



The Roman Catholic Church of the Good Shepherd

300 Smithfield Boulevard, Smithfield, Virginia 23430

Website: www.cgsparish.org E-mail: admin@cgsparish.org

Father Tony's Email: pastor@cgsparish.org

Office: (757) 365-0579 Fax: (757) 365-0994 Rectory: (757) 542-3879

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 10AM-3PM

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

Justice & Peace - Mary Ellen Bebermeyer

Haiti Committee & E-Bulletin Board - Dave Maltby

Divine Mercy Cenacle - Dara Murphy

Special Needs Ministry - Sue Ellebracht

Works of Mary - Johanna Arocho

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.

October 1, 2023

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28 | Phil 2:1-11 | Mt 21:28-32

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

I used to be something of a sugar fiend. So much so that one birthday, my then boyfriend (now husband) decided to forego flowers and bought me a jumbo-sized bag of Smarties candies instead. While I loved sugar, I eventually decided I didn't love how it made me feel. Now older and wiser, I reach for vegetables more often. It's not that I crave carrots, but I feel better eating healthy foods. It's what God intends for my body. Similarly, God intends for our souls to follow the laws he has ordained. But sometimes life gets tough and we suffer terrible wrongs or are grieving, and we feel like the Israelites in today's first reading, calling out, "The Lord's way is not fair!" Well, thank God for that! How lost would we be, if God treated us "fairly." Instead, he treats us with love and mercy; with justice. "He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross," for us. If there is any encouragement in Christ, as Paul says, and we know there is, then being of the same mind and heart – attitude – of Christ, gets us through those moments of "unfair!" And we can follow Christ's commands, knowing he loves us more than anyone else could love us, and more than we can ever love him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It's easy to talk a good game as Christians. We can all agree that it is right to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned and bury the dead, as the Corporal Works of Mercy instruct us. But when it comes to actually doing those things – "humbly regard[ing] others as more important than [ourselves], each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others" – we can find all sorts of reasons not to. Maybe our days are too busy or maybe we feel just the tiniest bit resentful at the idea of sharing something we've worked hard to earn. However, our words don't mean much without action. Jesus says as much in today's Gospel. If we are like the son who says yes but then does not go to work in the vineyard, we are not doing our Father's will. We are like the chief priests who are being bypassed on the way to heaven by "tax collectors and prostitutes" who heard the word of God and believed.

PRAY This week, let us look for ways to live out our faith. Rather than pray only with our words, let us pray with our actions. If you aren't sure where to start, pay special consideration to the verses from the second reading, highlighted above: "Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vain-glorious; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others."



LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

In today's Gospel parable there is a model son, who gives honor to his father by verbally assenting to his father's wishes. But his words are hollow, and his virtue is a mirage. How does our own reality measure up to our Christian ideals? Loving our neighbor sounds like a lovely sentiment until they cut us off on the highway. May Christ who calls us always to conversion help us root out any hollowness and hypocrisy in our own lives that we may truly confess that Jesus is Lord.

Gospel Focus:

Turn away from sin and follow Christ.



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

EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...

Are intentional about developing their relationship with the triune God.

FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Adults: When have your actions not measured up to your promises? What was the outcome?

Children: Why is it important to follow through on your promises to others?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of October



Evangelization: For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Pope Tweets:

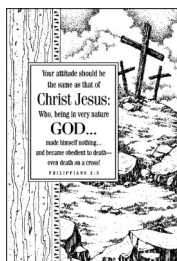
"Proclaiming Christ unites, not divides. The shared proclamation of our Lord evangelizes the ecumenical journey itself. Let us journey together in prayer which purifies us, in charity which unites us, in dialogue which brings us closer together."

Please Remember in Prayer:

Barbara Bonney, Gene Chappell, Justin Evans, Ellen Gauthier, Leslie Lungert, Christopher Morris, Dara Murphy, Betty Nagy, Elizabeth Perry, Alice Reece, Jean Wechsler, Irene White, Thomas Wunder and Brandon Zakaras

Keeping an Open Mind

A theme common to all three readings is that of changing one's mind. Our capacity to change our minds leaves us open to hazard and to hope; hazard when we choose to "renounce our integrity and to commit sin, hope when we choose to "renounce sin to become law-abiding and honest" (Isaiah).



The Gospel story shows us the nobility of a humble change of mind. The first son "thought the better of it." He was open to change, to better thoughts. The second son was set and closed. The ability to change one's mind is essential to all healthy relationships. A mind that is closed, whether from pride, stubbornness or stupidity, tends to destroy all relationships—e.g., when we refuse to admit a mistake, when we are unwilling to apologize and change our ways, when we persist in prejudice against a person or group, when we think we know it all.

The second reading, from Philippians, talks of a more specific and positive change of mind: "in your minds, you must be the same as Christ Jesus", or as an older translation put it, "let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus." This is the direction in which we must be constantly changing our minds day by day.

Paul emphasizes one aspect in particular of the mind of Christ—his humble openness and self-emptying in contrast to the conceited grasping and clinging of Adam: "he did not cling to (or grasp at) his equality with God (as Adam did in Eden) but emptied himself."

Ever since Adam, we are all born as clingers and graspers. The newborn babe has to have a tight grip, and as we get older the grip often gets stronger. Clinging permeates all of life; we cling to people (possessiveness); to things (greed); to power and position (ambition); we cling to opinions (pride). At the root of our clinging lies fear and insecurity. The apparently strong person who clings aggressively to set ways or ideas is in reality full of fear. Notice your physical reactions to fright; you clench up and grasp at something or someone, as a frightened child clings to its mother.

Jesus did not cling. He knew that reality could be trusted, because at the heart of reality is "Abba—dear Father," and that underneath everything, even death, are the everlasting arms. So, he did not cling even to life, "accepting death, death on a cross." "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

(excerpts from associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/1-oct-2023-26th-Sunday-a/)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

October 6, 2023 at 11:30 AM

Followed by 12:00 PM (Noon) Mass.
Come and spend some time with Jesus!



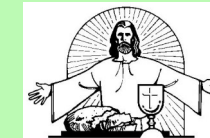
Considering a call to the priesthood

Is your faith in Christ leading you to grow in holiness as a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



October 1, 2023

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Readings for the Week

Monday, October 2—Memorial of the Holy Angels

Zec 8:1-8; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Tuesday, October 3

Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday, October 4—St. Francis of Assisi

Neh 2:1-8; Lk 9:57-62

Thursday, October 5

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Lk 10:1-12

Friday, October 6

Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16

Saturday, October 7—Our Lady of the Rosary

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Lk 10:17-24

Sunday, October 8—Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	October 2	No Mass	
Tues.	October 3	Noon	+Victoria Dobao
Wed.	October 4	Noon	Elizabeth & Walt Perry
Thurs.	October 5	Noon	Available
Fri.	October 6	Noon	+Joseph Smith
Sat	October 7	5:00 pm	+Geraldine Schuver
Sun.	October 8	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

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

Upcoming Special Collections

October 8—Mortgage

October 15—Altar Flowers



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



This week at our Church

Parish Life This Week

Monday, October 2

5:00 PM Good Grief!!!

6:30 PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, October 3

12:30 PM AFF— This is My Body

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

7:00 PM AFF—This is My Body

Wednesday, October 4

12:30 PM Salt & Light

6:00 PM Liturgy Ministries

6:00 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Youth Ministry

7:15 PM WOM Book Club

Thursday, October 5

6:00 PM Pastoral Council

6:30 PM Boy Scout Comm. Mtg.

7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday, October 6

11:30 AM Adoration

Saturday, October 7

4:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Picnic Sign-up

Sunday, October 8

8:30 AM Rosary

10:15 AM Religious Education

10:15 AM Picnic Sign-up

Weekly Offering for:

September 23 & 24 2023

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00

(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offertory/Holy Day \$ 5,256.46

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage \$ 160.00

Haiti \$ 135.00

Barron Dempsey \$ 25.00

Catholic Virginian \$ 30.00

Altar Flowers \$ 35.00

Religious Education \$ 40.00

Men's Club \$ 140.00

Roof Repair Fund \$ 10.00

Other \$ 133.15

DIOCESAN COLLECTION:

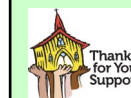
Retired Religious \$ 972.00

Mortgage Balance \$ 21,304.69

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday 85

Sunday 214



Thanks for Your Support!

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