



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 5, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mal 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10 | 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13 | Mt 23:1-12

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

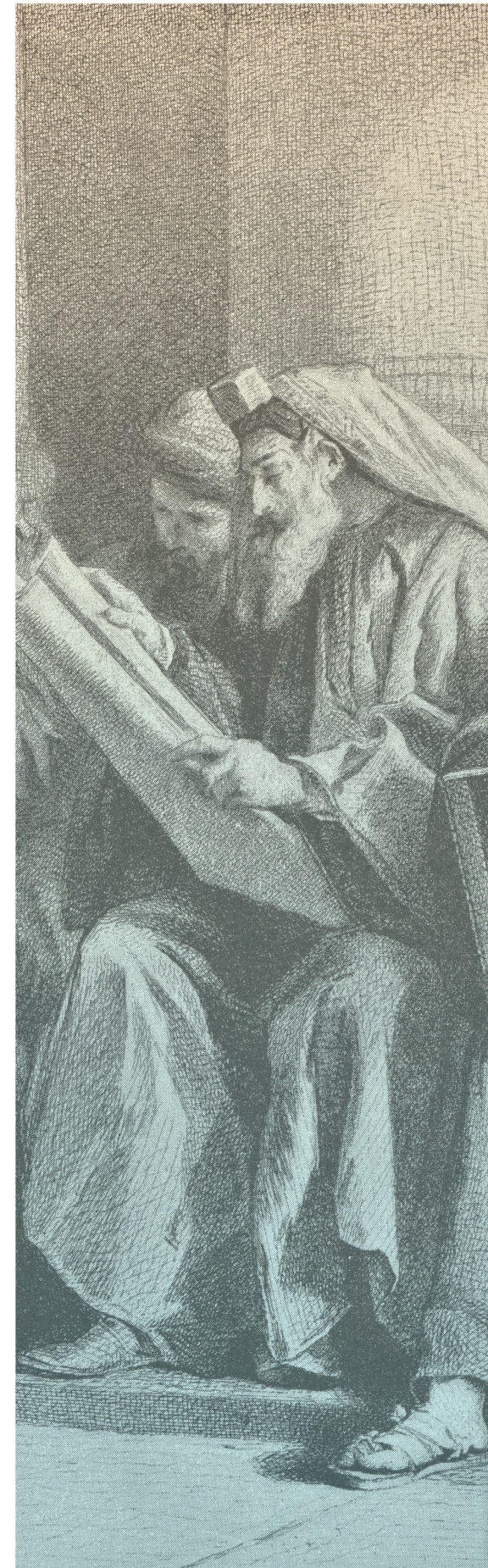
We all want to feel special and be noticed. We see it in Adam and Eve's decision to eat the fruit in the garden after the snake promises "your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods." (Gen 3:5) The scribes and the Pharisees in today's Gospel certainly appear to fall into this category of wanting to be noticed: "All their works are performed to be seen," Jesus says. To be clear, we ARE each unique children of God: chosen by him and called by name. We are "wonderfully made" by the Lord (Ps 139:14), and that alone makes us valuable beyond measure. The problem arises when we begin to see our value as something we are responsible for on our own. We no longer give glory to God and acknowledge him as the fount of all good things. Instead, we are tempted to take credit for ourselves - that was the error of the scribes and the Pharisees, and it is one against which we should guard ourselves.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's readings are instructive and, frankly, a good reminder that as God's beloved children baptized into Christ, we are called to a higher standard. What is this higher standard? First, it entails "[giving] thanks to God unceasingly," as St. Paul said in today's reading. It also involves practicing what we preach in a way the Pharisees do not. At the heart of Jesus' message today is telling us, his followers, how we are meant to live. We are to follow Jesus' words and strive to imitate his actions with humility and love. Does this mean loving unconditionally? It does. Does this mean not seeking places of honor but rather having a servant's attitude? It does. Are these postures and attitudes that come naturally to us as human beings? As descendants of Adam and Eve? Perhaps not. But if we wish to make Jesus the master of our lives, let us discern where we can be serving others better and putting our energy into the work of building God's kingdom.

PRAY The *Catechism* calls humility the "foundation of prayer." (CCC 2559) Let us pray this week for the humility to do God's will without any praise or recognition. Let us ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom to know what the Lord wants from us and to joyfully fulfill that call even if it means working in the shadows where no one will notice.



LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

At the heart of today's Gospel is this truth: *The greatest among you must be your servant.* Jesus' scorn for the scribes and Pharisees was based on their inability to understand this. Jesus took on the role of servant, giving his very life on behalf of the world.

Gospel Focus:

Whoever humbles himself will be exalted.



"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: Is there an area of your life in which you sometimes feel like a hypocrite?

Children: Why is it important for you to live according to how you believe?

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:

"We must not become accustomed to war, to any war. We must not allow our hearts and minds to be anesthetized at the repetition of these extremely serious horrors against God and humankind."

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 Recce, Marcella Stratman, Irene White, Thomas Wunder and Brandon Zakaras

"In you, Lord, I have found my peace." (Psalm 131)

Today's Reflection

Beware of animated aimlessness

Today's second reading issues a challenge to all Christians—especially the preacher! We are supposed to live up to what we say we are, followers of Christ. We are, in a single word, called to live by love, love in its deepest and Christian sense.

This word "Love" is much bandied about but less frequently understood and practiced. Jesus gave the supreme example of its real meaning in his life, death and resurrection. But he did not die and rise in order to prevent or excuse us from sharing personally in his selfless experience. If we are to be redeemed, if we are to be Christians with Him, we must in our turn undergo death and resurrection. We must practice what we preach! We must mean what we say and do what we mean.

In the play, *A Man for All Seasons* (by Robert Bolt), there is a scene in which Margaret, the daughter of Thomas More, pleads with her father to desist from his opposition to the dissolute Henry VIII and swear to the Act of Succession. So, lie and it will save his life and be released from jail. But, More is unwilling to do something he doesn't believe in. He says: "If we lived in a State where virtue was profitable, common sense would make us good and greed would make us saintly. But, since in fact, we see that avarice, anger, envy, pride, sloth, lust and stupidity commonly profit us far beyond humility, chastity, fortitude, justice and thought, and we have to choose to be human at all, why then perhaps we must stand fast a little—even at the risk of being heroes." Margaret, emotionally, still begs him to compromise: "Haven't you done as much as God can reasonably want?" And, her father replies in words that should be written in gold: "Well, finally, it isn't a matter of reason; finally, it's a matter of love."

This is the love that Christ spoke about and practiced. In the end, we shall be judged on that alone. Our often ragged efforts to bring direction and meaning to the "animated aimlessness" of our lives will—if touched by the love of God and expressed through genuine service of our fellow human beings—have an eternal value.

(associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/05-nov-2023-31st-Sunday-a/)

Considering a call to the priesthood

Are you called to be a vehicle of God's mercy as a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



Arrangements for visits to the sick and home-bound are to be made only by family members of the person needing the visit or by that person themselves. Please make your request to Deacon Stan (276) 220-5545 or through the parish office.

**November 5, 2023
Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Readings for the Week

Monday, November 6

Rom 11:29-36; Lk 14:12-14

Tuesday, November 7

Rom 12:5-16ab; Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday, November 8

Rom 13:8-10; Lk 14:25-33

Thursday, November 9—Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

Friday, November 10—St. Leo the Great

Rom 15:14-21; Lk 16:1-8

Saturday, November 11—St. Martin of Tours

Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Lk 16:9-15

Sunday, November 12—Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	November 6	No Mass	
Tues.	November 7	9:30 am	Available
Wed.	November 8	Noon	Available
Thurs.	November 9	Noon	Available
Fri.	November 10	Noon	Available
Sat	November 11	5:00 pm	Available
Sun.	November 12	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

November 12—Barron Dempsey Fund

December 3—Mortgage



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



Parish Life This Week

Monday, November 6

5:00 PM Good Grief!!!

6:30 PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, November 7

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

7:00 PM Ministry to the Sick

Wednesday, November 8

12:30 PM Salt & Light

6:00 PM Liturgy Ministries

6:30 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:15 PM WOM Book Club

Thursday, November 9

7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday, November 10

7:00 PM Wine Tasting

Saturday, November 11

4:30 PM Rosary

6:00 PM Meal of Thanks Sign-up

6:00 PM Resource Book Orders

Sunday, November 12

8:30 AM Rosary

10:00 AM Meal of Thanks Sign-ups

10:00 AM Resource Book Orders

10:15 AM Religious Education

11:15 AM Play Practice



Weekly Offering for:

October 28 & 29, 2023

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00

(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offertory \$ 5,706.16

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage	\$ 470.00
Haiti	\$ 35.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 25.00
Altar Flowers	\$ 30.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 5.00
Roof Repair Fund	\$ 10.00
Other	\$ 30.00

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS

World Missions \$ 5.00

Mortgage Balance \$ 19,999.57

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday 79

Sunday 206

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

