

# PUZZLE

*Seeking the story*  
 Angels joyfully announced a special arrival in Bethlehem at Christmas.

**Directions:** Find the words listed below. Then unscramble the intersecting letters to complete Luke 2:11, NIV.



## WORD BANK

- Shepherds
- Child
- Nazareth
- Census
- Baby
- David
- Mary
- Travel
- Town
- Register
- Born
- Night

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

"Today in the town of David a \_\_\_\_\_  
 has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

LUKE 2:11, NIV

Answer: Savior

@ChurchArt Online

## NEWS & EVENTS

### News from the Parish Office

As we close in on the end of another year, please be reminded that **all donations for the year 2024** should be received by **December 31, 2024** to be included in your contribution statement. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



### Haiti Helping Hands Angel Tree

The Haiti Ministry is in need of your support for our twin parish, St. Anthony of Padua, in Croix Fer, Haiti. The Haiti Helping Hands Angel Tree is set up in the Commons for you to take an envelope and make a donation to our twin parish. This would be a perfect Christmas gift to help our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Take an envelope and put cash or a check made out to "Good Shepherd" and annotate "Haiti" on the memo line then drop it in the little house next to the tree.



You may also donate via eGiving on the parish website. 100% of all monies collected is sent to Haiti. Thank you for your generosity.

Join us for Donuts and fellowship after Mass in the Commons next Sunday, January 5



### New Year's Prayer



God, thank you for a new year.

May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

(loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/family/holidays-and-special-occasions/other-special-occasions/family-new-years-prayer/)



Food Pantry Needs for the Week of December 29  
**CANNED MEAT OR FISH**

## FAITH FORMATION

Are you looking for something to do while your child is in Religious Education class?

Join us for a **DEEPER DIVE** into the Scriptures after the **9:00 AM Mass on Sunday.**

Come and expand your knowledge and appreciation of the Bible and our Catholic Faith.



### ++++++Faith Fundamentals++++++

#### THE GREAT COMMISSION FOR US -

Few are called to be missionaries in foreign countries like Francis Xavier, but every Catholic can evangelize in their own way.



**By Catholic Parenting**—The primary means by which the Church has spread the Faith throughout the centuries is by the Catholic family! This requires parents to be the first and best communicators of the Faith by word and example.

**By Teaching**—Every parish community is in dire need of men and women who will serve in basic catechism programs to hand on the Catholic Faith to children and adult converts.

**By Witness**—When we befriend those who are not of the Catholic Faith, we show them by our conversations and actions the immense blessings of living life of grace and belonging to the Church that Christ founded.

**By Prayer and Sacrifice**—Even if we are not literal martyrs for the Faith, our prayers and sacrifices for others can have a profound effect on their souls over time and lead them to the Truth of Christ.

*"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)*

(excerpt from Faith Fundamentals, December 2024 Supplement, www.sitstandkneel.com)

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:

The OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
 December 31 & January 1  
 for the New Year.



*"Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways." (Psalm 128)*



# 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 10:00AM-3:00PM

Mass Times: Saturday—5:00PM & Sunday—9:00AM

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)

**Youth Ministry** – Scott Watterson, [youthministry@cgsparish.org](mailto:youthministry@cgsparish.org)

**Music Coordinator**

## 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**—Doyle Agnew

**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** - Joe Campo, [jk17335@vakofc.org](mailto:jk17335@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

## 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.



December 29, 2024

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 | Lk 2:41-52

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

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. These are the attributes Paul instructs the Colossians in today's reading to "put on" or to "clothe" themselves with. It's quite a list, isn't it? Paul goes on to talk about the virtues of the Christian family, which is fitting for today's Feast of the Holy Family. It is reasonable to expect, then, that the Gospel passage would follow through by expounding on the virtues of *the perfect family*: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Instead, in Luke's Gospel, we have the only story in all of Scripture of Jesus' childhood. The only one that shows the specific interactions of them as a family – it tells the story of Jesus at age 12 who stays in Jerusalem without Mary and Joseph knowing and who are unable to find him for days. Prayerfully reflecting on this unique glimpse of the Holy Family working through misunderstandings, fear, and hurt helps us relate even more to the true humanness of Jesus and the Holy Family.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the Holy Family, we see a model of relationship in human form. We are part of a holy family as well: we are children of God. And like Mary and Joseph, our family is enriched and strengthened when we are attentive to the presence of Jesus in our lives. Luke writes: "[Mary] kept all these things in her heart." Like Mary, let us strive to hold Jesus' words and commandments in our hearts so we can focus on God's divine plan for our lives. In the next line of Paul's letter offering us the "tools" for loving relationships (compassion ... patience) he adds, "bearing with one another and forgiving one another." In other words: love. We must put Jesus, who is love, at the center of our relationships and do everything in his name. Then our family, and our lives, will be holy indeed.

### SING

*Mary, mother of faithful love;  
Joseph, gentle and humble man of God;  
Jesus, Son of Mary,  
Bless, guide and protect the families you created.*


**LITURGY AND MINISTRY**

**Today's Readings:**

Our readings today point to the importance of reverencing one another with respect and charity. We are to honor our parents and *let the peace of Christ control (our) hearts*. We are to *put on love* and strive always to live with gratitude.

**Gospel Focus:**

*Let the peace of Christ control your hearts.*




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

**FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK**  
**Adults:** What does your family do to honor and respect its older members?  
**Children:** Why did Jesus leave the temple? How can Jesus be an example for you?

**PRAYER AND VOCATIONS**

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




**Evangelization: For Pilgrims of Hope**  
 We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.


**Pope Tweets:**  
 "May the Gospel of Jesus Christ keep your hearts open to the world. Your traditions are a treasure to be cherished and cultivated, not to isolate yourselves, but always to encounter and share them with others. Thank you all!"

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

**Please Remember in Prayer:**



Barbara Bonney, Carol Kelly, Christopher Morris, Dara Murphy, Betty Nagy, Mary Pasko, Alice Reece, Debbie Steiger, and Irene White




**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.



**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**  
**January 1, 2025**  
**Mass at 10:00 AM**  
 (This is a Holyday of Obligation)

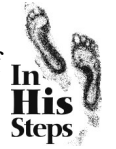
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**January 3, 2025 at 11:30 AM**




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

**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 Office of Vocations at (804) 359-5661 or via email: [vocations@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:vocations@richmonddiocese.org)



**Parish Book of Intentions**



If you have a family member, friend, or acquaintance that is in need of prayer, we encourage you to write their name in the *Parish Book of Intentions*, located in the Narthex. They will be prayed for at each weekend Mass.

**December 29, 2024**  
**Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

**Readings for the Week**

**Monday, December 30**  
 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

**Tuesday, December 31**  
 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18


**Wednesday, January 1**—Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**Thursday, January 2**—Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen  
 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

**Friday, January 3**  
 1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Jn 1:29-34

**Saturday, January 4**—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

**Sunday, January 5—The Epiphany of The Lord**  
 Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12




**Daily Mass & Intention Schedule**


Mon.	December 30	No Mass	
Tues.	December 31	Noon	Available
Wed.	January 1	10:00 am	Sick & Homebound
Thurs.	January 2	Noon	Available
Fri.	January 3	Noon	Available
Sat.	January 4	5:00 pm	Jo & Joe Horvath
Sun.	January 5	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 & Thursday– Friday 10AM to 2PM



**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'

**REMINDER!**  
 If you still have a recurring offering to the "Mortgage", please switch it to the "Capital Reserve" fund. The mortgage is paid in full, so the church needs to build up the Capital Reserve fund for future projects. Thank you.

**Parish Life This Week**

**Tuesday, December 31**  
 Office Closed

**Wednesday, January 1**  
 Solemnity of Mary  
 Office Closed

**Thursday, January 2**  
 6:00 PM Pastoral Council  
 6:30 PM Boy Scout Committee Mtg.  
 7:00 PM Choir Practice

**Friday, January 3**  
 11:30 AM Adoration

**Saturday, January 4**  
 4:30 PM Rosary

**Sunday, January 5**  
 8:30 AM Rosary  
 10:00 AM Donuts  
 10:15 AM Religious Education  
 10:15 AM Deeper Dive



This week at our Church

**Weekly Offering for:**  
**December 21 & 22, 2024**  
 Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,737.00  
**(The following totals include E-Giving)**

**OFFERTORY:**

Regular Offering	\$ 7,218.16
Immaculate Conception	\$ 25.00
Christmas	\$ 150.00

**ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:**

Capital Reserve	\$ 5,285.20
Haiti	\$ 85.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 10.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 194.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 45.00
Roof Repair	\$ 50.00


**DIOCESAN COLLECTION:**

Catholic Charities	\$ 75.00
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**MASS ATTENDANCE**

Sat	85
Sun	195

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



**Upcoming Special Collections**

**January 1—Solemnity of Mary**  
**January 5—Capital Reserve**

