



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.

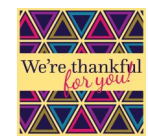
1. Jesus 2. weary 3. endured 4. opposition	5. cross 6. endured 7. scorning 8. shame	1. Jesus 2. lose 3. pioneer 4. sinners
5. perfecter 6. him 7. faith 8. hand	1. eyes 2. us 3. joy 4. heart	5. right 6. grow 7. God 8. throne

“... fixing our _____ on _____, the _____ and _____ of _____. For the _____ set before _____ he _____ the _____, _____ its _____, and sat down at the _____ of the _____ of _____.

Consider _____ who _____ such _____ from _____, so that you will not _____ and _____.” HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV

Answer: “...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV

NEWS & EVENTS



The Men's Club thanks all parishioners who supported our six Lenten Fish Fries with their prayers and attendance. Your generosity makes it possible for our ministry to help our parish, our twin parish in Haiti, and the broader Hampton Roads community.



Divine Mercy Sunday
“Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to God's mercy”

- a quote from the diary of St. Faustina, given to her by Jesus.

Please plan to join us for the celebration of this great feast of Divine Mercy, the Sunday after Easter
April 27, 2025.

Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 AM followed by Adoration, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and Benediction.

CRS Rice Bowls

It is time to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl donations! No coins please! You may place them in the collection basket or use the parish online giving site to donate. Thank you for changing lives this Lent!



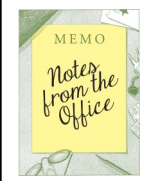
40 Ways for 40 Days

In Religious Education we are encouraging the children to participate in 40 acts of love, service, and prayer throughout these 40 days of Lent. Please join us in donating to a food pantry, pro-life organization, and homeless shelter.

COP needs soups, canned meat, spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, ravioli, and pork and beans. Drop off in the shopping cart in the commons.

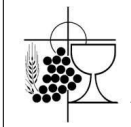
Care Net needs Diaper Bags, Large Laundry Baskets, Baby Clothes, Teething Rings/Toys, Baby Carriers for Dad, Baby Board Books, Baby Towels, Burp Cloths and Bibs for Girls, Receiving Blankets for Boys, Baby Lotion, and Winter Maternity Clothes. Drop off in the playpen in the commons.

St. Vincent de Paul needs Men's Tennis Shoes, Jeans, T Shirts, Underwear, and Socks. Drop off in the box in the commons.



The Parish Office will be CLOSED on April 14, 18, 21 & 25, 2025.
The office will be open April 15-17 from 10AM-3PM and April 22-24, 2025 from 1PM-4PM.

FAITH FORMATION



OCIA: Celebration at the Easter Vigil of the Sacraments of Initiation and the Rite of Reception

At the Easter Vigil Mass, in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), we celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion for **Dustin Garren, Colleen Garren, and Jasmyn Garren**. We also celebrate the Rite of Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church: Confirmation and Holy Communion for **Thomas Goedkoop and Braylan Garcia**. The Lord has called them and brought them to this moment; may He grant them light and strength to follow Christ with resolute hearts and to profess the faith of the Church. Please keep them in your prayers as we celebrate together the Sacraments of Initiation and Rite of Reception.



Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 20, 2025
following the 9:00 AM Mass
 For children ages 10 and younger.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming! June 16-20, 2025

Join us for a week of growing in our faith, making friends, and continuing our mission that God has for us. Stay tuned for more information.

Attention ALL High School Seniors!



Applications for the **Charles D. Arinello** Scholarship are due into the Knights of Columbus **NO LATER THAN APRIL 30!** If you are interested in getting an application contact Bob Hickman or Dan Lewandowski.



2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal: "Sharing His Love with Others"

As of 4/8/2025

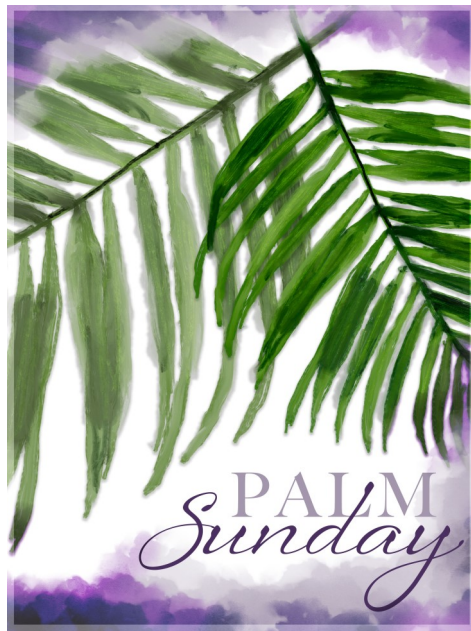
Goal	\$ 21,190.00
Total Raised	\$ 17,345.00
% of Goal	82% from 34 donors

Help us reach our goal! It's not too late!

Please visit richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal to make your secure online donation or contact the parish office to receive a hard copy pledge card. Thank you for your continued support and generosity to the Appeal.



Food Pantry Needs for the Week of April 13
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

Eucharistic 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

Lead Liturgical Musician

Ministries

Ministry to the Sick - Betsy Knapp

Pastoral Council - Joe Campo

Finance Council - Dan Falbe

Money Counters - Margaret Hickman

Building - Hart Smith and Tom Quick

Grounds

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.



April 13, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Is 50:4-7 | Phil 2:6-11 | Lk 22:14—23:56

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

More than any other time of year, we are able to follow the actual events of Jesus' life this week according to the sequence in which they occurred. Today's procession with palms honors his entry into Jerusalem, where he would prepare to celebrate the Passover with his disciples. We can imagine Jesus spending the subsequent days preaching in the Temple and the nights conversing with his Father in prayer. Then, on Thursday, the Mass of the Lord's Supper will inaugurate the Triduum, the time which commemorates Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. The Church places these events before our eyes each year as an invitation to enter as fully as possible into Jesus' mind and heart during Holy Week. Even if we regret not being more faithful to the goals we established at the beginning of Lent, we can still seize the opportunity of this week to accompany Jesus as he prepares to die for love of us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The crowds of followers who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem triumphantly today will be silent by Friday. Among his closest disciples, all will fall asleep during his prayer of agony on the Mount of Olives. Peter himself, who says on Holy Thursday, "I am prepared to go to prison and to die with you," will deny three times that he knew Jesus. The chief priests and scribes (who, one would think, should have recognized the Messiah) will deliver him to Pilate to be crucified. In each of these examples, love for Jesus (or, in the case of the priests and scribes, fidelity to God) is tested and found wanting during Holy Week. Of course, we know that Jesus still proceeded to die so that salvation would be available to *all* of these people. He likewise made it possible for every future generation – including our own – to return to him in moments when we find our own love wanting. We do this by turning away from sin and seeking his forgiveness, especially in the sacrament of confession. Therefore, let us, who have acclaimed Jesus as king today, keep him as king of our hearts – not only this week, but every day of our lives.

WORSHIP

Rich in solemnity and symbolism, the Triduum liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday allow us to accompany Jesus during these difficult days and express to him our love. Try to attend as many of these liturgies as your schedule allows and enter fully into Jesus' experience of Holy Week this year.

LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:

Luke's Gospel emphasizes the need for disciples of Christ to follow in his footsteps, as Jesus tells the Apostles that he is among them as *the one who serves*. Like the servant of the Lord who is spoken of in the reading from the prophet Isaiah, Christ does not refuse his calling. He willingly submits to suffering for our sake. Following Christ's example, it is through humble service to one another that we will be exalted.

Gospel Focus:

Because Christ humbled himself, God greatly exalted him.



"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: When have you felt that you betrayed the confidence of another, as Peter did when he denied Jesus?

Children: When have you let someone down who trusted you? How did you feel?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Month of April



Evangelization: *For the use of new technologies.*

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Pope Tweets:

"Let us live Lent as a time of healing. I wholeheartedly thank all those who imitate the Savior and heal their neighbors with their words, knowledge, affection, and prayer."

Please Remember in Prayer:



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



Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper 7:00PM
Good Friday Veneration of the Cross 3:00PM & 7:00PM
Easter Vigil 8:00PM
Easter Sunday 9:00AM

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Church has long believed that the Eucharist has an infinite capacity to touch our lives, not just during Mass, but at every moment of every single day. The Eucharist is like the life-giving oxygen we breathe—His grace sustains our lives without us even thinking about it. But it strengthens us even more when we deliberately turn our minds and hearts to Him in an Act of Spiritual Communion.

We should make an Act of Spiritual Communion regularly. It is a devotional prayer to Jesus, not the same as receiving Holy Communion in the Mass. Yet, a prayer such as this opens up a channel in our hearts and minds to receive graces that come from adoring Him in the Eucharist. Here is the beautiful prayer of St. Alphonsus Liguori:



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

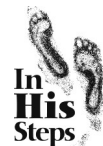
*My Jesus,
I believe that You are truly present
in the Most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things
and I desire to possess You within my soul.
Since I am unable now to receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as being already there,
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never, never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.*

We may use any words we wish to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, but there is none better than this prayer because it highlights the four elements needed for a true Spiritual Communion: Faith, Love, Desire, and Invitation. Since we cannot receive Him sacramentally at that moment, we invite Him into our hearts so that our lives may be constantly imbued by His loving Presence at all times.

(Prayers In The Pew monthly, April 2025. www.sitstandkneel.com)

Considering a call to the priesthood

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Jesus' words reveal the ultimate trust and surrender to God's will. In vocations, we're invited to echo this trust, placing our lives in God's hands and answering His call with courage and faith. As we enter Holy Week, consider whether God is calling you to serve the Church as a priest or religious brother or sister. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (804) 359-5661 or via email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org



April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord

Readings for the Week

Monday, April 14

Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday, April 15

Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday, April 16

Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25

Thursday, April 17—Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Friday, April 18—Good Friday

Is 52:13—53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday, April 19—Easter Vigil

Gn 1:1—2:2; Gn 22:1-18; Ex 14:15—15:1; Is 55:1-11; Rom 6:3-11; Lk 24:1-12

Sunday, April 20—The Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9



Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	April 14	No Mass	
Tues.	April 15	Noon	Available
Wed.	April 16	Noon	Available
Thurs.	April 17	7:00 pm	Available
Fri.	April 18	3:00 pm & 7:00 pm	
Sat	April 19	8:00 pm	Available
Sun.	April 20	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—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'

Upcoming Special Collections

April 18—Holy Land/Good Friday

April 20—Easter

April 27—Altar Flowers



Parish Life This Week

Monday, April 14

Office Closed

6:00 PM Cub Scouts

6:00 PM Chrism Mass (Richmond)

Tuesday, April 15

5:30 PM Boy Scouts

Wednesday, April 16

Youth Group Cancelled

10:00 AM Divine Mercy

7:00 PM Men's Club

7:15 Pm Book Club

Friday, April 18

Office Closed

Sunday, April 20

Easter Sunday

10:15 AM Easter Egg Hunt

10:15 AM Deeper Dive



Weekly Offering for:

April 5-6, 2025

Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,737.00

(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offering	\$ 7,297.16
Holy Day Collections	\$ 50.00

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Capital Reserve	\$ 2,293.28
Haiti	\$ 175.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 40.00
Men's Club	\$ 1,404.00
Ladies' Guild	\$ 1,236.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 5.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 27.00
Roof Repair	\$ 50.00
Other	\$ 1,050.00

DIOCESAN COLLECTION:

Holy Land—Good Friday	\$ 25.00
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MASS ATTENDANCE

Sat	100
Sun	157

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

