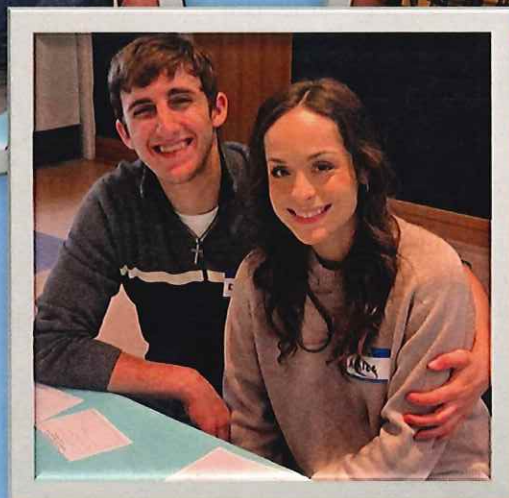


Church of the Good Shepherd

The Church of the Good Shepherd 2024 Pre-Cana



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 27TH, 2024

Week of October 27th, 2024, Calendar of Events

Rosary 1st Sunday of every month 20 minutes before 9am Mass

Monday, October 28th

Tuesday, October 29th

Wednesday, October 30th

Thursday, October 31st Women of the New Test. 10am / 5pm

Friday, November 1st All Saints Holy Day of Obligation
7am at Our Lady of Fatima, 8:30am & 7:00pm at Good Shepherd

**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND, THOSE
ON OUR PRAYER CHAIN AND THE HOSPITALIZED**

Church of the Good Shepherd

Office Phone: (724)528-3539

Office Address: 3613 Sharon Road

(PO Box 226)

West Middlesex, PA 16159

PASTOR – Fr. Glenn Whitman

Email: pastor@goodshepherdwm.org

RELIGIOUS ED DIR. – Lauren DeFelice

Email: religioused@goodshepherdwm.org

PARISH SECRETARY – Patty Babcanec

Email: parishoffice@goodshepherdwm.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR – Greg Hansley

PLANT MAINTENANCE – Gary Wojtalik

KITCHEN MANAGER – Michelle Whalen

PRAYER REQUEST

Email: prayerrequestsgswm@gmail.com

Phone: (724)977-3369

COLLECTION

10/20/24

of Registered Families 562

of Envelopes Used 222

Attendance at Mass 452

Attendance Online 176

Offertory Collection \$5,322.00

Loose Offertory \$722.00

World Mission \$748.00

All Souls / All Saints \$175.00 / \$20.00

Human Development \$10.00

Mass Intention Date & Time

Intentions

Requested By

Monday, October 28th at 8:30am

For Our Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, October 29th at 8:30am

Robert Klamut Sr.

Family

Wednesday, October 30th

NO MASS & NO COMMUNION SERVICE

Thursday, October 31st at 8:30am

Frank Fortine

Frank Langosh

Friday, November 1st at 7:00am

At Our Lady of Fatima Church

Friday, November 1st at 8:30am

Irene Koncar

Raymond & Joann Horner

Friday, November 1st at 7:00pm

Poor Souls

Marie Flickinger

Saturday, November 2nd at 6:00pm

James G James

Hanssen Family

Sunday, November 3rd at 9:00am

Marty Bralich

Jerry & Diane Bator

Sunday, November 3rd at 11:30am

Greg Scarmack

Sandy & Karen Rosati

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

LECTOR

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

USHERS (HU – Head Usher)

GREETERS

ALTAR SERVERS

SATURDAY
November 2nd
6:00pm

John Rumelfanger
Maggie
Rumelfanger

James Sobey
Frank Langosh
Monica Hanrahan
Cliff Sederland

Paul Bauer – HU
Mary Ellen Douth
Patrick Chovan

Carol Baker

Hadley Simmons
Reagan Simmons

SUNDAY
November 3rd
9:00am

Bonnie Smith

Mary Ann Palanti
Ken Garver
Marsha Garver
Gary Salatino

Patrick Miller – HU
Vicki Miller
Neil Hosick

Tom Graney

Vincent Miller

SUNDAY
November 3rd
11:30am

Zoe Belcik

DJ Puskar
Arlene Repko
Mary Lu Walters
Joe Varga

Pam Esposito – HU
Raymond Repko
Maurice Igou

VOLUNTEER

Aiden Puskar
Bardy Puskar



FROM OUR PASTOR

"The 'rotten apple' lady

A theology professor from North Carolina is working on a book in Massachusetts. It isn't going well. She's feeling anxious and alone. On Sunday morning she decides to attend the 11 o'clock service at a nearby church- but her heart isn't quite in it.

Most of the pews are empty. She takes a seat at the very end of the last pew so she can leave if she feels the need to duck out.

A few people filter into the church, taking places in front of her and to her left, but she's able to keep her seat at the end of the pew. Just as the choir begins the opening hymn, another woman approaches the pew. "Is there space here?" she asks. The professor squeezes to let her pass, but she wants the spot at the end of the pew. Wanting to avoid a scene, the professor moves over.

The woman looks like she's seen better days. She has a suitcase with her, and she keeps a hat and sunglasses on through the entire service. She smells like rotten apples and the streets. She never opens a Bible or a hymnal; she doesn't join in any of the prayers or responses. She seems, oddly, entirely comfortable. Clearly, she knows this church and many of the people there.

The professor would like to move, but she's trapped.

The professor recalls what happened next.

"Then, in the middle of the sermon, the rotten-apple lady begins to tap her right index finger rapidly on her knee. It's the tapping of a crazy person, one of the people from whom Jesus would have cast a demon. There isn't even a rhythm to the tapping and it makes the

whole pew shake. I glare at the woman hoping she will take the hint and stop. Tap, tap, tap tap tap tap. Tap tap tap. Then, unaccountably, my left hand shoots out and I close my fingers over her hand, squeezing her fingers together to stop the tapping, as a mother would still a child. In an instant, I am horrified. I can't believe I have done what I did...

"Then as I am blushing the color of my cranberry-colored sweater and thinking it would be nice if I vaporized, I realize that the woman does not seem offended, or even surprised, and she has not shrugged off or let go of my hand. In fact, she seems to be holding my hand.

"We hold hands for the rest of the service.

"And that's part of what I mean when I say it is life inside this Christian story that begins to tell me who I am."

(From Still: Notes on a Mid-Faith Crisis, by Lauren F. Winner)

Today's gospel isn't about the restoring of a blind man's physical vision as much as about illuminating one man's heart to see the goodness of God in his life. Jesus responds to Bartimaeus' plea not by mixing mud or touching a man's eyes or looking to heaven in prayer; Jesus says basically, "*Look with the eyes of the faith you already possess.*" Not only does Jesus restore Bartimaeus' physical sight, but he also restores Bartimaeus' realization of God's love in his life, enabling him to embrace with hope the life God has called him to live – a life that finds its meaning in selfless giving and reconciling peace. In the same way the professor comes to realize in the woman sitting next to her "connection" to the Jesus story – a story greater than herself or her

(Continued on next page)

(Continued)

issues, a story that connects her to this “rotten-apple” woman, an experience that draws out from the professor generous compassion she didn’t feel she could extend.

Jesus opens the eyes of our hearts as well, enabling us to realize the opportunities we have to bring life and light, healing and peace to others along our own spiritual journeys. And perhaps, to “see” with human hearts the revelation of God’s Spirit.

Tap, tap tap tap tap, tap tap. Fr. Glenn

Our Lady of Fatima New Mass Time

Effective November 2nd, the new Mass time for Our Lady of Fatima will be **4:00 pm** on Saturdays.

RELIGIOUS ED. CALENDAR

Class time 10:00am – 11:15am

November 3 Class grades K-9

November 3 Confirmation Class packing bags for the Food Pantry

November 9 Saturday Rite of Welcome for Confirmation Students

November 9 Saturday 7pm Teen Shepherd bonfire

November 10 Class all grades
Safe Environment Training.

Religious Education is now using the TEAM REACH app as a communication tool. Please contact Lauren if you need the code to join our Team Reach group.

The Teen Shepherd bonfire is back this year. See the flyer for more information.

Becoming Catholic (RCIA /OCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults has changed its name to the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. The process by which adults formally join the Catholic Church has traditionally been referred to as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Two years ago, in November of 2021, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a new translation of the process and its corresponding curriculum, now known as the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). The decision to change the name stems from the idea that the Catholic journey is continual. It is a lifelong commitment each catechumen or candidate is making to the Church. The word] ‘order’ also reflects the progressive nature of this spiritual journey. OCIA is not a one-time event; it is a journey with distinct stages.

Attention

Grades 6-12

You’re invited to a
Mass and Bonfire

Saturday November 9

6 pm mass, bonfire to follow from 7-9

@ Good Shepherd Church

Bring a chair sponsored by Teen Shepherds

Food
Games
Fun



Bring a friend or 2



ALL SAINTS DAY - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION November 1, 2024

Masses: Friday 7:00 am – Our Lady of Fatima

8:30 am – Good Shepherd

7:00 pm – Good Shepherd

COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

What we formerly called "All Souls Day" will be celebrated during the 6:00 pm Mass on Saturday, November 2. Parishioners who have suffered the grief accompanying the death of a loved one will be invited to place a candle and photo of that person in church in order to remind us all to pray for their intentions during the month of November.

CHARITY DINNER THANK YOU

We want to send a huge THANK YOU to all the Adult & Teen parishioners who worked the Charity Dinner and to those who came to support this event. The people that came to enjoy the meal commented on all the help we had, and they loved seeing the young people of our parish helping out and many of them told the teens so. They also commented to our volunteers how much they enjoyed the meal, wanting to know where they could buy the ham and potatoes! The profits for the dinner will be published in next weekend's bulletin. Again, thanks to everyone on a successful dinner.

Parish Pastoral Council

CABBAGE ROLL PRESALE

3 large cabbage rolls for \$12.
Sign up in the Gathering Space.
Pick up after all Masses on,

*Saturday, November 2nd
& Sunday November 3rd*

PRE-ORDERS ONLY.



RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

During the month of October

The Catholic Church dedicates the month of October to the Holy Rosary because the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is on October 7th.

The Rosary is prayed to encourage world peace.

Members of the Altar Rosary Society will be saying the Rosary prior to 9:am Mass (8:40) EVERY SUNDAY during the month of October. They would love to have you join them. Booklets will be available in the gathering space. Everyone is welcome to participate.



Election Day Sandwich Sale



ARS will be selling MEATBALL sandwiches and HOT SAUSAGE sandwiches with peppers and onions on Election Day, November 5th, 2024. They will be packed as a "SACK LUNCH" and will include the sandwich, chips, bottle of water and a cookie. Price for the sack lunch will be \$10. Even if you don't vote at Good Shepherd, you can still come and purchase a sandwich to support our fundraising efforts.



Save the Date!



It's time again for the fall Wine and Cheese event to be held on Saturday, Nov 16th, after 6:00pm Mass. Have a relaxing evening with great sounds, interesting hors d'oeuvres, libations, maybe a bit of team trivia and great fellowship! If you have a favorite wine flavor or snack, feel free to bring a taste for all to enjoy. Sponsored by the PPC.

Mary Garden Bricks

The Altar Rosary Society will be accepting orders this fall and winter for bricks in the Mary Garden. Please take a stroll over to the garden, visit Mary, and see what a lovely way a brick can recognize a loved one or family member, living or deceased.

Forms are available in the parish office, the gathering space, or by contacting:

Connie Titus phone: (724)699-1443
email: ctitus2@roadruer.com

Parenting Pointers

Oct. 24 was United Nations Day. The U.N. recognizes 193 nations. It commemorates humankind's efforts to live peaceably together. Not easy for a family or our planet. Do you know what the newest country is? Try Googling it.

A Family Perspective

When Jesus asked the blind man "What do you want from me?" he asked for sight. If Jesus asked you the same question, what would you say? Pure and simple, that is prayer.

Marriage Moments

As Halloween approaches is there anything that scares you about your beloved? Getting sick? Getting old? Getting bored with each other? Talk about any fears and face them together.

Respect Life Month

"The witness of our Blessed Mother [in the Gospel account of her visit to her pregnant cousin, Elizabeth,] invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities. ...Mary's witness is an invitation to step out in love and compassion. It is a summons to make haste to help vulnerable women who may be isolated and alone."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
<https://www.respectlife.org/called-to-serve-reflection>

Respect Life-Called to Serve Moms in Need

"The witness of our Blessed Mother [in the Gospel account of her visit to her pregnant cousin, Elizabeth,] invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities. ...Mary's witness is an invitation to step out in love and compassion. It is a summons to *make haste* to help vulnerable women who may be isolated and alone." Read more at <https://www.respectlife.org/called-to-serve-reflection>

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
Respect Life Reflection: Called to Serve Moms in Need

**St. Anthony
Thanksgiving Bake Sale**

Plain Pogach ...\$6
Plain Bread...\$7
Raisin Bread...\$8
Cinnamon Rolls...\$10 dz.
(with or without raisins)

Deadline to place an order
Sun., Nov. 24th

**Pickup
Wednesday, November 27th
12 Noon to 3:00PM**

To Place An Order
Launa: 724-342-2489
or
Linda: 724-866-7488

Church Antonium
804 Idaho St., Sharon, PA
(Sherman Ave. Entrance)
Hall is Handicap Accessible



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PARISHIONERS REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

STREET _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

CHECK: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want envelopes

Please drop this information into the Offertory basket or mail to the Rectory.