

# PUZZLE

## God's Love

We can't measure God's love for us. It starts before we're born and continues for eternity.

**Directions:** Down the left-hand column, spell out the name of each number. Then write the circled letters on the blank lines in the right-hand column. Read the words on the right, from top to bottom, to see what Psalm 33:22 (NIV) says about God's love.

20	_____○	"M a _____
4	○ ○ ○ ○	y _____
99	○ ○ _____ - ○ ○ _____	u _ f a _ l _ _ g
7	_____○ ○ _____	l o _____
1	_____○	b _____
28	_____○ _____ - _____○ _____○	_____ h
60	_____○ _____	u _____,
40	_____○ ○ _____	L _____ d,
70	_____○ ○ ○ ○ _____	_____
6	_____○ _____	a _____
12	_____○ _____○	_____
64	_____ - _____○ _____	p _ t
14	_____○ ○ ○ _____	_____
81	_____○ _____ - _____○ _____	_____ p _____
9	_____○ ○ _____	_____
24	_____○ _____ - _____○ ○ _____	_____ ."

PSALM 33:22, NIV

Twenty ..... "May  
 Four ..... your  
 Ninety-nine ..... unfailing  
 Seven ..... love  
 One ..... be  
 Twenty-eight ..... with  
 Sixty-four ..... put  
 Twelve ..... we  
 Six ..... as  
 Seventy ..... even  
 Forty ..... Lord,  
 Sixty ..... us,  
 Fourteen ..... our  
 Eighty-one ..... hope  
 Nine ..... in  
 Twenty-four ..... you"

@ChurchArt Online

### PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

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!



### Charles D. Arinello Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Knights of Columbus Council 17335 is establishing a scholarship fund that will be named the "Charles D. Arinello Memorial Fund" in his honor. We will raise the money to endow this fund with donations and by selling raffle tickets for a 50/50 drawing. The tickets will be sold at the end of Mass throughout the month of December. The tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. The scholarship will be awarded to one of our parish graduating seniors in the spring. The drawing for the winner of the raffle will take place at the Christmas Eve Mass. So, see one of the Knights in the Commons as you leave Mass to make a donation or to buy your tickets. We will post how to apply for the scholarship in the bulletin after the New Year.



### Box of Joy Program Update

Once again, the Knights of Columbus Council 17335 partnered with *Cross Catholic Outreach* to bring its Box of Joy ministry project to our Church of the Good Shepherd Parish. This was a wonderful work of mercy for families and a blessing for a child with a Christmas gift. For 2023, 70 boxes and associated shipping donations were sent to Cross Catholic Outreach. Thank you for your generosity! We give praise and glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for our many blessings, especially that charity is the root and foundation of our faith.



**Thank You!!!**  
 The Men's Club would like to thank all our Parishioners who joined us for a great night of Wine Tasting and look forward to seeing you all on the evening of January 12th for our free Annual Chili and Hot Dog night.

**Food Pantry Needs for the Week of December 3 SOUP**

### FAITH FORMATION



**Attention all youth grades 8-12!**  
**Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC)**  
**February 9-11, 2024**  
 Registration closes January 8, 2024.  
 Contact Scott Watterson for more information.

### The Feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe is on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.

Join us at 6:00 PM after the Saturday Masses on December 9 & 16th to learn about the history, apparitions, miracles, and symbolism associated with the famous Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe!



### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Next Sunday, December 10, 2023, in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, we will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation for our Elect, **Jennifer Hershner**. She will enter fully into the life of the Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Please pray for Jennifer as she prepares for the Sacraments of Initiation.

### Deeper Dive is back on the menu!!

Join us 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.

We would like to wish everyone with a birthday or a wedding anniversary in the month of **DECEMBER** a day filled with goodness, and may you be reminded of God's love and mercy today and all the days of your life.

May you be blessed with good health and happiness in the coming year.

**Happy Birthday!**  
**Happy Anniversary!**





# The Roman Catholic Church of the Good Shepherd

300 Smithfield Boulevard, Smithfield, Virginia 23430

Website: [www.cgsparish.org](http://www.cgsparish.org) E-mail: [admin@cgsparish.org](mailto:admin@cgsparish.org)

Father Tony's Email: [pastor@cgsparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@cgsparish.org)
- Admin Assistant** - Vicki Dobbins, [admin@cgsparish.org](mailto:admin@cgsparish.org)
- Religious Education** - Lara Detrich, [formation@cgsparish.org](mailto:formation@cgsparish.org)
- Music Director** - Katarina Hackney, [music@cgsparish.org](mailto:music@cgsparish.org)
- Youth Ministry** – Scott Watterson, [youthministry@cgsparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:gk17335@vakofc.org)
- Ladies' Guild** - Margaret Hickman
- Men's Club** - Bill Knapp, [billknapp1985@yahoo.com](mailto: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.



December 3, 2023

## First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7 | 1 Cor 1:3-9 | Mk 13:33-37

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

In a nineteenth-century sermon, St. John Henry Newman wrote of today's Gospel: "[Jesus] mercifully whispers into our ears ... not to share in the general unbelief [around us], not to be carried away by the world but to 'beware, keep alert' and look out for his coming." I love the thought that Jesus is "mercifully whispering" to us. Welcome to Advent! We know that Advent is a time of anticipation and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ, but today's readings also speak to me of training ourselves to be alert for God's presence in the small, everyday moments of our lives. In his Letter to the Corinthians, Paul writes that "[we] are not lacking in any spiritual gift" as we await the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are gifted with his grace. Our loving God bestows countless graces on us each day, and with the help of the Holy Spirit we can seek ways to be more aware of these graces. Yes, we can be more "alert" to them, but can also be thankful for these small moments of God's presence with us.

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Advent is a season of joyful hope. "I hope I can get my Christmas shopping done in time ... I hope I have time to get my house decorated this weekend." We all have "hopes and dreams" for this time of year, and, God-willing we will be blessed with a truly festive and joyous holiday season with our families. For Catholics, though, this season of "joyful hope" is one that has a much deeper meaning. We long for the return of Christ and our eternal union with him with a hope that is built on the promises of Jesus in the Scriptures. Our hope is not passive, but active. We know that God is always there for us, comforting us in bad times and rejoicing with us in times of happiness. Let us give thanks for our Triune God who desires to be in relationship with us enough that he sent his Son to take on our humanity. And let us silence any noise in our hearts so as to hear Jesus' merciful whisper of encouragement to be on the watch for his coming.

**SING** *People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.*

Getty Images/Adam-Bellamy

## LITURGY AND MINISTRY

### Today's Readings:

Hope is a theological virtue: "We desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit" (CCC 1817). Hope is an active state of being, not passive. During this Advent season we must be fully alive and fully engaged. We must be committed in our pursuit of the Lord; we must be people of hope!

### Gospel Focus:

We must be active in our hope for Christ's return.



*"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:** At this time, how faithful do you feel you are to God's plan for you?

**Children:** What good thing might God be asking you to do right now?

## PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of December



#### Evangelization: For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

#### Pope Tweets:

"In today's confused environment, we may find ourselves living our faith with a subtle sense of renunciation, believing that the Gospel is no longer heard. Instead, this is precisely the time to return to the Gospel to discover that Christ is the constant source of newness."

### 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, Debbie Steiger, Marcella Stratman, Irene White, Thomas Wunder and Brandon Zakaras

Come and spend one on one time with our Lord by attending



**HOLY HOUR**  
Tuesday, December 5, 2023  
8:00PM

### Upcoming Holyday Schedule:

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Friday, December 8, 2023  
12:00 PM (Noon) & 7:00 PM



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will immediately follow the noon Mass and conclude with Benediction at 6 PM. Sign-ups are in the Commons.

### Advent Reconciliation Services

December 12—Good Shepherd @ 7 PM

December 14—St. Mary's (Suffolk) @ 7 PM

December 15—St. Jude (Franklin) @ 7 PM



Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



### Advent Devotional Booklets

are available in the Commons.  
A \$1.00 donation per booklet is suggested to offset the cost.

### Advent & Christmas Mass Information

All Catholics are obligated to attend Mass for the *Fourth Sunday of Advent* during the regular weekend Mass times in addition to Mass for the Christmas Holyday.



**Christmas Eve Mass**  
Sunday, December 24 at 7:30 PM

**Christmas Day Mass**  
Monday, December 25 at 9:00 AM

### Considering a call to the priesthood

"Like a man away on a journey, he assigns each of us a task; be on the alert." Being chosen to serve as a priest or in consecrated life is an amazing work of the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit and our Blessed Mother to help you recognize and be faithful to your vocation. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



*"Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved." (Psalm 80)*

## December 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent

### Readings for the Week

#### Monday, December 4

Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

#### Tuesday, December 5

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

#### Wednesday, December 6

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

#### Thursday, December 7—St. Ambrose

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

#### Friday, December 8—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

#### Saturday, December 9

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

#### Sunday, December 10—Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8



### Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	December 4	No Mass	
Tues.	December 5	Noon	Available
Wed.	December 6	Noon	Available
Thurs.	December 7	Noon	Available
Fri.	December 8	Noon	+Josephine Horvath
		7:00 pm	Available
Sat	December 9	5:00 pm	Available
Sun.	December 10	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](http://www.cgsparish.org)

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

### Upcoming Special Collections

December 8—Immaculate Conception

December 17—Catholic Virginian

December 25—Catholic Charities



### Parish Life This Week

#### Monday, December 4

5:00 PM Good Grief!!!

6:30 PM Cub Scouts

#### Tuesday, December 5

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

8:00 PM Holy Hour

#### Wednesday, December 6

12:30 PM Salt & Light

6:30 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:15 PM WOM Book Club

#### Thursday, December 7

6:00 PM Pastoral Council

6:30 PM Boy Scout Committee Mtg.

7:00 PM Choir Practice

#### Friday, December 8

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

1:00 PM Adoration

#### Saturday, December 9

4:30 PM Rosary

#### Sunday, December 10

8:30 AM Rosary

10:15 AM Religious Education

11:15 AM Play Practice



### Weekly Offering for:

**November 18-19 & 25-26, 2023**

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00

**(The following totals include E-Giving)**

OFFERTORY:	Nov. 18 & 19	Nov. 25 & 26
Regular Off./Holy Day	\$ 5,437.16	\$ 4,563.16

### ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage	\$ 140.00	\$ 530.00
Haiti	\$ 35.00	\$ 85.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 239.36	\$ 95.00
Catholic Virginian	—	\$ 5.00
Ladies Guild	\$ 10.00	—
Roof Repair Fund	—	\$ 10.00
Other	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 10.00

**Mortgage Balance** \$ 18,692.83

### MASS ATTENDANCE

Nov. 18	88	Nov. 25	84
Nov. 19	182	Nov. 26	178



GIFTS to Our Church

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

**Your generosity is greatly appreciated!**

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

