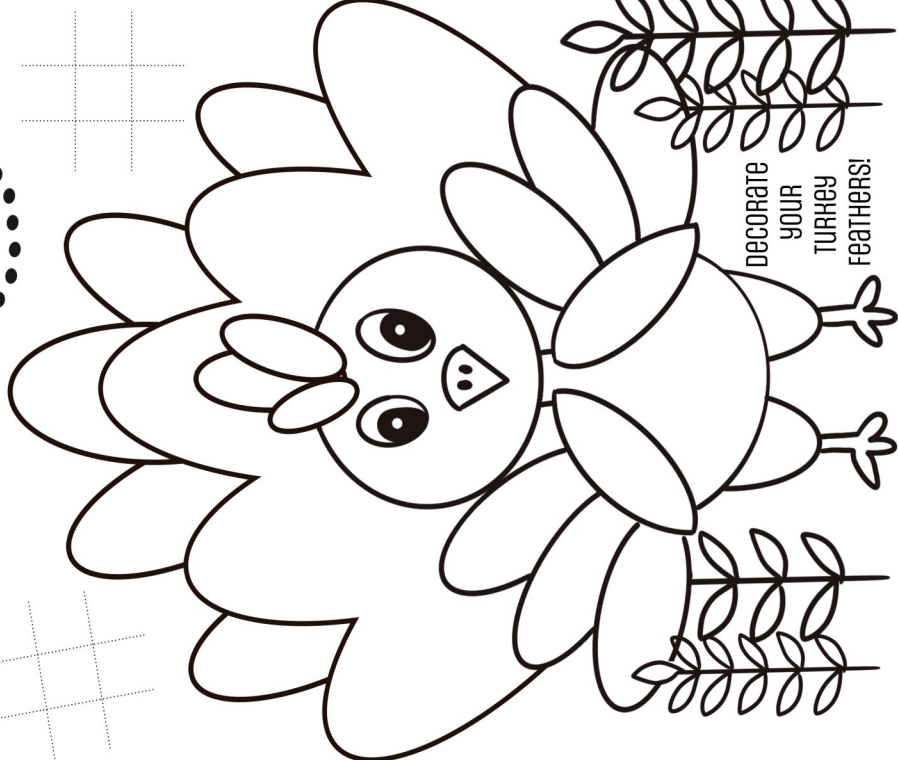


HAPPY Thanksgiving

I AM GRATEFUL FOR:



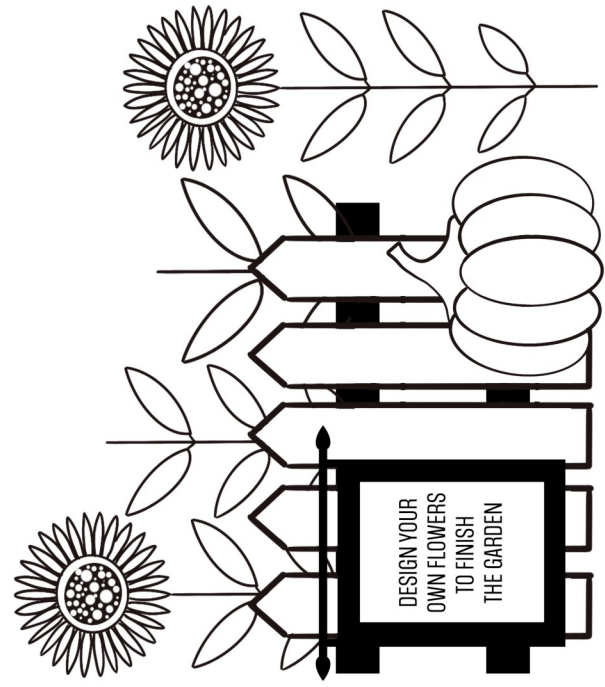
DECORATE
YOUR
TURKEY
FEATHERS!

WORD SEARCH

T U R K E Y E R Y A A T K T
G A T H E R F L O W E R S
D P R K K V Y P P R T H
E O I M P F L V E F R A
G R S R C A R E F F A
F S O C A M T S U P N
A Q N L I H T L U S
L O O B L L A V Q M S
L H V L L A N P E Q P G
Y V E E Y X K E Z K I V
F I M S X K F C W I N I
L J B S E V U T X N
T H E E V U T Z M Q E
Z B R D D L L U D D E
G R A T I O N S

THANKFUL
 THANKSGIVING
 FAMILY
 GATHER
 GRATITUDE
 FALL
 BLESSED
 NOVEMBER
 GRATEFUL
 TURKEY
 HARVEST
 PUMPKIN

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DESIGN YOUR
OWN FLOWERS
TO FINISH
THE GARDEN

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS



Angel Tree Reminder!

The Angel Tree Gifts are to be wrapped and returned with Angel tag by **DECEMBER 3rd!**

These gifts benefit the children in Isle of Wight Social Services. Place gifts under the tree in the Commons. If you have any questions call Lorri King (757) 651-8051.

The *Haiti Helping Hands envelopes* will benefit our twinned parish in Haiti. Place these donations in the Haiti House on the table in the Commons. Thank you for your generous support!



Works of Mary Update!

The Works of Mary Ministry is postponed until January 2024. More information will be forthcoming.



We hope that everyone has a fruitful Advent and glorious Christmas season!

*We will have no weekday Mass November 21-30, 2023



There will be a Prayer Service with Communion at 12:00 PM (Noon) on November 21 & 22 and November 28-30 during this time.

The office will be **CLOSED** November 23 & 24, 2023 for the Thanksgiving holiday.



We are thankful for each member of our parish family. May you continue to grow in faith and love.



Deeper Dive is back on the menu!!

Join us starting Sunday, November 26th after 9:00 AM Mass for fellowship, study and reflection on the Scriptures for the weekend liturgies. Guaranteed to boost your knowledge and appreciation of the Bible and our Catholic Faith, or your money back!

Sign-up sheets are in the Commons.

"Blessed are those who fear the Lord." (Psalm 128)

FAITH FORMATION



Attention all youth grades 8-12!
Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC)
February 9-11, 2024

The Diocesan Youth Conference is an annual event that gathers 8th-12th grade youth from Diocese of Richmond parishes in one central location. From sacraments to free time, DYC is an opportunity for teens to experience the joy that comes from living the Catholic faith and to take courage in all things because the Lord is with them!

Register early and save money. Contact Scott Watterson for more information.

Upcoming Holyday Schedule:

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday, December 8, 2023
12:00 PM (Noon) & 7:00 PM



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IMPORTANT ADVENT & CHRISTMAS UPDATE



This year the Season of Advent begins December 3 and ends December 24. Be prepared to attend mass the weekend of December 24, either Saturday evening or Sunday morning, to fulfill your obligation for the 4th Sunday of Advent, AND mass on Sunday evening or Monday morning to fulfill your obligation for the Christmas Holyday.

Prayer of Thanksgiving at Your Table

Good and gracious God, we give You thanks today, as we do all days, first and foremost for the gift of creation and the gift of life. We ask You to bless this food, that it may nourish us and sustain us, and strengthen our ability to do Your will. We pray in thanksgiving for all the hands involved in bringing it to our table. You tell us, Lord, that to whom much is given, much is expected. May this meal and the fellowship we enjoy not only serve as clear reminders of Your love of us, but of Your call for us to share Your love and to serve our brothers and sisters, especially those most in need. We ask this as we ask all things, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Food Pantry Needs for the Week of November 19
POTATO MIX OR GRAVY

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 - Jerry & Martin Hackney

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.



November 19, 2023

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | 1 Thes 5:1-6 | Mt 25:14-30

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

When we think of gifts, we may picture a child eagerly ripping into wrapping paper on a birthday or at Christmas. Oh, the anticipation and the joy seen through a child's eyes! In contemplating today's Scriptures, it occurs to me that the gifts God has given to us should fill us with the same joy and sense of gratitude as that child. Although there are many facets to the parable of the talents which Jesus tells his disciples in today's Gospel, what stands out to me comes at the very beginning: "A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them." No small thing to be entrusted with the master's possessions! In the same way, God entrusts us with his gifts – they are all we have and all we are. And, like the master in the parable, God expects us to use our gifts and talents to build his kingdom here on earth – to multiply his goodness in the world.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Does the parable seem a bit harsh at the end? After all, the last servant didn't squander the money he was given, he simply gave it back in the same form in which it was given to him. But let's think about our generous God and the gifts and talents he has given us. God expects us to *use* these gifts, not hide them under a bushel. If we are lazy with and inattentive to our God-given gifts, they will shrink and fade away. We will be squandering our invitation to full participation in the kingdom of God. Obviously, each of God's children has unique gifts, just as the servants in the parable received different numbers of talents *according to their ability*. With this in mind, let us consider how we can share our singular gifts and help others do the same. No gift or talent is too small, and God has given us everything we need to use each gift wisely. Empowered by God's love and grace, let us use our blessings for his glory.

WITNESS The imagery of the "wicked, lazy" servant being punished, coupled with St. Paul's words that the Lord will come "like a thief at night," impart urgency to the task before us. In order to be prepared to give God an accounting of how we are using his gifts, let us start growing them today. Offer forgiveness, love someone whom it is hard to love, show mercy; in other words, be a blessing to others and see how that goodness multiplies.

LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

The Lord has told us that he will come again at the end of time to judge the living and the dead. Though the timing is unpredictable, this end is inevitable and inescapable. Let us be prepared to give an account of the ways in which we have used our gifts for the benefit of others.

Gospel Focus:

We are given talents to share.



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

EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...

Are continuously working toward putting on the mind of Christ.

FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Adults: What gift haven't you developed as you had hoped? What could you still do?

Children: What gift has God given you? What do you want to do with it?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of November



Evangelization: For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Pope Tweets:

"This is the Church we are called to dream: a Church that is the servant of all, the servant of the least. A Church that welcomes, serves, loves. A Church with open doors that is a haven of mercy."

Please Remember in Prayer:



Barbara Bonney, Gene Chappell, Justin Evans, Ellen Gauthier, Leslie Lunger, Christopher Morris, Dara Murphy, Betty Nagy, Mary Pasko, Elizabeth Perry, Alice Reece, Marcella Stratman, Irene White, Thomas Wunder and Brandon Zakaras

Today's Reflection

In proportion to one's ability

We know from experience that different people have different abilities. A person with an ability to listen to others may not have the ability to be a good administrator. Someone who is well able to mend a leak or fix a washing machine may have little or no musical ability. An effective teacher may be a hopeless mechanic. We learn from experience whose good at what, and we relate to people accordingly. We tend to entrust people with tasks that are in proportion to their ability. We also learn from experience what our own abilities are, and what our limitations are, and we tend to take on tasks that correspond to our abilities and avoid tasks that do not.

The rich man in today's parable was well aware of the abilities of his servants. Before he set out on his journey he entrusted his property "to each in proportion to his ability." He knew what each of his three servants was able for, and he only gave as much responsibility to each of them as each could carry. The man who received five talents of money was capable of making five more; the one who received two talents was capable of making two more; the one who received one talent was capable of making one more. The first two servants worked according to their ability. The third servant did not, giving his master back the one talent he had been given, instead of the two talents he was capable of gaining. What held this servant back from working according to his ability was fear. "I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground."

Many of us may find ourselves having some sympathy for the third servant, because, deep down, we are only too well aware how fear can hold us back and prevent us from doing what we are well capable of doing. Fear can be a much more powerful force in the lives of some than others.

Jesus was only too well aware of the disabling power of fear in people's lives. It is striking the number of times in the gospels he addresses people with the words, "Do not be afraid." Jesus was present to people in ways that released them from their fear. In particular, he did not want fear of failure to hold people back. He could cope with failure in others. He knew that many people could learn from failure.

We have each been graced in some way by the Lord for the service of others. If I hide what the Lord has given me, others are thereby deprived. Most of us need a bit of encouragement to place our gifts at the disposal of others. Part of our baptismal calling is to give others courage, to encourage others. In these difficult times for the church, the ministry of encouragement is all the more necessary. There is much to be learned from the mistakes of the past, but the Lord would not want us to go to ground. Now is not the time to hide our Good News in the ground out of fear. Rather, it is a time to encourage each other to share this treasure so that the church may become all that God is calling it to be.

(associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/19-nov-2023-33rd-Sunday-a/)

Considering a call to the priesthood

Are you considering a call to proclaim the Gospel as a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



**November 19, 2023
Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Readings for the Week

Monday, November 20

1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday, November 21—Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Mc 6:18-31; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday, November 22—St. Cecilia

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Lk 19:11-28

Thursday, November 23—Thanksgiving Day

Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

Friday, November 24—Memorial of the Vietnamese Martyrs

1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; Lk 19:45-48

Saturday, November 25

1 Mc 6:1-13; Lk 20:27-40

Sunday, November 26—Solemnity of Christ the King

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	November 20	11:00 am	+Padraic Soule
Tues.	November 21	Noon	Prayer Service with Comm.
Wed.	November 22	Noon	Prayer Service with Comm.
Thurs.	November 23	No Mass	Happy Thanksgiving
Fri.	November 24	No Mass	
Sat.	November 25	5:00 pm	Available
Sun.	November 26	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—Wednesday 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

December 3—Mortgage

December 8—Immaculate Conception



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



Parish Life This Week

Monday, November 20

6:30 PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, November 21

12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

Wednesday, November 22

12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion

6:30 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Youth Group

Thursday, November 23

Happy Thanksgiving!

Office Closed

Friday, November 24

Office Closed

Saturday, November 25

4:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Angel Tree

Sunday, November 26

8:30 AM Rosary

10:00 AM Angel Tree

NO Religious Education Classes



Weekly Offering for:

November 11 & 12, 2023

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00

(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offertory	\$ 4,631.16
All Saints	\$ 37.00

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage	\$ 245.00
Haiti	\$ 113.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 711.12
Capital Improvement	\$ 100.00
Ladies Guild/Dishwasher	\$ 2,837.00
Men's Club	\$ 1,042.00

Mortgage Balance \$ 19,999.57

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday 88

Sunday 213

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

