

Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

colt	denial	kiss	repent
confess	donkey	lots	silver
cross	forsaken	palms	sins
crown	Gethsemane	penance	suffer
crucifixion	Golgotha	Pilate	thorns
death	hosanna	prayer	vigil

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

NEWS & EVENTS



Easter Cards Collection

Our Ministry to the Sick and Homebound will be collecting Easter cards to distribute on their visits. Please place your signed cards with envelopes unsealed in the basket in the Commons by March 17th.

LENTEN FISH FRY

The Men's Club will be selling Fish Fry dinners every Friday in Lent from 5-7PM.

This dinner is drive-thru only. The cost per dinner is \$12.00.

The meal consists of fish filets, French fries, hush puppies and coleslaw.



Divine Mercy



Join us every **3rd Wednesday** of the month for our Divine Mercy Cenacle. Hear what our Lord has to say through Saint Faustina.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 21, 2024** at 10:00 am.



2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal: Sharing His Love with Others

By now, many of you have received a letter from Bishop Knestout asking for your support of the 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal. We hope that you will prayerfully consider this request. For those who did not receive a mailing or have not had time to respond to it, you will have a chance to support the Appeal in the coming weeks. An important aspect of the Appeal is that all parishes receive back a portion of their funds collected to be used for important local priorities. This year the Church of the Good Shepherd has a goal of \$ 17,750.00. We hope you will help us reach and surpass our goal. There are several ways to give: Scan the QR code on the bulletin board in the commons area, visit the diocesan website richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal-2/ or call the parish office. Thank you in advance for your support of the 2024 Appeal.



The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** Monday, February 19, 2024 for the holiday.

FAITH FORMATION

Easter Play

Easter Play Practice begins on **February 18th** from **11:15AM to 12:00PM**.



The Easter Play will be on Friday, April 12th at 6:00PM. Mark your calendars to come and support the children of our parish as they celebrate Easter.



The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Presentation

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe was on December 12th. Join us for a two-day presentation to learn about the history, apparitions, miracles, and symbolism associated with the famous Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe! The presentation dates are Sunday, March 10 & 17 after Mass in the Cry Room. Hope you can join us!

Works of Mary Book Club

The next gatherings for the *Works of Mary Book Club* will be:

January 10th	Book Introduction / About the Author
February 7	July 3
March 6	August 7
April 3	September 4
May 1	October 2
June 5	November 6
	December 4



Book Club is open to ALL and meetings will be held at Church of the Good Shepherd from 7:15PM-8:30PM on the above dates to discuss:

Hail, Holy Queen: The Mother of God in the Word of God by Scott Hahn

(ISBN:978-0385501699)

If you have any questions, please contact Johanna Arocho at worksofmary@gmail.com.

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Food Pantry Needs for the **Week of February 18**
BAKED BEANS/KIDNEY BEANS



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 or at the entrance to the church. 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 prior to the baptism. 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.

February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 9:8-15 | 1 Pt 3:18-22 | Mk 1:12-15

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Today is the first day of Lent! It is the beginning of a new liturgical season in the Church, a season of prayer, service and self-sacrifice. It is a time of preparation, culminating in the holiest day of the year: Easter. As we embark on our Lenten journey, we hear a reading from Genesis in which God makes a covenant with Noah where he promises, “the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings.” The Lord has said that no matter our disobedience, sin and rebellion, he will never destroy us! Saint Peter explains how the story of Noah, “in which a few persons ... were saved through water,” prefigures baptism, and baptism, as we know, marks us as the Lord's own forever. We are sealed with a sign that can never be relinquished. So, just as the great flood signaled a rebirth for the world, our baptism is a rebirth of our soul in Christ. We are washed clean of our original sin, and the door to salvation is opened for us. It is fitting that at the beginning of our Lenten journey we hear the story of the beginning of our eternal covenant with the Lord. Both the covenant, and Lent, will be fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As a child, Lent meant lentils for dinner, Stations of the Cross on Fridays, and no TV ever. For a 10-year-old, it was a time to be endured. Now, as an adult, Lent can still be hard, but I recognize it as a time of opportunity as well. It is a chance to strip away all the excess in my life and focus on what matters most. While I am not exactly jumping for joy at the thought of fasting, I can't deny that it is easier for me to spend time in prayer when I'm not mindlessly grazing on chips and chocolate all day long. I may grumble at times, but with God's grace I have grown in understanding of the Church's wisdom in encouraging us to fast, pray and give alms during Lent. All three practices invite us to reflect on the great sacrifice of the Lord and prepare our hearts to receive him each Sunday in the Eucharist, as well as on our final judgment day.

PRAY Lent is the perfect time to take stock of your current spiritual practices and add new ones to your daily routine. Remember the words we heard from Jesus today: “The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Start off your Lenten season right by taking time to receive the sacrament of reconciliation and designating a time each day to pray. If you aren't sure what to say to God during this time, choose a verse or two of Psalm 6 and let your heart take it from there.



LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

To repent means to feel regret and sorrow and to change, or "turn from" what is evil. Gospel is a word meaning "good news." To "repent and believe in the Gospel" is the twofold call of the Christian, which is brought into profound relief during the Lenten season. This time of prayer and preparation for Easter shows there is indeed cause for regret and sorrow, and a need for change. And yet, what we are turning toward as we turn from sin is always cause for joy and hope.

Gospel Focus:

Repent, and believe in the gospel.



"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: What daily activities can I do without so that I can use that time to renew myself in Jesus, the Messiah?

Children: What good habit can I work on in order to grow closer to Jesus?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of February



Evangelization: For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Pope Tweets:

"Prayer gives us the strength to strive ahead, overcome our fears, and glimpse the salvation that God prepares for us, even amid the darkness. Prayer also draws God's salvation near."

Please Remember in Prayer:



Gordon Blackman, Barbara Bonney, Gene Chappell, Justin Evans, Tracy Faustini, Ellen Gauthier, Leslie Lunger, Christopher Morris, Dara Murphy, Betty Nagy, Mary Pasko, Elizabeth Perry, Alice Reece, Debbie Steiger, Irene White, Thomas Wunder and Brandon Zakaras

The Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my works, prayers, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart. I offer them in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my relatives and friends, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father. Amen.

Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that this practice of "offering up" the sacrifices of the day is a way of participating in Christ's ongoing redemption of the world. Allow this beautiful prayer—through daily recitation—to transform your faith practice into a continual offering of yourself to God from the first moment of every day.

(Prayers in the Pew Monthly, February 2024. See the full monthly newsletter at: sitstandkneel.com/programs/newsletters/)

CRS Rice Bowls



The CRS Rice Bowls are available in the Commons. Use the CRS Rice Bowl Lenten calendar daily to pray, fast, give and encounter our global family. Each week includes creative ways to practice almsgiving, which you can donate at the end of Lent. Your Lenten alms help people experiencing hunger and poverty in your local community and in more than 120 countries around the world! VISIT csrcricebowl.org to learn more.

Pray for Haiti



Our twin parish, St. Anthony of Padua in Croix Fer, Haiti, is in danger as the gangs have spread from Port au Prince throughout the country. Father Camy, the pastor, has relayed a message to say the gangs have gotten as far as the Central region where they are terrorizing the population. Now more than ever, we need to remember our sisters and brothers in Haiti and pray for peace in their country. During this Lenten season, please keep the Haitian people in your prayers.

May God bless them and protect them from harm.



Let us pray for the eternal repose of the soul of **Cynthia "Cindy" Torchia** who passed away on February 5, 2024 in Pennsylvania. May the Lord grant eternal rest unto her and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul rest in peace.

Considering a call to the priesthood

"I establish My covenant with you." If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, sister, or brother, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent

Readings for the Week

Monday, February 19

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday, February 20

Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday, February 21

Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday, February 22—Feast of the Chair of St. Peter

1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Friday, February 23

Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday, February 24

Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday, February 25—Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	February 19	No Mass	
Tues.	February 20	Noon	Available
Wed.	February 21	Noon	Available
Thurs.	February 22	Noon	Available
Fri.	February 23	Noon	Available
Sat	February 24	5:00 pm	+Giuseppe Barone
Sun.	February 25	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 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

March 3—Mortgage

March 10—Catholic Relief Services



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



Parish Life This Week

Monday, February 19

Office Closed

6:30 PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, February 20

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

7:00 PM K of C Mtg.

Wednesday, February 21

10:00 AM Divine Mercy

12:30 PM Salt & Light

6:30 PM OCIA

7:00 PM Ladies' Guild & Men's Club Mtgs.

7:00 PM Youth Group

Thursday, February 22

7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday, February 23

5:00 PM Lenten Fish Fry

5-7:00 PM Stations of the Cross (Individual/Family)

Saturday, February 24

4:30 PM Stations of the Cross

6:00 PM Easter Egg Orders

Sunday, February 25

8:30 AM Stations of the Cross

10:00 AM Easter Egg Orders

10:15 AM Religious Education

11:15 AM Easter Play Practice

Easter Egg Production will be Monday—Wednesday



Weekly Offering for:

February 10 & 11, 2024

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00

(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offertory	\$ 4,972.16
Ash Wednesday	\$ 27.00

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage	\$ 85.00
Haiti	\$ 60.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 566.15
Altar Flowers	\$ 5.00
Other	\$ 10.00

DIOCESAN COLLECTION:

Rice Bowl	\$ 150.00
Mortgage Balance	\$ 16,060.19

MASS ATTENDANCE

Saturday	100
Sunday	234

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

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

