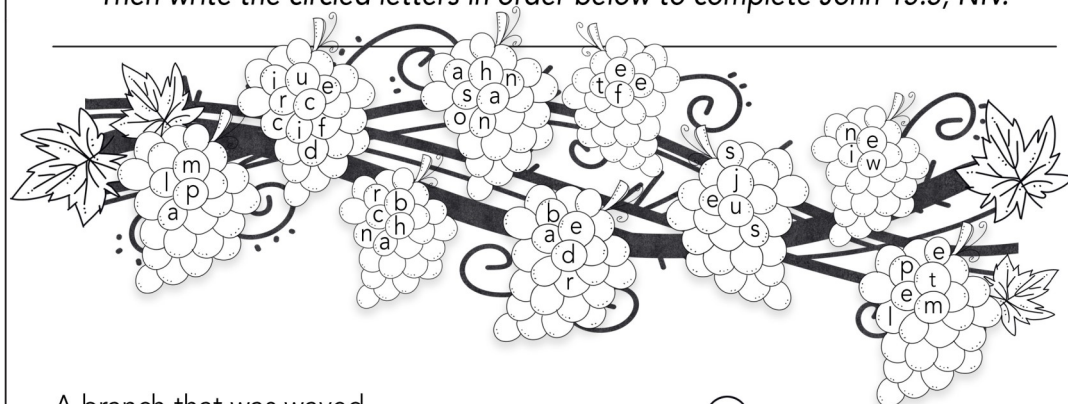




PUZZLE

A LASTING LESSON

Before dying on the cross, Jesus teaches the disciples an important lesson.

Directions: Use the clues to unscramble the letters in each grape cluster. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete John 15:5, NIV.



- A branch that was waved _____○
- How Jesus was put to death _____○_____
- A stick attached to the vine _____○_____
- People shouted this to Jesus _____○_____
- Jesus washed these _____○_____ 
- This was broken and eaten _____○_____ 
- The Messiah _____○_____
- A drink from grapes _____○_____
- Jesus drove the money changers from here _____○_____

"I am the vine; you are the branches.

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear _____; apart from me you can do nothing." *John 15:5, NIV*

Answers: palm, cruet, branch, hosanna, feet, bread, Jesus, wine, temple, much fruit

@ChurchArt Online

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.



EASTER EGG ORDERS NOW BEING TAKEN!!

Please stop by the Religious Goods Store and place your order for Easter eggs by Sunday, March 17, 2024. Cost per egg is \$8.00.

This year's flavors are: Peanut Butter, Butter Cream, Chocolate Cream, Cherry Nut, Marshmallow, and Toasted Almond Coconut. Our special edition flavor this year is MOCHA CREAM. All proceeds remain in our parish or the local community.



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.

Join us for Donuts after Mass in the Commons next Sunday, March 3



FAITH FORMATION

Easter Play

Easter Play Practice began on February 18th 11:15AM - 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.

Eucharist Study



Join us for a two session Scriptural Study on the Eucharist on Tuesday, March 12th & 19th at 7:00 PM. Learn what and where Scripture teaches us about the Eucharist.

Food Pantry Needs for the Week of February 25 CANNED MEAT OR FISH



"I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living." (Psalm 116)



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 25, 2024

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Second Sunday of Lent

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

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

Just two weeks ago, when Christians walked around all day with a cross of ashes on our foreheads, we may have received puzzled looks. Who bothers with fasting and almsgiving for 40 whole days? Many of us live with great abundance in this country; the only time we actually *need* to fast might be for lab work. With this in mind, it's helpful to remember the *why*: because Christ sacrificed himself for us, and he calls his followers to participate in his redemptive mission through our own sacrifices. Without sacrifice, we simply cannot be like Christ, nor will we see our own transfiguration in the resurrection to come. So Lent is a blessed season of reorienting our lives to Christian sacrifice: that of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Perhaps this season can also dispel some of the complacency that has a tendency to creep into our lives. The poor and hungry and disenfranchised still exist, and Christ depends on us to be his hands and feet to serve them. But how can we serve them if we do not embrace Christ's example as a living sacrifice? Ask the Lord for the grace to see and hear what he is asking us to do for him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's readings show an incredible arc from Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son for God to Christ's Transfiguration after his Passion. Without Abraham's willingness to give up that which he wanted most and finally obtained, he would not have earned his greatest blessing from God in having countless descendants; and without Christ's sacrifice on the cross, all of mankind would not have been saved. Maybe we aren't called to great sacrifices such as these in our own lives, but we as Christians are called to offer our lives as a living sacrifice to our family, our neighbor, those in need, and God himself. Lent is a reminder not only to help us reorient our lives to God and his call for our lives, but to live it, too. By our own witness and prayer we have the ability to help bring others to the Lord and his promise of eternal life.

ACCOMPANY What is something you have always appreciated being done for you? What is a specific sacrifice, large or small, that you know has been made on your behalf? Make an effort this week to identify a specific need you know someone has, pray for that person/need, and offer to God a sacrifice of treasure, time or even your suffering for the fulfillment of that need.



Getty Images/Daniel Christel


LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

We do not have a God who sits enthroned, looking down from a great distance to arbitrarily ask us to do this or not do that. No, we have a God who loves us enough that we can trust him completely, as Abraham did. We have a God who did not hold back anything, not even his beloved Son, to lead us to the goodness he desires for us.

Gospel Focus:

This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.



"Encounter the Joy of the Gospel and Set the World Ablaze"
EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...
Are continuously changing and repenting.

FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK
Adults: How deeply do I believe that God is for me, and no one can destroy me?
Children: When you have important choices to make, do you and your family pray to make the right choice?

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:

"There is a form of sorrow that is part of our conversion and can be transformed into joy with God's grace. But another kind of sadness makes the soul despondent. This second kind of sadness must be fought with all our strength, because it comes from the evil one."

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

FAITH FUNDAMENTALS

The Cardinal Virtues



Cardinal in Latin means "hinge". Simply put, all other human virtues hang on them like a door hangs on its hinges. The Cardinal Virtues help us manage the complexities of the world, and we acquire them by education and by deliberate practice (CCC, 1810).


Prudence is a virtue of the mind. It trains us to think about the world, its qualities and its pitfalls. It helps us assess the possible consequences of our own actions and urges us to evaluate decisions ahead of time so that we can "do the right thing" in all circumstances.

Justice means that we "give to each person what is due to him." It is the virtue that regulates our interactions with others. Justice assures that *rights* go together with *responsibilities*. The essence of Justice is the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" (Matthew 7:12).

Fortitude helps us to persevere through difficult things in order to reap the rewards of long-term sacrifice. It can mean pushing ourselves to achieve something difficult or standing strong in the face of adversity. In a spiritual sense, it means resisting temptation and making efforts to overcome our own personal faults that are obstacles to God's grace.

The final Cardinal Virtue—**Temperance**—regulates our appetites. It helps us develop some valuable human habits like self-control, boundary-setting, moderation and modesty.

(excerpt from sitstandkneel.com/programs/newsletters/)



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
March 1, 2024 at 11:30 AM
 Followed by 12:00 PM (Noon) Mass.
 Come and spend some time with Jesus!

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.

Considering a call to the priesthood

"This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!" Could the Lord be calling you to proclaim His name as a priest or in consecrated life? Listen to Him and talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, or write: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



**February 25, 2024
 Second Sunday of Lent**

Readings for the Week




- Monday, February 26**
Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday, February 27**
Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday, February 28**
Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday, February 29**
Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
- Friday, March 1**
Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday, March 2**
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Sunday, March 3—Third Sunday of Lent**
Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25


Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	February 26	No Mass	
Tues.	February 27	Noon	Available
Wed.	February 28	Noon	Available
Thurs.	February 29	Noon	Available
Fri.	March 1	Noon	Available
Sat	March 2	5:00 pm	+Joseph Horvath
Sun.	March 3	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
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 26**
6:30 PM Cub Scouts
- Tuesday, February 27**
12:30 PM AFF
6:30 PM Boy Scouts
7:00 PM AFF
- Wednesday, February 28**
12:30 PM Salt & Light
6:30 PM OCIA
6:45 PM Works of Mary
7:00 PM Youth Group
- Thursday, February 29**
7:00 PM Choir Practice
- Friday, March 1**
11:30 AM Adoration
5:00 PM Lenten Fish Fry
5-7:00 PM Stations of the Cross (Individual/Family)
- Saturday, March 2**
4:30 PM Stations of the Cross
6:00 PM Easter Egg Orders
- Sunday, March 3**
8:30 AM Stations of the Cross
10:00 AM Donuts
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 17 & 18, 2024
 Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,250.00
(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offertory	\$ 5,745.73
Ash Wednesday	\$ 735.00

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Mortgage	\$ 155.00
Haiti	\$ 35.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 255.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 5.00
Ladies' Guild	\$ 735.23
Men's Club	\$ 593.00
Roof Repair Fund	\$ 200.00
Mortgage Balance	\$ 16,060.19

MASS ATTENDANCE

Feb. 14-Noon	140	Saturday	85
Feb. 14-7PM	138	Sunday	226

Thank you for your continued support of the Church of the Good Shepherd!
Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

