



**23RD Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 10 2023**



**Matthew 18:20**

**For where two or three gather  
in my name, there am I in the**

**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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**Website: [www.goodshepherdnj.com](http://www.goodshepherdnj.com)**



### 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

### A NOTE FROM FR. VALENTINE 23<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

The readings for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A focus on a conversion of heart. We are encouraged to overcome sinfulness and to go beyond merely following the letter of the law but to follow the spirit of the law and to truly love. As missionary disciples, we are also asked to support each other along the path to holiness and help each other overcome our sinfulness.

The gospel emphasizes the responsibility of the community in addressing conflicts and promoting accountability. This theme highlights the interconnectedness of believers and their role in supporting each other's spiritual journey. Jesus too assures us of his presence when two or three are gathered in His name, His divine presence is within a united community. This highlights the significance of communal worship, prayer, and decision-making.

The whole passage underscores the importance of addressing conflicts, disagreements, and sins within the community. This theme resonates with the concept of conversion and conversion of the heart as it invites individuals to examine their hearts amid wrongdoing, and seek reconciliation. It calls for individual responsibility and communitarian responsibilities.



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### 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 4:30-5:00pm

National Holidays —9:00am

Mass Intentions For the week of September 9 —September 16 2023

Saturday 5:30pm In Memory of Addolorata DiCarlo  
Sept 9

Sunday 9:00am H&WB Dylan Scott

Sept 10 11:00am H&WB Ibeagwa Ikebununo & Ihiegbanm Families & Relatives

Monday 7:00am Birthday Memorial of Luz Dolly F. Sevilla  
Sept 11

Tuesday 7:00am For the Spirit of Rogelio Gonzaga  
Sept 12

Wednesday 7:00am For the Family of Michael Nwafor  
Sept 13 7:00pm For the Repose of the Soul Alfred Tatyrek

Thursday 7:00am Mass of the Repose of the Soul of Juan Ortila  
Sept 14

Friday 7:00am H&WB of Denise Perry  
Sept 15

Saturday 8:30am For the Repose of the Soul Alfred Tatyrek

Sept 16 5:30pm For the Thanksgiving for Saint Jude

*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

Angela Freeman	Paul Kocum	Sandi Mosley	Debbie Watson	Frank Rocchi
Elizabeth Cassata	Emily Lugo	Bob and Barbara Nezlick	Pope Francis	
Frederick Hamilton	Curtis Richards	Carlos Quinones	Josephine DiPietro	
Tom O and Janice C	Jean Michelin	Corizon Abuzied	Venus Matthews	

\* 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

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



*Good Shepherd Parish Religious Education Program for 2023-2024 will be starting **Sunday, September 17, 2023**. Please complete the registration form found in the back of the church with **ALL** the information requested for **each child** that will be attending CCD, make checks payable to Good Shepherd CCD and bring to the rectory.*

*All **NEW** students must provide a Baptismal certificate*

***Classes are on Sunday mornings, 10:00AM – 11:00 AM***

***Tuition: 1 child - \$50.00, 2 children - \$75.00 , 3 or more children -\$85.00***

*If you have any questions, please call the rectory at 973-375-8568.*

Collection Report		September 3, 2023
Weekly Target		\$6,500.00
Collection (Offering+ Fuel & Energy)		\$ 4,185.00
Surplus (Deficit)		\$ (2,315.00)
<b>Fiscal Year to Date</b>		
Budget:		\$346,811.00
Actual:		\$37,930.00
Surplus (Deficit)		(\$308,881.00)
<b>Rolling 4 Week Averages</b>		
Average Collection:		\$3,753.00
Average Surplus (Deficit)		(\$2,747.00)

**Minister Assignments Sept 9– Sept 10, 2023**

Saturday Sunday	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Presider
9/9 5:30pm	Doris Omoighe	Denise Perry Barbara Banks Nellie Bate	Fr. Val
9/10 9:00am	Mariyln Amah	Alexandra Dunac Stanislaus Egeolu-Obimezie Helen Chife-Akude	Fr. Val
9/10 11:00am	Janice Camacho	Denise Perry Janice Camacho Mina Yago	Fr. Val

**GSP EVENT CALENDER**

Sunday Sept 10
Monday Sept 11
Tuesday Sept 12 The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Wednesday Sept 13 Saint john Chrysostom Doctor of the Church
Thursday Sept 14 7:00am and 7:00pm Mass The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Friday Sept 15 Our Lady of Sorrows
Saturday Sept 16 Saints Cornelius Pope and Cyprian Bishop, Martyrs

**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 4:30- 5:00 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 make 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

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## **Pope Francis warns against ideologies in Church and world**

In his conversation with journalists on the flight back from Mongolia, Pope Francis addresses various topics, including the upcoming Synod General Assembly, and reiterates that his recent remarks to young Russian Catholics was an invitation for them not to forget their cultural heritage.

**By Vatican News: On Monday September 4, 2023.**

Pope Francis held his traditional inflight press conference on Monday with journalists traveling with him on the papal plane returning to Rome from Mongolia.

He took questions on several topics, beginning with a question from a journalist from the host nation of his 43rd Apostolic Journey.

*Here follows a working English transcription and translation of the press conference:*

**Jargalsaikhan Dambadarjaa (The Defacto Gazete):**

*Thank you very much, Your Holiness, for visiting Mongolia. My question is: what was your main objective with this visit and are you satisfied with the result achieved?*

**[Pope Francis]:** The idea to visit Mongolia came to me whilst thinking about the small Catholic community. I make these trips to visit Catholic communities and also to enter into dialogue with the history and culture of the people, and with the mysticism of a people.

It is important that evangelization is not conceived as proselytism. Proselytism always restricts. Pope Benedict said that faith does not grow by proselytism but by attraction. The proclamation of the Gospel enters into dialogue with culture. There is an evangelization of culture and also an inculturation of the Gospel, because Christians also express their Christian values with the culture of their own people. This is the opposite of what religious colonization would be.

For me, the journey was to get to know the people of Mongolia, to enter into dialogue with them, to receive their culture, and to accompany the Church on its journey with much respect for them and their culture. I am satisfied with the result.

*Today, conflict between civilizations can only be resolved through dialogue, as you, Your Holiness, have said. Can Ulaanbaatar offer itself as a platform for an international dialogue between Europe and Asia?*