



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
NOVEMBER 5, 2023



Do not be called ***Master!*** You Have but One master, ***the Christ.***
Matthew 23:10

Mission Statement

“Good Shepherd parish, under the guidance of the true Shepherd Jesus Christ, is a Catholic faith based community seeking to proclaim and live the gospel message. Recognizing our diversity, we strive to bring together a church family, welcoming all people as we grow together in faith, hope and love.”

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SERVED BY

Rev. Valentine Ugwuanya Pastor
Ed Stolarz Director of Music Ministry
Denise Perry Secretary

For more information on our parish please go to:
Goodshepherdnj.com
Or email us at
gsirvington@comcast.net

The Pastor's reflection of the Readings of 31st Sunday, Nov. 5th 2023.

Apparently, it's a perennial problem. It's a problem we witness from generation to generation. The prophet Malachi and our Lord Jesus are dealing with sinfulness of the religious leaders of their time. The priests in Malachi's day were offering unworthy sacrifices to God and neglecting to teach the people how God wanted them to live. Our Lord decries our tendency to lord it over one another, to prefer adulation to the gentleness and deep caring described in the second reading. There are certain themes that stand out in today's reading, not flouting ourselves, rather being humble, and those on the hierarchy, smug arrogance that masquerades as spirituality which has topples us from our pedestals. The First Ten Commandments said, I am the Lord your God. You shall have no strange gods before me. It is very easy to dismiss it as hopelessly out of step with the modern world.

We might say there's not a lot of idol worship going on in our culture, at least worship of carved images of strange deities. But we do have our idols – power, wealth. Prestige, pleasure, independence. The most insidious and widely embraced idol, though, is the image we see when we look in a mirror. There is something within us that in subtle ways struggles mightily with the notion of allowing God to be God: it's that determined sense that "nobody is going to tell me what to do." So how do we let God; let God to be the greatest? One way is through prayer, when we pray the Lord's Prayer and repeatedly say: Thy will be done. By humbling ourselves we all God to be the greatest.

When we look at the Gospel, it mocks our self-importance and imposes a new perspective. It insists that social climbers, ordained and lay, relinquish privilege and that all disable reflex to install certain people on pedestals. The Gospel tells us that if we don't take care we are going to fall from power into grace, that everyone baptized brothers and sisters who "share our own selves," should not exclude anyone but respect each person. Our power should make to know who we should invite to the meal or banquet, who to eat and not to eat. The Eucharist is the perfect medicine for all who are sick and weak. So let us not use our position or privilege to oppress and marginalize anybody no matter his or her status in the society and in the Church.

Learn more at formed.org



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Good Shepherd Parish Schedule for Mass & Worship (schedules are subject to change)

Saturday (anticipated) 5:30pm
Holy Day TBD.

Sundays —9:00am, 11:00am
Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:45-5:15pm

National Holidays —9:00am
Adoration Mo-Fri 7:30am-5:00pm

Mass Intentions For the week of November 4, November 11, 2023

Saturday 5:30pm The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 4

Sunday 9:00am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 5 11:00am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed

Monday 7:00am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 6

Tuesday 7:00am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 7

Wednesday 7:00am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 8

Thursday 7:00am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 9

Friday 7:00am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 10

Saturday 8:30am The Commemoration of all the Faithfully Departed
Nov 11 5:30pm Antoniette C. Pemocino

Kindly keep our parishioner's family, with health and other challenges, in your prayers

Let us always remember in our prayers the sick members of our Parish

Kingsley Oba	Paul Kocum	Sandi Mosley	Debbie Watson
Elizabeth Cassata	Pope Francis	Frank Rocchi	Camile Laidlaw
Frederick Hamilton	Curtis Richards	Carlos Quinones	Venus Matthews
Tom O and Janice C	Jean Michelin	Corizon Abuzied	Bob and Barbara Nezlick

* Please advise if any names should be added or delete from the list

Hospital Privacy | Please remember that current privacy laws regarding patients in hospitals do not allow hospitals/ pastoral care offices to contact parishes. If you or a loved one are in the hospital and want a priest to visit, please call the I office at (973)375-8568

Announcement
Our Church now has an Adoration Room. All are invited to visit the room, Mon-Fri 7:30AM-5:00PM.
To gain access to the adoration room, reservations are required. Please visit the rectory to reserve your date and time.

Please contact Fr. Valentine or call the rectory if you are interested in Intensions, of a Sanctuary Lamp, Alter bread and wine or Alter Flowers



Ministries: If you're interested in ministries of service either as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, please call the rectory at 975-375-8568 or fill out the Information below and place in the collection basket.
Name : _____
Telephone #: _____
Lector _____ Eucharistic Minister _____

REPORT ABUSE
Protecting God's Children
The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all credible complaints, and encourages anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct by the clergy, religious and lay staff to tell us immediately, so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to sexual abuse victims.
Individuals who wish to report an allegation may do so by calling the Child and Youth Protection. 201-407-3256, Fax: 973-497-4001. Or In person, 171 Clifton Avenue. Newark, NJ 07104.

Collection Report **October 29, 2023**

Weekly Target	\$6,500.00
Collection (Offering+ Fuel & Energy)	\$ 3,127.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 3,373.00
Fiscal Year to Date	
Budget:	\$346,811.00
Actual:	\$51,560.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$295,251.00
Rolling 4 Week Averages	
Average Collection:	\$ 2,725.00
Average Surplus (Deficit)	\$3,775.00

Minister Assignments Nov 11– Nov 12, 2023

Saturday Sunday	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Presider
11/11 5:30pm	Alex Arevalo	Denise Perry Barbara Banks Nellie Bate	Fr. Val
11/12 9:00am	Longinus Onyegu	Mina Yago Helen Chife-Akude Stanislaus Egeolu-Obmezie	Fr. Val
11/12 11:00am	Denise Younker	Jerome Hule Janice Camacho Denise Perry	Fr. Val

GSP EVENT CALENDER

Sunday Nov 5
Monday Nov 6
Tuesday Nov 7
Wednesday Nov 8
Thursday Nov 9
Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Friday Nov 10
Saint Leo Great
Saturday Nov 11
Saint Martin of Tours
Veterans Day

Good Shepherd Parish Information

RECTORY HOURS: Monday / Wednesday 10:00AM-2:00PM; Thursday / Friday 9:00AM-12:00PM; Tuesday 1:00PM-4:00PM

Parish Registration Forms can be found at the back of the church or call the rectory at (973) 375-8568

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturday 4:45-5:15 pm

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM In order to have your child baptized at Good Shepherd, the parents must be registered and active members of our parish. Godparents or sponsors must meet qualifications as to have received both sacraments of Communion and Confirmation, attend Mass regularly and been a registered parishioner at a Catholic Church For more information please call the Rectory at (973) 375-8568

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Couples who are planning a wedding should call the parish office to meet the priest, to choose the date of the wedding and before any other arrangements are made call (973)375-8568

PASTORAL OF THE SICK Notify a priest of all who are hospitalized, home-bound, or Emergencies call (973)375-8568

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS, RCIA. Adults interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church and Catholics in need of Sacraments, Confirmation or Eucharist; inquire at the Rectory. To register please call the rectory at (973-375-8568

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Sunday of October-April from 10:00-11:00 am in the Church building. For more information please call the Rectory at (973-375-8568

PRAYER FOR PEACE
PRAYER OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS
at the Conclusion of the Pacem in Terris Holy Hour
Saint Peter's Basilica
Friday, 27 October 2023

Mary, look at us! We stand here before you. You are our Mother, and you know our struggles and our hurts. Queen of Peace, you suffer with us and for us, as you see so many of your children suffering from the conflicts and wars that are tearing our world apart.

This is a dark hour. This is a dark hour, Mother. In this dark hour, we look to you, and in the light of your countenance we entrust ourselves and our problems to your maternal Heart, which knows our anxieties and fears. How great was your concern when there was no place for Jesus at the inn! How great was your fear when you fled in haste to Egypt because Herod sought to kill him! How great was your anguish before you found him in the Temple! Yet, Mother, amid those trials, you showed your strength, you acted boldly: you trusted in God and responded to concern with tender care, to fear with love, to anguish with acceptance. Mother, you did not step back, but at decisive moments you always took initiative: with haste you visited Elizabeth; at the wedding feast of Cana you prompted Jesus' first miracle; in the Upper Room you kept the disciples united. And when, on Calvary, a sword pierced your heart, Mother, by your humility and strength you kept alive the hope of Easter through the night of sorrow.

Now, Mother, once more take the initiative for us, in these times rent by conflicts and laid waste by the fire of arms. Turn your eyes of mercy towards our human family, which has strayed from the path of peace, preferred Cain to Abel and lost the ability to see each other as brothers and sisters dwelling in a common home. Intercede for our world, in such turmoil and great danger. Teach us to cherish and care for life – each and every human life! – and to repudiate the folly of war, which sows death and eliminates the future.

Mary, how many times have you come, urging prayer and repentance. Yet, caught up in our own needs and distracted by the things of this world, we have turned a deaf ear to your appeal. In your love for us, you never abandon us, Mother. Lead us by the hand. Lead us by the hand and bring us to conversion; help us once again to put God first. Help us to preserve unity in the Church and to be artisans of communion in our world. Make us realize once more the importance of the role we play; strengthen our sense of responsibility for the cause of peace as men and women called to pray, worship, intercede and make reparation for the whole human race.

By ourselves, Mother, we cannot succeed; without your Son, we can do nothing. But you bring us back to Jesus, who is our Peace. Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, we come before you and we seek refuge in your Immaculate Heart. Mother of mercy, we appeal for mercy! Queen of Peace, we appeal for peace! Touch the hearts of those imprisoned by hatred; convert those who fuel and foment conflict. Dry the tears of children – at this hour, so many are weeping! – be present to those who are elderly and alone; strengthen the wounded and the sick; protect those forced to leave their lands and their loved ones; console the crestfallen; awaken new hope.

To you we entrust and consecrate our lives and every fiber of our being, all that we possess and all that we are, forever. To you we consecrate the Church, so that in her witness to the love of Jesus before the world, she may be a sign of harmony and an instrument of peace. To you we consecrate our world, to you we consecrate especially those countries and regions at war.

Your faithful people call you the dawn of salvation; Mother, grant that glimmers of light may illumine the dark night of conflict. Dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit, inspire the leaders of nations to seek paths of peace. Queen of all peoples, reconcile your children, seduced by evil, blinded by power and hate. You, who are close to all, shorten our distances. You, who have compassion on everyone, teach us to care for one another. You, who reveal the Lord's tender love, make us witnesses of his consolation and peace. Mother, Queen of Peace, pour forth into our hearts God's gift of harmony. Amen.