

Just for KIDS

"Take a Vacation"

Use your imagination to plan a great "Bible Lands" vacation. Use the code to find the names of these Biblical places. Look up the verses to find out about each place.

CODE:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
○	☀	●	☀	✳	✳	✳	✳	✳	✳	✳	✳	✳	✳
O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z		
🚢	👑	🐟	✈	🏰	✳	☁	🏠	☂	🌷	🌸	☂		

(Matthew 26:36)

(Genesis 2:15)

(Matthew 4:18)

(Matthew 3:13)

(Exodus 19:20)

(John 4:6)

(Acts 18:2)

(Genesis 11:5-9)

(Daniel 6:16)

(Exodus 16:1)

Garden of Gethsemane, Garden of Eden, Sea of Galilee, Jordan River, Mount Sinai, Jacobs Well, Rome, Tower of Babel, Lions Den, Wilderness

@ChurchArt Online

NEWS & EVENTS



Join us for the
Knights of Columbus
4th Annual Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, July 27, 2025
10:00 AM– Noon

Menu: Pancakes, Sausage, Bacon, Fruit, Donuts, Juice & Coffee

Cost: Family Ticket \$20.00
Adult and Teen \$ 8.00 each
Child 5-11 years \$ 3.00 each
Under 5 years Free

We are looking forward to seeing you for food and fellowship after Mass in the Commons.



EMMAUS JOURNEY
For Grieving Parents
August 2, 2025
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Newport News

This retreat is a faith-based, day-long retreat given by a team of grieving parents, spiritual directors, and clergy. It offers a safe place where grieving parents can seek peace, comfort, and hope.

Visit the website evangelizerichmond.org to learn more and to register for this or another retreat.

"Blessed are they who mourn for they will be comforted."
(Matthew 5:4)



"I PLACE MUCH OF MY HOPE FOR THE FUTURE IN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER."
(Pope Saint John Paul II)

Your honeymoon was a special time. Wherever you went, the things you saw and did were secondary. Just being together was most important. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend has the same focus. The weekend centers entirely on your relationship. It is a positive, simple common sense, private experience between you and your spouse, that revitalizes marriage by helping you to see again those loving qualities in each other that you may be taking for granted. Upcoming experiences are:

- September 12-14 in Richmond, VA
- October 24-26 in Jessup, MD
- November 7-9 in Rehoboth Beach, DE
- February 13-15, 2026 in Waynesboro, VA
- March 6-8, 2026 in Hampton, VA

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

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.





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.richmondiocese.org



JOB OPPORTUNITY:
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NEEDED!

Church of the Good Shepherd is seeking an Administrative Assistant to begin working September 1, 2025. This position provides clerical, administrative and managerial support to the pastor, other staff members and ministry volunteers as required and provides reception and record keeping services for the parish. This is a part-time position that requires 20 hours per week during regular office hours.

The individual should be a quick learner and able to multi-task, have strong customer service skills and be able to work independently. Computer proficiency with Microsoft Office is necessary and knowledge of Canva and the ParishSoft database is most helpful.

Pay is commensurate on experience. If you are interested or know someone who may be a good candidate for the job, please contact Fr. Andrews Mensah or the parish office via phone 757-365-0579 or email at admin@cgsparish.org.





Food Pantry Needs for the Week of July 13
CANNED MEAT OR FISH

Help us help our brothers and sisters in need.

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





The Roman Catholic Church of the Good Shepherd

300 Smithfield Boulevard, Smithfield, Virginia 23430

Website: www.cgsparish.org
E-mail: admin@cgsparish.org

Office: (757) 365-0579 Rectory: (757) 542-3879

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 10:00AM-3:00PM; Friday—Closed

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. Andrews Mensah

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. Andy plans to be at church to celebrate Mass whenever possible. 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 from 4:15PM to 4:45PM 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.



July 13, 2025

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 30:10-14 | Col 1:15-20 | Lk 10:25-37

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Do you ever feel as though the concept of God’s plan for your life feels too distant and abstract to perceive? If you raised your hand, just know I’m raising mine, too. The life of a Christian striving for virtue and closeness with our creator is not always simple! But Moses’ words to the Israelites in today’s first reading pierce my heart, even centuries after he spoke them: “For this command that I enjoin on you today is not too mysterious and remote for you.” Moses is talking to the Israelites about God’s instructions that will lead them to the Promised Land, but it’s a relevant reminder for us, too. God’s command is not some vague message written in the sky, or some ancient code we need to decipher. *It is written in our hearts.* Our job is simply to return to the Lord our God so that we might understand it. If you ever feel as though God’s ways are inscrutable, return to him, perhaps using this particular Scripture. When we call upon God, he always responds. And in his response there is great mercy and love. We are meant to share this mercy and love we receive with others.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I think it’s natural, in our fallen humanity, to overcomplicate the Lord’s commandments. But in the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus spells it out for us in plain terms: show mercy to our neighbor. How often do we encounter someone in need? Probably daily. How often do we respond with love, generosity, and mercy? This is the question we must ask ourselves. Though the call is clear and concise, the reality is demanding. But Jesus also reminds us that our acts of mercy aren’t without merit – they are precisely what will carry us onward to our eternal reward. “Do this and you will live,” Jesus says.

REFLECT


Today’s readings remind us of our earthly call to love and to serve, and they are also a reminder of God’s radical nearness to his people. The call to mercy is challenging. The mission to love is bold. The road to eternal glory is long and narrow. But God is never far away from us on this journey. Take time this week to consider where and how the Lord is speaking to you. How is he inviting you into his mission of mercy? Where is he offering you himself?

LITURGY AND MINISTRY

Today’s Readings:
Our Gospel challenges us with the question: Who is my neighbor? It is a question with profound implications for how we relate to and treat others in our world. As we hear the parable of the Good Samaritan, we are challenged by Christ to treat all with respect and love, especially the poor, the dispossessed, and the most vulnerable.

Gospel Focus:


We are to see our neighbor in all people, especially the most vulnerable.



“Encounter the Joy of the Gospel and Set the World Ablaze”
EVANGELIZED PEOPLE...
Follow Jesus’ example of care for the weakest among us.


FATHER’S CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK
Adults: When have you gone out of your way to help a stranger in need?
Children: Would you help a new student who needed help? Why or why not?

PRAYER AND VOCATIONS



Pope Leo XIV’s Prayer Intentions for the Month of July
Evangelization: For formation in discernment.
Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.


Pope Tweets:
“The Lord wishes to do something great in our lives and in the history of humanity, yet there are few who perceive this, pause to receive the gift and then proclaim and share it with others.”



Please Remember in Prayer:
Barbara Bonney, Betty Kinney, Christopher Morris, Mary Pasko, Alice Reece, Dot Robinson, Debbie Steiger, and Irene White

“Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.”
(Psalm 69)

SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE FOR JULY
Let us challenge ourselves this month to call on the Holy Spirit to help us and our families in all our needs. When we invoke the Holy Spirit, particularly in times of trouble, the Spirit helps and renews us in many tangible ways. God the Holy Spirit always comes to those who ask.





The Prayer To The Holy Spirit
Come, O Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.
O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the Church’s guiding and protecting force until the end of time. The Holy Spirit Prayer recognizes the roles that the Holy Spirit plays in the life of believers: He “fills (our) hearts”, he “enkindles” our love, He “enlightens” our minds, He “instructs”, “creates”, and “renews” us, and He is the source of all spiritual gifts.


(The Prayers in the Pew monthly newsletter. July 2025. www.sitstand-kneel.com)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
July 18, 2025 at 11:30 AM
Followed by 12:00 PM (Noon) Mass.
Come and spend some time with Jesus!






Let us pray for the eternal repose of the soul of **Peggy Shaw** who passed away on July 3, 2025. May the Lord grant eternal rest unto her and let perpetual light shine upon her.




Arrangements for visits to the sick and homebound are to be made only by family members of the person needing the visit or by that person themselves. Please make your request through the parish office.

Considering a call to the priesthood
“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” Is God calling you to love Him through a life of service to others in the Church? Pray about how you can fulfill this greatest commandment through a vocation. Talk to your priest or reach out the the Office of Vocations at (804) 359-5661 or via email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org



July 13, 2025
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time


Readings for the Week
Monday, July 14—St. Kateri Tekakwitha
Ex 1:8-14, 22; Mt 10:34—11:1
Tuesday, July 15—St. Bonaventure
Ex 2:1-15a; Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday, July 16
Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Mt 11:25-27
Thursday, July 17
Ex 3:13-20; Mt 11:28-30
Friday, July 18
Ex 11:10—12:14; Mt 12:1-8
Saturday, July 19
Ex 12:37-42; Mt 12:14-21
Sunday, July 20—Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gn 18:1-10a; Col 1:24-28; Lk 10:38-42




Daily Mass & Intention Schedule

Mon.	July 14	No Mass	
Tues.	July 15	Noon	William Jenkins (Healing)
Wed.	July 16	Noon	+Lilian Sotelo
Thurs.	July 17	Noon	Available
Fri.	July 18	Noon	Available
Sat	July 19	5:00 pm	Available
Sun.	July 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:
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’

Upcoming Special Collections
July 27—Altar Flowers
August 3—Capital Reserve
August 15—Assumption of Mary



Parish Life This Week
Tuesday, July 15
5:30 PM Boy Scouts
Wednesday, July 16
7:00 PM Youth Group
Thursday, July 17
6:00 PM Pastoral Council
7:00 PM Choir Practice
Friday, July 18
11:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration
Saturday, July 19
4:30 PM Rosary
Sunday, July 20
8:30 AM Rosary
10:15 AM Deeper Dive



This week at our Church

Weekly Offering for:
July 5 & 6, 2025
Regular Offering needed weekly: \$ 6,737.00
(The following totals include E-Giving)

OFFERTORY:
Regular Offering \$ 6,281.11

ADDITIONAL FUNDS COLLECTED:

Capital Reserve/Mortgage	\$ 2,025.00
Haiti	\$ 225.00
Barron Dempsey	\$ 40.00
Altar Flowers	\$ 25.00
Catholic Virginian	\$ 10.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 34.00
Other	\$ 110.00

MASS ATTENDANCE
Sat 100
Sun 182

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.