



PUZZLE

A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.

We were therefore buried with him
 through baptism into death in order that,
 just as Christ was raised from the dead
 through the glory of the Father,
 we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

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Answer: f i e l e w n; new life

@ChurchArt Online

NEWS & EVENTS

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.



Walking with Moms in Need

Church of the Good Shepherd joined a nationwide effort to assess and communicate resources available to local pregnant moms and families in need. Informational pamphlets will be passed out before Mass on January 11 & 12, 2025 and a table will be available in the commons for additional information.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



WHEN ALL THE HUSTLE-BUSTLE OF THE HOLIDAYS ARE OVER...Don't you and your spouse deserve a beautiful, romantic weekend away together? If you agree then you'll want to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more information or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for "Virginia" or your desired location. Feel free to contact Donald and Helen Dudley at 703-690-1369 or donald.helen.dudley@wwme.org with any questions.

Here are a few upcoming experiences:

- January 31-February 2, 2025 in Myrtle Beach, SC
- March 7-9, 2025 in Rehoboth Beach, DE
- March 14-16 in Jessup, MD and Ocean City, NJ
- March 21-23, 2025 in Emerald Isle, NC



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

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.



The Good Shepherd Book Club

The Good Shepherd Book Club will be starting the new year with Mother Cabrini. We are reading:

In Weakness, Strength: The Life and Missionary Activity of St. Frances Cabrini
 By Segundo Galilea

We will begin meeting on Wednesday, January 22nd at 7:15 PM and will continue to meet on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from then on. The book is available on Amazon for \$13.95. All are welcome to join us! If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Day.

Upcoming Office Hours

The parish office will have a change of office hours for Thursday, January 16-Monday, January 27, 2025.



The schedule will be as follows:

Thursday, January 16	1:00-4:00 PM
Friday, January 17	Office Closed
Monday, January 20	Office Closed (Holiday)
Tuesday, January 21	1:00-4:00 PM
Wednesday, January 22	1:00-4:00 PM
Thursday, January 23	1:00-4:00 PM
Friday, January 24	Office Closed
Monday, January 27	Office Closed

The regular office hours will return on January 28th.



If you are new to our parish, you can find the registration form on our website www.cgsparish.org or contact the parish office.



Food Pantry Needs for the Week of January 12
RICE OR PASTA



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 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

Admin Assistant - Vicki Dobbins, admin@cgsparish.org

Religious Education - Lara Detrich, formation@cgsparish.org

Youth Ministry – Scott Watterson, 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

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

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.

January 12, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Acts 10:34-38 | Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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

In many renditions of the Baptism of Jesus, artists connect the scene at the Jordan River with Jesus' death. A withered tree, for example, reminds us of the cross, or a mountain points to Mount Calvary. These connections show a real relationship between Jesus' baptism and his passion: his baptism marks the acceptance and beginning of his mission, which would ultimately lead to his crucifixion. For us, too, baptism is a decisive moment which destines us for – you guessed it – death! Not physical death (which will happen regardless), but a death to everything that is not of God. By making us part of God's family as his adopted children, our baptism summons us to “die” to our old life of sin and take on new life in Christ. This means turning away each day from sin so we can become increasingly fit to spend eternity with God. Like Jesus who rose both from the baptismal waters and from the tomb, we are meant, by our daily efforts to be faithful – to “rise” with him in the new life he won for us.

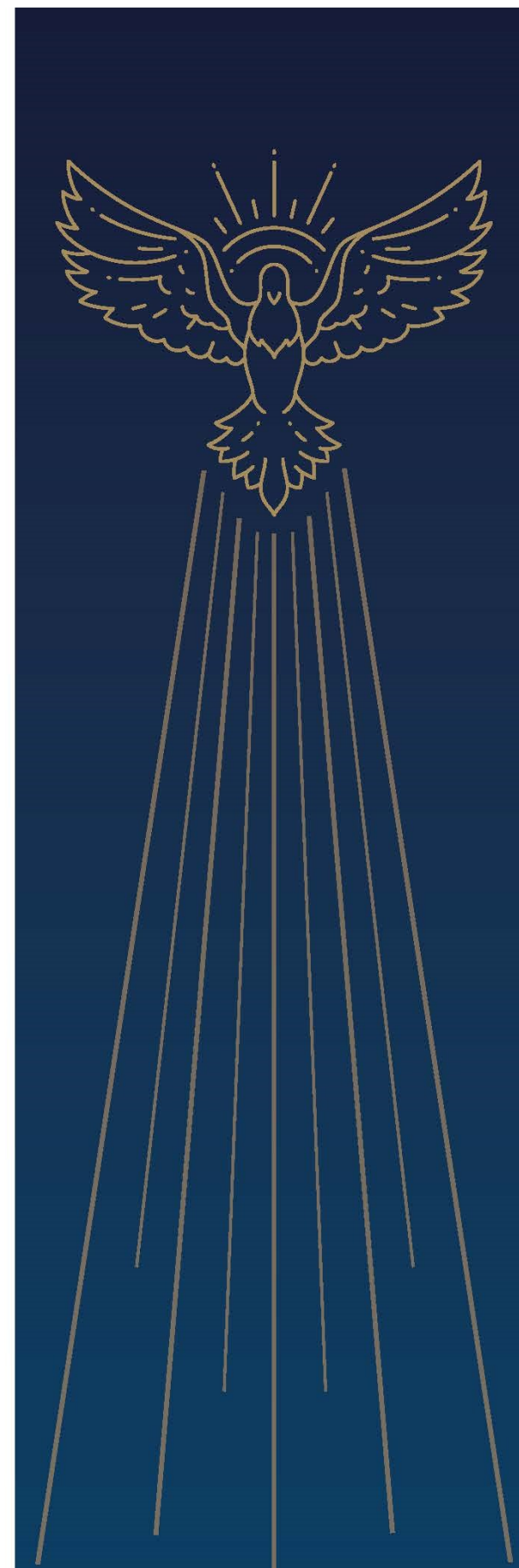
GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After Jesus is baptized, two important events occur immediately: the Holy Spirit descends upon him while God the Father proclaims his delight in his Son: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” Here we see the profound meaning of our own baptism and its effects. In addition to cleansing us from the stain of original sin, baptism: 1) gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit; and 2) welcomes us into God's family as his adopted children. Armed with the Holy Spirit and the assurance of God's fatherly care, we are equipped to engage in the daily struggle of dying-and-rising in Christ. We can always call on the Holy Spirit for strength when we face temptations or difficult decisions. Likewise, when we are discouraged or we confront our own weaknesses, we can look to the Father for help. Recall the words which the Father spoke to Jesus, and which he says to us in our baptism (and he doesn't take them back!): *You are my beloved son. You are my beloved daughter. With you I am well pleased.*

CELEBRATE

Find the date (or approximate date) of your baptism and the baptismal dates of your immediate family members. Make a list of the dates and spend time thanking God for his fatherly care for you. Then, when someone's baptismal anniversary comes around, make sure to celebrate!



Getty Images/ProVector

LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

Today's feast is another "epiphany" - a revelation of who Jesus is. By submitting himself to John's baptism (a baptism of repentance), Jesus, who is sinless, draws near to sinners and joins himself with them. The voice of the Father saying, *You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased* consoles us, because we who are joined to Christ in baptism are made beloved children of the Father. These truths reveal God's goodness and his unconditional love for us.

Gospel Focus:

God seeks out the sinner and loves us unconditionally.



"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: Do you think that God was "well pleased" by your actions in recent weeks? Why?

Children: What good thing could you do this week that would be pleasing to God?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of January



Evangelization: For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Pope Tweets:

"Let us love God and one another, so that everyone may believe that it is still possible to change direction, choose life, and be renewed in hope. Only thus will the world discover the light and peace for which it longs as the angels sang in Bethlehem."

Please Remember in Prayer:

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



2025 Jubilee Year

The logo for the 2025 Jubilee Year has multiple meanings, including:

Solidarity and Brotherhood

The logo's four stylized figures embrace each other, representing the unity that should exist between all people.

Faith and hope

The figure in the front of the logo holds onto a cross, which symbolizes faith and hope. The cross is dynamic, bending down towards humanity to offer hope and certainty.

Life's pilgrimage is not always smooth

The rough waves under the figures symbolize that life's journey is not always calm.

Hope is needed in times of need

The lower part of the cross is elongated and turned into an anchor, which is a symbol of hope. The anchor is often used as a metaphor for hope.

The cross is a sign of Christian hope

The cross is in the shape of a sail, which is a sign of Christian hope that represents the victory of good over evil.

The logo's motto is "Peregrinantes in Spem", which translates to "Pilgrims in hope". The 2025 Jubilee Year is a time to re-establish with God, one another, and Creation.



There is NO WEEKDAY MASS January 6-16, 2025.

The church will be open for personal prayer during this time.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament January 17, 2025 at 11:30 AM

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

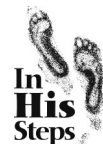


Parish Book of Intentions

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.

Considering a call to the priesthood

"You will see and be radiant, and your heart will thrill and rejoice." Your heart will be full of joy when you answer His call. Are you considering making known the love of our Heavenly Father as a priest, sister or brother? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (804) 359-5661 or via email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org



January 12, 2025 Feast of The Baptism of The Lord

Readings for the Week

Monday, January 13

Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday, January 14

Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 15

Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday, January 16

Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45

Friday, January 17—St. Anthony

Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday, January 18

Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday, January 19—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	January 13	No Mass	
Tues.	January 14	No Mass	
Wed.	January 15	No Mass	
Thurs.	January 16	No Mass	
Fri.	January 17	Noon	
Sat.	January 18	5:00 pm	Available
Sun.	January 19	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 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'

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

Monday, January 13

6:30 PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, January 14

6:00 PM OCIA

6:30 PM Boy Scouts

7:00 PM K of C Mtg.

Wednesday, January 15

10:00 AM Divine Mercy

7:00 PM LG & MC Mtgs.

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:15 PM Book Club

Thursday, January 16

7:00 PM Choir Practice

Friday, January 17

Office Closed

11:30 AM Adoration

Saturday, January 18

4:30 PM Rosary

Sunday, January 19

8:30 AM Rosary

10:15 AM Religious Education

10:15 AM Deeper Dive



Weekly Offering for:

January 1, 4 & 5, 2025

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,737.00

(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offering	\$ 7,213.66
Holy Days	\$ 2,503.70

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Capital Reserve	\$ 1,955.79
Haiti	\$ 160.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 40.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 20.00
Altar Flowers	\$ 25.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 1,305.00

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS: \$ 2,095.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

Jan. 1	147	Sat	103
		Sun	192

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



Upcoming Special Collections

January 19—*Respect Life*

January 26—*Altar Flowers*

