _ _
- pray _ _ _
- art _ _ _
- student _ _ _ _
- kids _ _ _ _
- apple _ _ _ _


“... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful.”


JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

Answer: apple, art, grow, kids, learn, paper, pencils, play, pray, read, school, student, wisdom, prosperous

@ChurchArt Online

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

 *We will have no weekday Mass August 1-4, 2023
**There will be
 Prayer Service with Communion
 at 12:00 PM (Noon)**

 **Emmaus Journey: A Retreat Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents**
Saturday, August 12, 2023
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

To meet the spiritual needs of parents whose children of *any* age have died by *any* cause, no matter how long ago, the Diocese of Richmond now offers the Emmaus Journey. The Emmaus Journey is a faith-based, day-long, spiritual retreat for grieving parents led by a team that includes grieving parents, spiritual directors, clergy, and parish leaders. The Emmaus Journey offers a safe place to seek peace, comfort, and hope.

If you would like to speak with someone about the retreat, contact Christa at 757-595-0385 x107 or email cblomstrom@olmc.org

To register visit: <https://evangelizerichmond.org/family/emmaus-journey/>

Adult Faith Corner

Are you searching for more answers to your faith questions? Here are a few resources for you to begin your journey.

Websites:

- <https://richmonddiocese.org/office/christian-formation/>
- <https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/2023/05/pop-up-catechesis-going-to-mass-every-Sunday/>

Podcasts/Apps:

- <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>
- Oregon Catholic Press, Music <https://www.ocp.org/en-us>
- <https://ascensionpress.com>

A few recommended books:

- The Lord's Supper: A Eucharistic Revival* by John Michael Talbot
- Holy Grit: A Sainly Guide to Becoming a Man of Virtue* by Paul George
- Just Rest: Receiving God's Renewing Presence in the Deserts of Your Life (a Study of Exodus)* by Sonja Corbitt
- Courageous Love: A Bible Study in Holiness for Women* by Stacy Mitch

Please feel free to reach out to me if you come across other resources that you would like to share!
 Lara Detrich at formation@cqsparish.org

 **Food Pantry Needs for the Week of July 30 CRACKERS**


PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

FAITH FORMATION

CATECHISTS NEEDED 


Are you searching for a way to increase your faith? Are you looking for a path to sainthood by performing a spiritual act of mercy each week? Are you eager to learn and great with patience? If this describes you, then you are being called to be a catechist! Our parish K-8 primary grade children are in need of those who would willingly devote just an hour of your Sunday to discovering what it is we love about God. Are you willing to participate in God's plan for you?

Contact Lara Detrich at formation@cqsparish.org for more information.

 **Liturgy of the Hours**

Want to pray like the ancient Christians? Come learn about the *Liturgy of the Hours* on August 6, 2023 following Mass! It should take about 30 minutes or so, and breakfast will be provided. Sign-ups will be in the Commons. It WILL be worth your time! Contact Scott Watterson for more information.

Faith Formation / National Eucharistic Revival

 **This is My Body**


The Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Take time to learn more about the center of our Catholic faith by reading *This is My Body, A Call to Eucharistic Revival* by Bishop Robert Barron. Copies are still available in the Commons are yours to take with or without a donation. **Book discussions will take place on Tuesday, September 12, 19 & 26 at 12:30 pm and 7 pm.**

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Eucharistic Miracles

You are invited to view and discuss a short video uncovering the mysteries surrounding several Eucharistic miracles. **The presentations take place after Mass on Saturday, August 19, Sunday, August 20 and Tuesday, August 22.**

COP Food Bank Thanks You

 Thank you so very much for your generous gifts of non-perishable food in the month of June! Last month COP saw over 500 families coming in to the facility for food. Compared to an average of 350 families last year. COP receives fresh garden veggies from local farmers. Again, your donations are greatly appreciated!



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
Summer Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10 AM to 4 PM,
Tuesday & Thursday 9 AM to 3:30 PM, Friday—CLOSED
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 - Lisa & Aine Lewandowski
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 - Shawn Huffaker, gk17335@vakofc.org
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.



July 30, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 | Rom 8:28-30 | Mt 13:44-52

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

It is no secret that Jesus often taught using parables; last Sunday we heard three, and today there are more. Today's parables seemed obscure until I focused on the repeating phrase "kingdom of heaven," which is likened to treasure, a pearl of great value, and then a fish net. What a contrast! But when I thought about it longer, it made perfect sense: The kingdom of heaven is the greatest treasure, one that should compel us to give up everything like the person who finds treasure buried in a field or the merchant who buys the pearl, just to make sure we have it in our possession. The kingdom is also something that requires hard work, hence the analogy with fishermen throwing nets into the sea to capture fish and then sort the good from the bad. Think of that net as the predestination St. Paul mentions in today's epistle. God predestined mankind to be called to him, to be justified and glorified in his name, yet we all maintain free will to choose otherwise. So, at the end of the age, when the angels "separate the wicked from the righteous," each of us will learn how precious the treasure of heaven is according to the way we chose to pursue it during our lifetime.

GO EVANGELIZE
PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the midst of the daily grind, heaven can seem so far removed from our lives until it's Sunday and we're standing in pews during Mass. But the kingdom of heaven isn't contained within the single act of attending Mass on Sundays. Jesus didn't say "attend church for one hour each week and you're all set" – the parables he speaks today show people who put in work, searching for treasure until they found it and did everything they could to ensure they kept it. Jesus taught in parables in order to extend his invitation to the kingdom of heaven to everyone who would listen. With these parables, the kingdom is more of an encounter than an end goal. When we are in a loving, prayerful relationship with God, we are able to recognize and know the joy and the infinite value of the kingdom. We are able to experience God's kingdom in the day-to-day experiences of our lives. We know that the kingdom can be found in Jesus, who is the way. And we know that Jesus is here with us now.

INVITATION In the first reading Solomon said to God: "Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart." Take a few minutes and read Solomon's Prayer of Dedication for the temple that occurs a few verses later in 1 Kings (8:22-61). In it, he asks God to be with his people always – a prayer for us today as well.


LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

Like the new king, Solomon, when God entrusts us with great opportunities and responsibilities, he gives us what we need to succeed. This relationship of trust with God is a treasure of love beyond price and compare; it is the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel Focus:

God, who loves us and entrusts us with his purpose, provides us with what we need to fulfill it.



"Encounter the Joy of the Gospel and Set the World Ablaze"
EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...
Have lives that have changed due to their relationship with Christ.

FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK
Adults: What would you be willing to "sell", or do without, in order to achieve your dreams for yourself or your family?
Children: What good thing do you want so much that you would give up something else to get it?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of July




Evangelization: For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Pope Tweets:

"Let us pray together that Catholics place at the center of their lives the Eucharistic Celebration, which transforms human relationships and opens up an encounter with God and their brothers and sisters."



Please Remember in Prayer:
Barbara & Jim Bonney, Gene Chappell, Leila Chevalier, Justin Evans, Ellen Gauthier, Leslie Lunger, Christopher Morris, Dara Murphy, Shirley Mutter, Betty Nagy, Elizabeth Perry, Alice Reece, Jean Wechsler, Thomas Wunder and Brandon Zakaras

Today's Reflection

The Priceless Pearl



Those of us reared in the country are familiar with how fiercely an old farmer can cling on to his land. Even a miserable patch of grassy bog feels like an insurance against abandonment. But hanging on is not the answer. It only sows bitterness and frustration in sons whose best years are squandered in waiting. Sons who in turn never learn themselves from the mistakes of their fathers. Love alone can guarantee security and care in one's declining years. Possessions provide only the illusion of security.

Elderly farmers are not the only ones who hold on to things for security. Others have their own holdings from which only death can separate them. It may be property and wealth, status and prestige or power and influence. It may even be an awful lot less, trivial comforts and an easy life. It may be a sixteen-hour day or the thankless responsibility of high office. Or a reputation we can no longer live up to. There is nothing more pathetic than an aging beauty queen who refuses to accept the ravages of time.

"Ask what you would like me to give you," God said to Solomon. "Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil," he replied. It is the kind of gift we all need. Possessions come in many forms. It is not so much these possessions that we should rid ourselves of, as the demon of possession itself that should be exorcized. Poverty has become a dirty word in the world we live in. We should not let an Ethiopian famine or a Rwanda disaster make us forget that poverty is also a Christian virtue. It is no accident that Christ began his Sermon on the Mount with "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Or, that the only condition for his followers is that "they leave all things." Or, that the rich young man should have failed all because he failed this one test, "for he had great possessions." Or, that the pearl in today's parable could only be bought by "selling everything he owns."

The trouble with most people is that they want it both ways. All this and the good life too. But, they can't have it both ways.

There is a pearl for everyone. And there is a price for everyone to pay. A price tailored to each individual circumstances. Detachment is that price. To be able to walk away from what we cherish most without so much as looking back with regret. Our tragedy is not that we cannot find the pearl but that we are unwilling to pay the price.

(verbatim from associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/30-july-2023-17th-Sunday-a/)

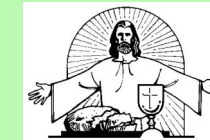
Considering a call to the priesthood

"Give us this day our daily bread." Are you being called to help feed the people of God as a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



"Lord, I love your commands." (Psalm 119)

**July 30, 2023
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



Readings for the Week

Monday, July 31—St. Ignatius of Loyola
Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday, August 1—St. Alphonsus Liguori
Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday, August 2
Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46
Thursday, August 3
Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53
Friday, August 4—St. John Vianney
Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday, August 5
Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12
Sunday, August 6—Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

| | | | |
|--------|----------|---------|---------------------------|
| Mon. | July 31 | No Mass | |
| Tues. | August 1 | Noon | Prayer Service with Comm. |
| Wed. | August 2 | Noon | Prayer Service with Comm. |
| Thurs. | August 3 | Noon | Prayer Service with Comm. |
| Fri. | August 4 | Noon | Prayer Service with Comm. |
| Sat | August 5 | 5:00 pm | Available |
| Sun. | August 6 | 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—Thursday 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

August 6—Mortgage
August 15—Assumption of Mary



*Your donations are needed and appreciated.

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



Parish Life This Week



Monday, July 31
6:30 PM Boy Scouts
Tuesday, August 1
12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion
7:00 PM Ministry to the Sick
Wednesday, August 2
12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion
6:00 PM OCIA
7:00 PM Youth Ministry
7:15 PM Works of Mary Book Club
Thursday, August 3
12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion
6:30 PM Boy Scout Committee Mtg.
7:00 PM Choir Practice
Friday, August 4
11:30 AM Adoration
12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion
Saturday, August 5
4:30 PM Rosary
Sunday, August 6
8:30 AM Rosary
10:15 AM Liturgy of the Hours Presentation

Weekly Offering for:

July 22 & 23, 2023

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00
(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offertory \$ 4,164.16

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage \$ 285.00
Haiti \$ 135.00
Barron Dempsey \$ 20.00
Catholic Virginian \$ 5.00
Altar Flowers \$ 376.31
Roof Repair \$ 10.00
Other \$ 56.00

Mortgage Balance \$ 25,186.09

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday 68
Sunday 160



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