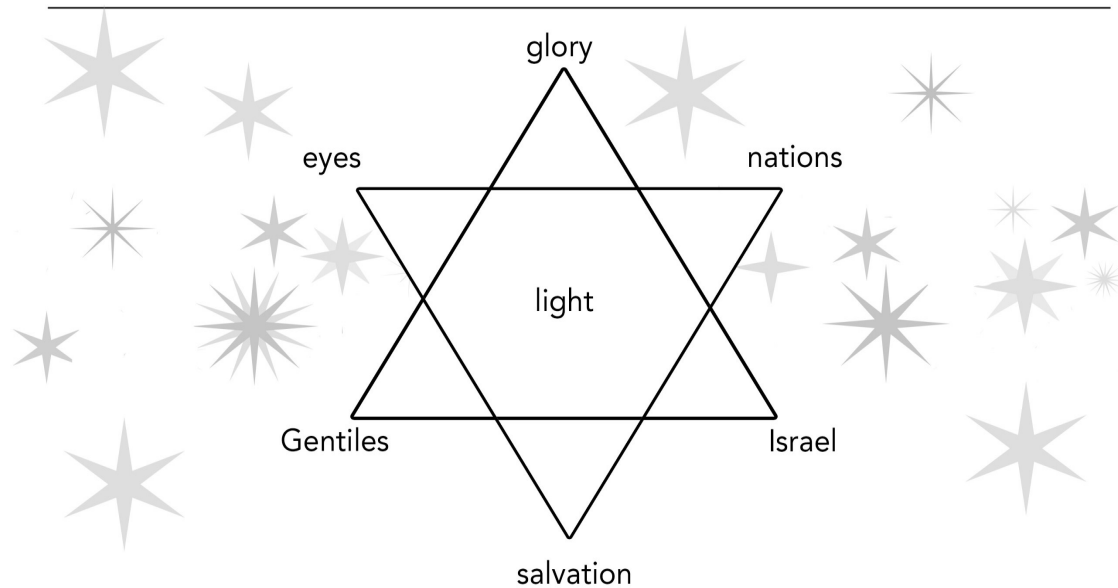




# SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple, they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

Directions: Using the star key, write the words in the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.



"For my \_\_\_\_\_ have seen your \_\_\_\_\_, which you have prepared in the sight of all \_\_\_\_\_: a \_\_\_\_\_ for revelation to the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of your people \_\_\_\_\_."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV

Answers: eyes, salvation, nations, light, Gentiles, glory, Israel

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**  
Monday, January 1 @ 10AM



January is *RESPECT LIFE* Month



Good Shepherd is collecting baby items for local crisis pregnancy centers during the month of January.

Accepted Donations include:

- Disposable diapers (newborn to size 4)
- baby wipes
- sleepers/onesies (newborn to 12 mo.)
- No Tears Baby Shampoo
- receiving blankets
- bibs/burp cloths
- baby towels & wash cloths

Due to health concerns all donations must be new items with original packaging/tags. Items can be placed in the bin in the commons area. For questions, contact Mary Ellen Bebermeyer at (757) 897-3219.



**Don't Miss !!!**  
**The Men's Club**  
**Annual**

**Chili & Hot Dog Dinner**

**Friday, January 12th**

**5:30 to 7:00 PM**



**Good Grief!!! Support Group Meeting**

The next meeting of the *Good Grief!!! Support Group* at Good Shepherd will be on **Monday, January 8, 2024 at 5:00pm.** If you would like more information, please contact Deacon Stan at: [DEACONSTAN4@gmail.com](mailto:DEACONSTAN4@gmail.com)



**Food Pantry Needs for the Week of December 31**  
**DRIED OR CANNED BEANS**

## FAITH FORMATION

**Works of Mary Update!**

The Works of Mary Ministry will begin meeting on the 4th Wednesday of every month beginning January 2024.

The rosary will be prayed at 6:45 pm followed by discussion from 7:15-8:30 pm.

All moms are welcome to join us!



Join us for **HOLY HOUR**

**Tuesday, January 2, 2024**  
**8:00 PM**

\*We will have no weekday Mass in the month of January.

**There will be a Prayer Service with Communion Tuesday-Friday at 12:00 PM (Noon) during this time.**



**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**January 5, 2024 at 11:30 AM**

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



We would like to thank all those involved in preparing for the Christmas Masses. We could not do any of the things we do without you. A special thanks to **Kate Mackney & the choir** for the wonderful music, to **Joan Nagy** and those who helped decorate the Sanctuary and the Commons area to welcome Jesus, and the many ministry volunteers who served during the masses.

May you and your family be blessed this year and always with peace and joy!

Join us for Donuts after Mass in the Commons next Sunday, January 7



**The parish office will be CLOSED**  
**January 1, 2024**  
**for the holiday.**



### Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

# 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.

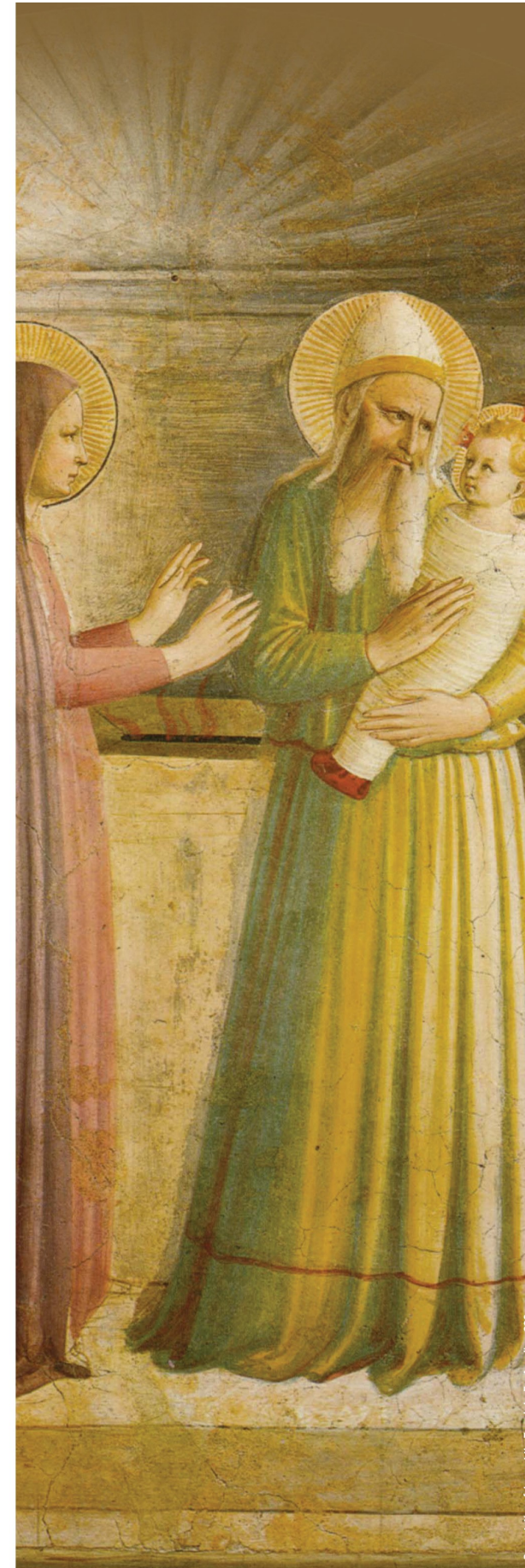
**Baptisms** – A preparation class for parents is required. Contact Lara Detrich at the church office to register.

**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 31, 2023

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Gen 15:1-6; 21:1-3 | Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 | Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

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

St. Teresa of Calcutta once said, "If we love, naturally we will try to do something. First in our own home, our next door neighbor, in the country we live, in the whole world." In this quote we see a shift from the idyllic to a hard dose of reality: love means sacrifice and service. Perhaps it's worth asking ourselves: Does our family always get our best self? None of us is perfect, so the honest answer is probably no. If it's tempting to think, "well, the Holy Family was perfect, so what does this feast have to do with our family?" let's remember we are celebrating the Feast of the HOLY Family, not the feast of the perfect family. Yes, they were holy. They embodied this in their faith and devotion in those expanding circles of which St. Teresa spoke. They gave to God first - in today's Gospel we see the family travel to Jerusalem to present Jesus in the temple. They then returned to Nazareth where Jesus grew strong and was "filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

What does this feast mean for us today? It means that being a holy family is not unattainable. St. John Paul II once said: "The Redeemer of the world chose the family as the place for his birth and growth." (2001) In other words, God's will was fulfilled in the simplest and most ordinary of human circumstances when Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a stable. He sanctified what had been profaned by sin. Are our families perfect? No. But are we holy? That is our baptismal vocation and is within our reach each and every day. With the dawn of the new year, let's make an effort to place Christ at the center of our lives. Let's try to love our family members with all our heart, and bear witness in our actions and words. And finally, and most importantly, we must pray with and for one another.

**PRAY** Family prayer is powerful and transformative, uniting and equipping us to go out into the world each day and bear witness. Pray together: *Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.*

## LITURGY AND MINISTRY

### Today's Readings:

Even in their holiness, Mary, Joseph, and their child Jesus were not exempt from suffering, and the difficulties of life. Yet they never wavered in their commitment to God or to each other. Theirs was a home where *the child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.* Let us strive to make our homes a haven for others to grow in love, virtue, and favor.

### Gospel Focus:

Imitate the Holy Family, the true model of life.



*"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:** How do your family members know that you are a compassionate person?

**Children:** What family member needs your compassion and kindness 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:

"God does not love you because you behave well. He loves you, plain and simple. His love is unconditional; it does not depend on you."

### 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

### A Parent's Prayer

Loving God,  
You are the giver of all we possess,  
the source of all of our blessings.  
We thank and praise you.



Thank you for the gift of our children.

Help us to set boundaries for them,  
and yet encourage them to explore.

Give us the strength and courage to treat  
each day as a fresh start.

May our children come to know you, the one true God,  
and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

May your Holy Spirit help them to grow  
in faith, hope, and love,  
so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.

May their ears hear your voice.

May their eyes see your presence in all things.

May their lips proclaim your word.

May their hearts be your dwelling place.

May their hands do works of charity.

May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ,  
your Son and our Lord.

Amen.

(loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/prayer/family-prayers/a-parents-prayer/)



### A Prayer Intercession to The Holy Family, for Protection of One's Family

O Jesus, our most loving Redeemer! You came to enlighten the world with Your teaching and example, and to live the greater part of Your life with Mary and Joseph in their home at Nazareth. Thus You sanctified the family that was to be an example to all Christian families. Graciously receive our family, which is dedicated and consecrated to You this day. Protect it; guard it and establish it in holy fear, in peace, and in the harmony of Christian charity. By conforming ourselves to the model of Your family, may we all without exception attain to eternal happiness.

Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother! By your intercession make this, our humble offering, acceptable to Jesus and obtain for us His grace and blessings. O St. Joseph, most holy guardian of Jesus and Mary! Assist us by your prayers in all our spiritual and temporal needs, so that we may be able to praise our Divine Savior, Jesus, together with Mary and you for all eternity. Amen.

### Considering a call to the priesthood

"I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great." If you feel God is offering you the gift of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life as a sister, brother, or consecrated virgin, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



December 31, 2023

## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

### Readings for the Week

**Monday, January 1**—Solemnity of Mary

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**Tuesday, January 2**—Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

**Wednesday, January 3**

1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Jn 1:29-34

**Thursday, January 4**—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

**Friday, January 5**—St. John Neumann

1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51

**Saturday, January 6**

1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11

**Sunday, January 7**—The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



### Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	January 1	10:00 am	+Rick & Theresa Lessard
Tues.	January 2	Noon	Prayer Service with Comm.
Wed.	January 3	Noon	Prayer Service with Comm.
Thurs.	January 4	Noon	Prayer Service with Comm.
Fri.	January 5	Noon	Prayer Service with Comm.
Sat	January 6	5:00 pm	+Anna & Josephine Carollo and +Daniela Barone
Sun.	January 7	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:

Tuesday—Friday 11AM 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

January 1—Solemnity of Mary

January 7—Mortgage



### Parish Life This Week

**Monday, January 1**

**Happy New Year!**

Office Closed

**Tuesday, January 2**

12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

8:00 PM Holy Hour

**Wednesday, January 3**

12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion

12:30 PM Salt & Light

5:30 PM Shadow Stations Practice

6:30 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:15 PM WOM Book Club

**Thursday, January 4**

12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion

6:00 PM Pastoral Council

6:30 PM Boy Scout Committee Mtg.

7:00 PM Choir Practice

**Friday, January 5**

11:30 AM Adoration

12:00 PM Prayer Service with Communion

**Saturday, January 6**

4:30 PM Rosary

**Sunday, January 7**

8:30 AM Rosary

10:00 AM Donuts

10:15 AM Religious Education



### Weekly Offering for:

December 23-25, 2023

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00

(The following totals include E-Giving)

### OFFERTORY:

Regular Offertory	\$ 4,836.16
Christmas / Holy Days	\$ 5,298.00

### ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage	\$ 145.00
Haiti	\$ 85.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 57.00
Altar Flowers	\$ 25.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 45.00
Roof Repair	\$ 1,163.85
Other	\$ 60.00

### DIOCESAN COLLECTION:

Catholic Charities	\$ 1,275.22
Mortgage Balance	\$ 17,377.50

### MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday 12/23	146	Dec. 24-7:30 PM	278
Sunday 12/24	192	Dec. 25-9:00 AM	145

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.

