


"I am with you always."

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he encouraged his disciples in the work they had to do. We, too, are Jesus' disciples and should follow his same instructions.

Follow the words in the clouds to find Mark 16:15-16a, NIV.

Go into all the
away Bible the world
good the preach and
word to all it
news to all creation
the people friends animals Whoever
in baptized is and believes
power will be saved.



Answer: "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." (Mark 16:15-16a, NIV)

@ChurchArt Online

NEWS & EVENTS

Jubilee Pilgrimage



Please join the Church of the Good Shepherd on a Jubilee Pilgrimage to:

Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
in Norfolk, Virginia

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

9:45 AM: Meet in the parking lot of Good Shepherd
(drive or carpool to Norfolk)

10:30 AM: Guided tour of the Basilica

12:10 PM: Attend Mass and receive Holy Communion

Bishop Barry Knestout has designated the Basilica as one of the 4 Jubilee Year pilgrimage sites and individuals or groups of pilgrims on a "pious pilgrimage" can receive the jubilee indulgence if they attend Mass and receive Holy Communion. Sign up is available in the Commons. For more information: <https://richmonddiocese.org/jubilee-pilgrimage-sites-within-the-diocese-of-richmond/>

Catholic FEST 2025



October 11, 2025

10:00 AM-9:00PM



Join Bishop Knestout and the entire diocese at a one-day festival in Richmond. The day will be full of music, food, fun, fellowship, faith, and celebrating the Mass as the Diocese of Richmond. If you would like more information, visit catholicfest.richmonddiocese.org



MARRIED COUPLES: Does gardening give you a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you lovingly planted the seeds of a lifelong relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience will give you the "gardening tools" you need to help your marriage grow and blossom to **live your best life in love**. Upcoming experiences are:

- June 20-22 in Raleigh, NC
- September 12-14 in Richmond, VA
- October 24-26 in Jessup, MD
- November 7-9 in Rehoboth Beach, DE

For more information, please call 757-690-1369 or to register, go to WWWME.org, click "Apply" and search for your desired location.

FAITH FORMATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming!
True North— "Trusting Jesus in a Wild World"

June 16-20, 2025

1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Join us for a week of growing in our faith, making friends, and continuing our mission that God has for us. Registrations have begun and space is limited. If you have any questions, please contact Lara Detrich.

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.**



~ Monthly Synopsis—May 2025 ~

May begins with honoring St. Joseph the Worker (May 1st) and ends with the Visitation of Our Lady to St. Elizabeth (May 31st). May is also spent entirely in the Easter Season basking in the glory of the Risen Christ. This month gives us a unique opportunity to renew our commitment to our faith and open our hearts to receive many spiritual blessings.



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

As of 5/14/2025

Goal	\$ 21,190.00
Total Raised	\$ 19,220.00
% of Goal	91% from 42 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.



**The Office will be
CLOSED
May 22-26, 2025 for the
Memorial Day holiday.**



**Food Pantry Needs for the
Week of May 18
PEANUT BUTTER OR JELLY**



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—Caiden Zakaras, music@cgsparish.org

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, 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 - Jean Coughlin

Special Needs Ministry - Sue Ellebracht

Walking with Moms in Need—Jean Coughlin

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.

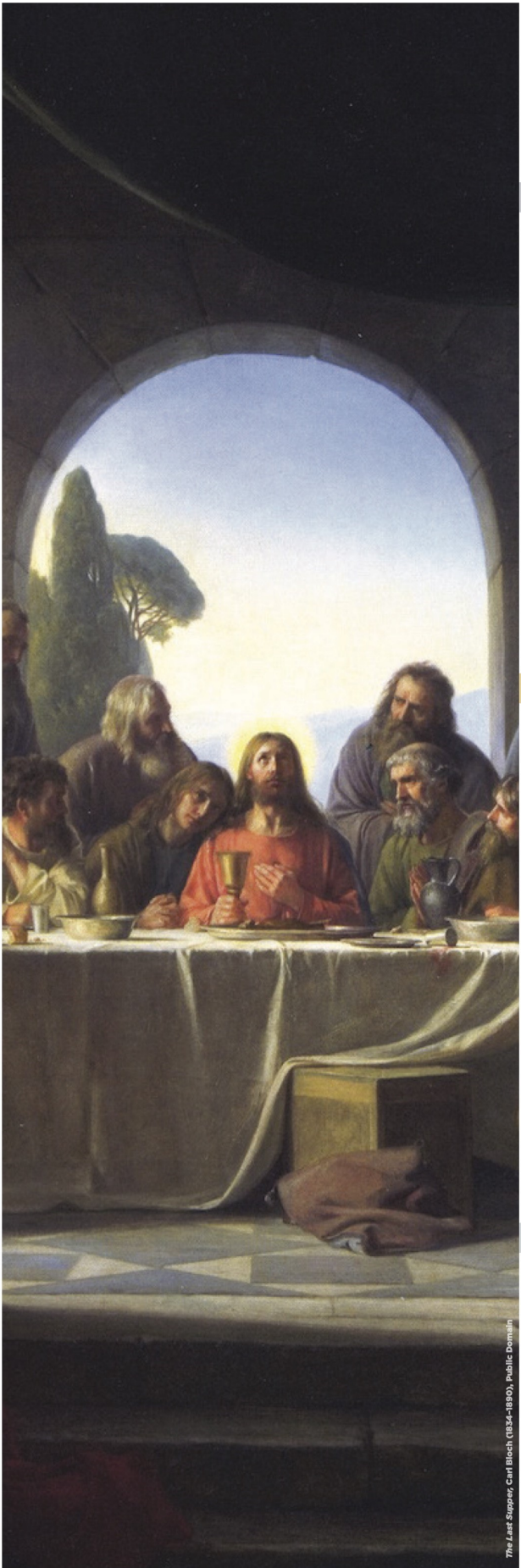
Baptisms – A preparation class for parents is required prior to the baptism. Contact Lara Detrich at the church office to register.

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.



May 18, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27 | Rev 21:1-5a | Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

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

Today's Gospel occurs shortly before Jesus gives his Last Supper Discourses in the Gospel of John. Judas has betrayed Jesus, and now the Lord speaks to his inner circle for one of the last times before his arrest. "I will be with you only a little while longer," he says. At these words, I imagine a hush falling over the group. Rattled by Judas' strange actions and alarmed by the Lord announcing his impending departure, the disciples' eyes must have darted about as they held their breath, awaiting Jesus' words. "I give you a new commandment," he says. "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." In a word, Jesus summarizes his teaching: love as God loves. He is using these last moments to exhort his disciples to be as he is. We know it won't be easy – it will involve sacrifice and suffering – but the Holy Spirit is present with us to guide and advocate for us on our journey.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Have you ever experienced a season of suffering and wondered, "Have I done something wrong?" When we meet resistance on the narrow path, it can make us question our choices, ourselves, and sometimes even God. Let today's first reading be a boost of confidence on your journey; remember that your suffering does not imply a misstep. "It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," Paul and Barnabas exhort the disciples (and us). It is natural to grow fatigued, especially when we encounter hardships. This is one reason why the Lord desires that we never journey alone. By God's perfect design, humans require companionship, from other humans and from the Creator himself. In the reading from the Book of Revelation, John the Apostle hears a loud voice saying, "God himself will always be with them as their God." Though the road may be peppered with pain, and the trials overwhelming, may we never forget that our God is very near!

PRAY


Today's readings reveal themes of perseverance in faith, radical love, and the stunning reality that the Lord is *truly present* to us. As we pray with these Scriptures, consider asking yourself: *What areas of my life feel distant from the Lord's presence? How can I open these areas up to receive his light and his love?* Take time to talk to the Lord in prayer about these things. When you do, make sure you leave space and silence for him to speak.

LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today's Readings:
Jesus tells his Apostles that all will know they are his disciples if they love one another. We are called to follow this command to love, so that God can use us to draw the world to himself. This is what Paul and Barnabas are endeavoring to do in the first reading; they are proclaiming the Gospel out of love for God and his people so that the reign of his love might spread throughout the world.

Gospel Focus:


Love is necessary to spread the kingdom of God.



*“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 seen the power of love overcome
a bad situation?
Children: Do you believe love is stronger than hate? Why?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS




Let us welcome our new Pope
Pope Leo XIV
Robert Francis Prevost
Elected May 8, 2025

*May he be strengthened as he embarks on his ministry of
unity, love, and peace. Continue to keep Pope Leo XIV
and the whole Church in your prayers.*

Evangelization: For working conditions.
Let us pray that through work, each person might find
fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and
that society might be humanized.

Apostolica Sedes Vacans Tweet:
“Christ is risen! These words capture the entire mean-
ing of our existence, for we were not made for death
but for life!”




Please Remember in Prayer:
*Barbara Bonney, Betty Kinney, Christopher
Morris, Betty Nagy, Mary Pasko, Alice Reece,
Peggy Shaw, Debbie Steiger, and Irene White*

Featured Prayer for May

Mary’s Magnificat
(Luke 1:46-55)


*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has
looked with favor on His lowly servant. From this day all
generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done
great things for me, and holy is His Name. He has mercy
on those who fear Him in every generation. He has
shown the strength of His arm, He has scattered the
proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from
their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled
the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent
away empty. He has come to the help of His servant
Israel for He has remembered His promise of mercy, the
promise He made to our fathers, to Abraham
and His children forever.*

(Prayers in the Pew monthly newsletter, May 2025. www.sitstandkneel.com)




Words of a Saint

“I would not believe in the gospel myself if the
authority of the Catholic Church did not move me
to do so.”
~St. Augustine

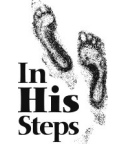


We would like to welcome into our parish
family, *Harper Banks Heath and
Jonah Wesley Banick*
who become a child of God through the
Sacrament of Holy Baptism on
May 18, 2025.
*We pray that they will continue to grow in faith
and love all the days of their lives.*



Let us pray for the eternal
repose of the soul of
Carol Kelly
who passed away this week.
May the Lord grant eternal rest unto
her and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May her soul rest in peace.

Considering a call to the priesthood
*“I give you a new commandment: love one
another.” Love is at the heart of every vo-
cation. Take time to reflect on how God
may be inviting you to live out His new
commandment of love in a way that serves others.
What does that call look like for you? Talk to your
priest or reach out the the Office of Vocations at
(804) 359-5661 or via email:
vocations@richmonddiocese.org*



May 18, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings for the Week

Monday, May 19
Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday, May 20
Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a


Wednesday, May 21
Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8

Thursday, May 22
Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11

Friday, May 23
Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17

Saturday, May 24
Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21

Sunday, May 25—Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rev 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29




Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	May 19	No Mass	
Tues.	May 20	Noon	Available
Wed.	May 21	Noon	Available
Thurs.	May 22	Noon	Available
Fri.	May 23	Noon	Available
Sat	May 24	5:00 pm	Available
Sun.	May 25	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 inten-
tion, 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—Wednesday 10AM to 3PM



**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
May 25—Catholic Home Missions
June 1—Capital Reserve
June 15—Catholic Virginian



Parish Life This Week

Monday, May 19
6:00 PM Cub Scouts

Tuesday, May 20
5:30 PM Boy Scouts

Wednesday, May 21
7:00 PM Ladies’ Guild & Men’s Club Mtgs.

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:15 PM Book Club

Thursday, May 22
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Saturday, May 24
4:30 PM Rosary

Sunday, May 25
8:30 AM Rosary
10:15 AM Deeper Dive



Weekly Offering for:
May 10-11, 2025

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

OFFERTORY:

Regular Offering	\$ 5,370.53
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ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Capital Reserve	\$ 323.00
Haiti	\$ 100.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 5.00
Altar Flowers	\$ 100.00
Other	\$ 40.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

Sat	110
Sun	195

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





**Welcome New Parishioners
to Church of the Good Shepherd!**

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

