



A PATH TO PRAYER

God's Word offers lots of insights about how to pray.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete a Bible passage about prayer.



R G S Z M P N B T L W

V E V I B G R N V R

I V N V N Y V I B L F

R M Z O O N B

K I Z B V I H U L I Z O O

L U B L F , R Z O D Z B H

K I Z B D R G S Q L B

1:3-4, NIV

K S R O R K K R Z M H

Answer: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. Philippians 1:3-4, NIV

@ChurchArt Online

NEWS & EVENTS

The Men's Club Fish Dinners
Every Friday of Lent
beginning March 7, 2025
5-7:00 PM Take Out Only
Cost is \$12.00 per meal



Meal consists of fish filet, French fries, hush puppies and homemade coleslaw.

THE EASTER EGGS ARE COMING!!!



The Ladies' Guild is taking orders for their 1/2 lb. handmade, dark chocolate covered Easter Eggs until Sunday, April 6th. Cost per egg is \$8.00.

The flavors this year include: Peanut Butter, Buttercream, Chocolate Cream, Cherry Cream, Nutella, Cookies & Cream and Tropical Delight (coconut, lemon and almond flavoring).

All proceeds go back to parish ministries, the Isle of Wight County community and other area ministries.



Join us in supporting Peninsula Catholic High School's mission to educate and evangelize our youth!



Your invited to an unforgettable evening at our **Disco Knights Benefit Auction on April 5, 2025.** Enjoy delicious food, fine wine, lively dancing, and the excitement of both silent and live auctions—all while making a difference.

Tickets are **\$50 per person** and can be purchased online at: <https://www.peninsulacatholic.org/giving/auction.cfm>.

We can't wait to celebrate with you!



The Young Adult Lenten Day of Reflection is Saturday, March 22 from 10am-7pm at Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Crozet, VA. All young adults ages 18-39 are invited to join us. The cost is \$30/person which covers lunch, a taste of Monastery Country gouda cheese, and other retreat supplies. *Space is limited!*

Visit evangelization@richmonddiocese.org to register.



2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal: Sharing His Love with Others

When you contribute to the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal, you are supporting 21 important ministries of our Catholic Church that help thousands of people across our Diocese. **The goal this year for Church of the Good Shepherd is \$21,190.** We thank you for your continued generosity to the Appeal. It is with this in mind that we hope each of you will prayerfully consider supporting the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal if you have not done so already. Please visit richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal to make your donation today.

FAITH FORMATION

Adult Faith Opportunities



Marian or Sacred Heart of Jesus Garden

GROW a lifetime of love for scriptures through a Marian or Sacred Heart of Jesus Garden! Learn more at our upcoming Thursday sessions: March 13th, March 27th and April 10th.

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Mystery of God

(Bishop Barron Series)

March 18, April 1 & 8, 2025

7:00 PM—8:15 PM



What do Christians mean by "God"? You'll uncover the truth about who God is and why He matters.

For this and all adult faith formation information, see the table in the commons.



Children's Liturgy of the Word Request

Children's Liturgy of the Word is seeking donations of holy cards/prayer cards/Saint cards. During each Liturgy, we begin with prayer and then tell the story of a Saint before we get to the readings. The children are given an opportunity to share a Saint fact and receive a card. If you have any cards that you can share, we would be grateful. Thank you.



OCIA: Celebration of the Rite of Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church

On Sunday, March 9, 2025, in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), we celebrate the Rite of Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church: Sacrament of Confirmation for **Andrea Duffee, Gloria Carmona, Isabella Stanley, and Danielle Hewitt.** The Lord has called them and brought them to this moment; may the Lord grant them light and strength to follow Christ with a resolute heart and to profess the faith of the Church. Please keep these Candidates for Confirmation in your prayers as we celebrate together their reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

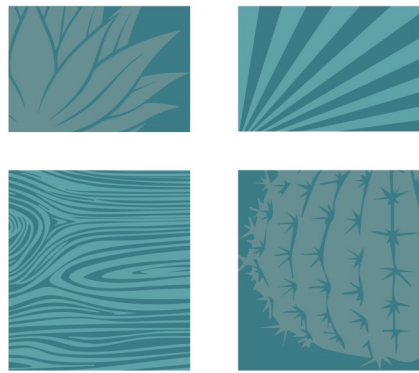
Catholic Relief Services needs your voice!



Provide hope for millions of families and children at risk by urging your members of Congress to engage with the administration to resume lifesaving programs immediately! As people of faith, let us stand shoulder to shoulder with our sisters and brothers in need. Go to <https://support.crs.org/act/foreign-aid-operations> to participate.



Food Pantry Needs for the Week of March 9
CANNED MEAT OR FISH



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.

FIRST SUNDAY
in
LENT

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 - Jean Coughlin

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.

March 9, 2025

First Sunday of Lent

Dt 26:4-10 | Rom 10:8-13 | Lk 4:1-13

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

We've all seen it: the standard cartoon sketch in which the main character, faced with a decision, imagines the devil coaxing him toward evil on one shoulder while an angel encourages him toward good on the other. Lighthearted though they are, these classic scenes are the product of Biblical wisdom and millennia of human experience. In fact, the Garden of Eden provided the prototype: Eve was the first to listen to Satan in a conversation that was disastrous for her and her descendants. It is no coincidence that, in today's Gospel, Jesus finds himself in a desert – the "opposite" of a garden, so to speak – where he, too, confronts the devil. But note Jesus' response to Satan's advances: the Incarnate Word of God neither barbers nor argues from human wisdom. For no amount of time does he turn over Satan's proposals in his heart. Instead, Jesus rejects the temptations immediately and relies on the power of the Word of God to put the devil in his place.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The Lenten season is meant to be a "desert" in which we, like Jesus, confront temptation. It is not a self-improvement program; it is an opportunity to reject sins, habits, and attitudes which keep us distant from God so that we can give a wholehearted "yes" to his plan for our lives. But the scene from today's Gospel is offered on the first Sunday of Lent to remind us that we do not go into the desert alone. Jesus entered first to show us that he would be with us every time we are tempted. If, instead of giving Satan airtime, we stay close to Jesus (in prayer and by frequenting the sacraments) and immerse ourselves in the Word of God (by reading Scripture), we, like him, will draw our strength from God. We will emerge victorious because, as St. Paul reminds us, "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart," and, "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

PLAN

Have you made a Lenten plan yet? If not, the time is now! Don't be afraid to be generous with God. Remember the three pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Could you add a daily Mass or Rosary to your schedule? Could you incorporate some form of self-denial into your weekly meal plan or media consumption? Once you've worked out a plan, offer it to God and ask him to bless your efforts to grow in virtue out of love for him.



LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

One way Jesus prepared for his public ministry was to go into the desert, filled with the Holy Spirit, *to be tempted by the devil*. We may have to confront a similar experience during Lent: While striving to follow the inspirations of the Holy Spirit, we encounter temptations to abandon our good resolutions. Jesus' example shows us the disposition we must have if we are to triumph over the enemy.

Gospel Focus:

Engaging in challenges on our Lenten journey can help us prepare to carry our own cross.



"Encounter the Joy of the Gospel and Set the World Ablaze"

EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...
Are willing to publicly profess their faith in Christ and their love for Him.

FATHER'S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Adults: How willing are you to profess your faith in Jesus Christ openly to others?

Children: Would you still be able to say that you believe in Jesus if others made fun of you for it?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of March



Evangelization: For families in crisis.

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

Pope Tweets:

"When goodness is not reinvested, it is lost. The greatness of our lives is not measured by how much we save but by the fruit we bear."

Please Remember in Prayer:

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

+Prayers in the Pew Monthly Synopsis+

March 2025—Lent encompasses virtually the whole month of March this year. It is a penitential season in which we aim to overcome our worldly tendencies and strengthen our spiritual lives. Greater devotion to the sacramental this month will dispose us to receive the immense graces of our Sunday Mass attendance.



Spiritual Challenge—In this Lenten Season, let us challenge ourselves to spend an extra five minutes sitting before the Lord before or after Sunday Mass. Let's also take account of the fervor of our devotions so that we can more easily hand on our love for Christ and His Church to others.

-----THE SCHOOL OF SAINTS-----



"Prayer ought to be short and pure, unless it be prolonged by the inspiration of Divine grace."

~St. Benedict

"Our wish, our object, our chief preoccupation must be to form Jesus in ourselves, to make his spirit, his devotion, his affections, his desire, and his disposition live and reign there."

~St. John Eudes

(The Prayers in the Pew monthly newsletter, March 2025; www.sitstandkneel.com)

Lent is marked by prayer, fasting and abstinence, and other acts of penance. Ask for God's forgiveness at our

Lenten Reconciliation Service
Tuesday, March 25, 2025
7:00 PM



CRS Rice Bowls

The CRS Rice Bowl Program has been around for 50 years!



Rice Bowls are available for pick up in the Commons. There is also a Lenten calendar to follow throughout the Lenten season.

Considering a call to the priesthood

This Lenten season, reflect on your life's direction. Are you being called to serve God with an undivided heart as a priest or religious brother and sister? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (804) 359-5661 or via email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org



March 9, 2025
First Sunday of Lent

Readings for the Week

- Monday, March 10**
Lev 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46
- Tuesday, March 11**
Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday, March 12**
Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday, March 13**
Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12
- Friday, March 14**
Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday, March 15**
Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48
- Sunday, March 16—Second Sunday of Lent**
Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17—4:1; Lk 9:28b-36



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	March 10	No Mass	
Tues.	March 11	Noon	Available
Wed.	March 12	Noon	Available
Thurs.	March 13	Noon	+Alice Watson
Fri.	March 14	Noon	Available
Sat	March 15	5:00 pm	Available
Sun.	March 16	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 16—Catholic Virginian
March 30—Catholic Relief Services



Parish Life This Week

- Monday, March 10**
6:00 PM Cub Scouts
- Tuesday, March 11**
5:30 PM Boy Scouts
6:00 PM OCIA
7:00 PM K of C Mtg.
- Wednesday, March 12**
7:00 PM Youth Group
- Thursday, March 13**
10:30 AM Plants & Scripture
6:00 PM Liturgy Ministries
7:00 PM Choir Practice
7:00 PM Plants & Scripture
- Friday, March 14**
5:00 PM Fish Fry (Take Out Only)
5:00 PM Stations of the Cross (Individual or Family)
- Saturday, March 15**
4:15 PM AFF—Evangelization
4:30 PM Stations of the Cross
6:00 PM Easter Egg Orders
- Sunday, March 16**
8:30 AM Stations of the Cross
10:00 AM Easter Egg Orders
10:15 AM Religious Education
10:15 AM Deeper Dive



Easter Egg Production Monday-Wednesday mornings

Weekly Offering for:

March 1-2, 2025

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,737.00
(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offering/Holy Days \$ 10,464.37

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Capital Reserve	\$ 1,868.10
Haiti	\$ 700.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 135.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 10.00
Ladies' Guild	\$ 71.00
Men's Club	\$ 30.00
Roof Repair	\$ 150.00
Other	\$ 86.00

DIOCESAN COLLECTION:

Catholic Relief Services \$ 125.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

Sat	123	3/5 Noon	148
Sun	185	3/5 7PM	98

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

