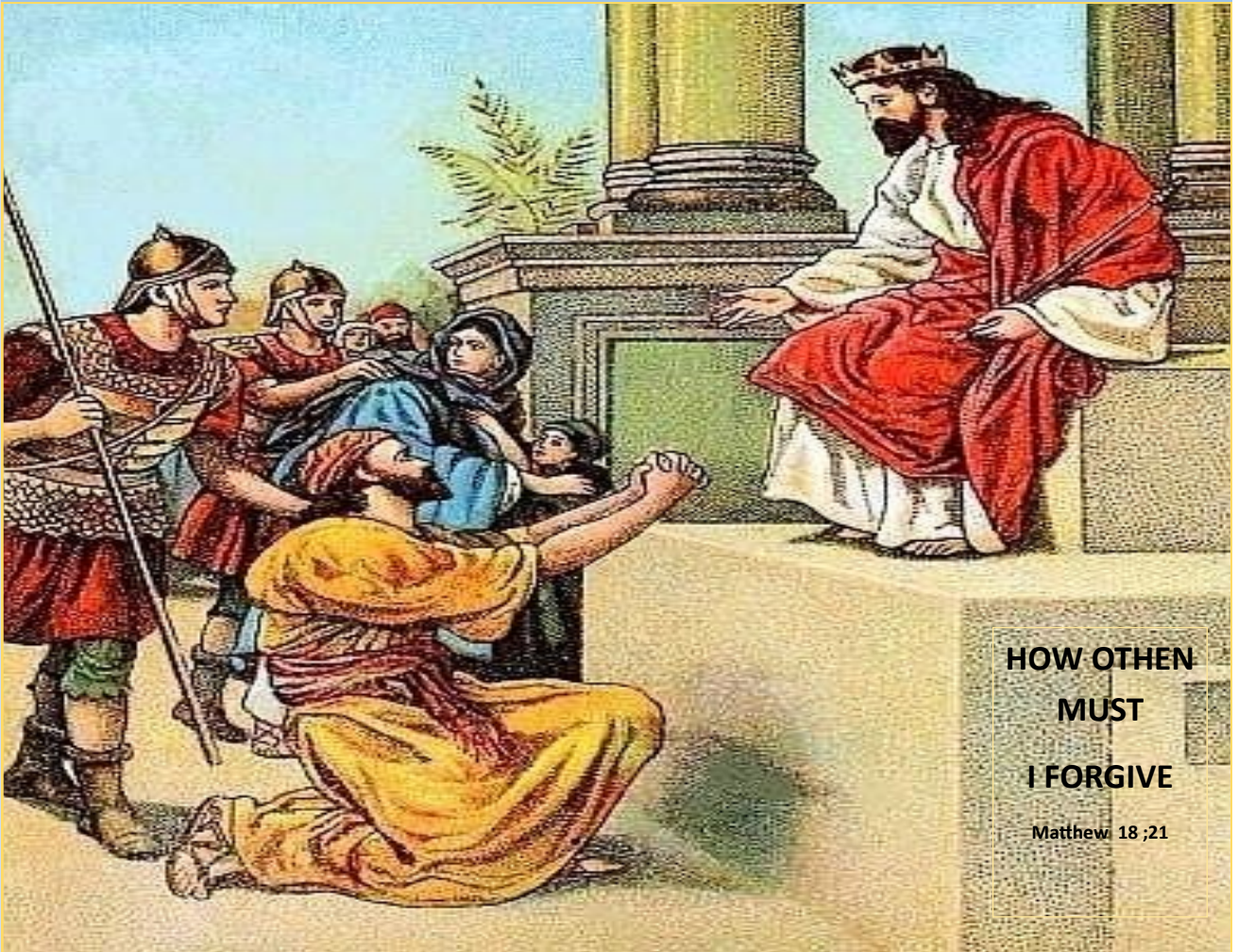




**24TH Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 17, 2023**



**HOW OTHER
MUST
I FORGIVE**
Matthew 18 ;21

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.”

954 Stuyvesant Ave Irvington NJ 07111 Phone: (973) 375-8568

Fax (973) 375-7040 Email gsirvington@comcast.net

Website: 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 24ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

There’s an old adage which says: “If you don’t know where you are going, any road will take you there.” The readings for this Sunday, 24th, in Ordinary Time for Year A focus on mercy and forgiveness. In the gospel, our Lord Jesus gives Peter and us clear directions or GPS and terms that he requires of us if we have to live as missionary disciples, we must forgive with our hearts. In the first reading we are told we must forgive each other for “wrath and anger are hateful things”. The psalm reminds us that God shows us mercy. When we have been hurt deeply, forgiveness can be daunting. When we acknowledge all the emotions that come from being hurt or wounded often makes forgiveness humanly unbearable.

But in the gospel of today, Jesus tells parables about mercy and tells Peter that we must forgive “seventy times seven” times. In response to Peter, Jesus showcases the idea that forgiveness knows no bounds. He highlights the importance of unlimited forgiveness. The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant draws a sharp contrast between the master’s mercy and the servant’s lack of it. This vividly shows the significance of being merciful to others.

Our struggle to forgive is in our human nature. Total surrender leads to the abundant transforming grace that God offers us through the Holy Spirit. The passage employs the concept of debt metaphorically to emphasize God’s immense forgiveness. It encourages us to contemplate this Divine Mercy.



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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 4:30-5:00pm

National Holidays —9:00am

Mass Intentions For the week of September 16 —September 23, 2023

Saturday 5:30pm For Thanksgiving of Saint Jude
Sept 16

Sunday 9:00am For the Repose for the Soul of Rogelio Gonzaga
Sept 17 11:00am Thanksgiving or the birth of Kayden Petgrave

Monday 7:00am For the Repose of the soul of Alfred Tatyrek
Sept 18

Tuesday 7:00am In Memory of Ann Indic +
Sept 19

Wednesday 7:00am For the Family of Michael Nwafor
Sept 20

Thursday 7:00am Mass of the Repose of the Soul of Alfred Tatyrek
Sept 21

Friday 7:00am For Micheal & Cecilia Ihiegbunam & Deceased Relatives +
Sept 22

Saturday 8:30am For Thanksgiving of Saint Martin of Porres
Sept 23 5:30pm Birthday of Mary Ann Pecoreli, Judy Lupo & Nelie Bate

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 10 2023
Weekly Target		\$6,500.00
Collection (Offering+ Fuel & Energy)		\$ 2,680.00
Surplus (Deficit)		\$ 3,820.00
Fiscal Year to Date		
Budget:		\$346,811.00
Actual:		\$40,610.00
Surplus (Deficit)		(\$306,201.00)
Rolling 4 Week Averages		
Average Collection:		\$3,642.00
Average Surplus (Deficit)		(\$2,858..00)

Minister Assignments Sept 23– Sept 24, 2023

Saturday Sunday	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Presider
9/ 23 5:30pm	Al Papp	Denise Perry Barbara Banks Nellie Bate	Fr. Val
9/24 9:00am	Paulette Anderson -Spence	Augustine Boakye Stanislaus Egeolu-Obimezie Helen Chife-Akude	Fr. Val
9/24 11:00am	Denise Younker	Janet Drews Luer Drews Denise Younker	Fr. Val

GSP EVENT CALENDER

Sunday Sept 17
Monday Sept 18
Tuesday Sept 19 Saint Januarius, Bishop
Wednesday Sept 20 Saint s Andrew –Kim Tae-Gon Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-Sang and Companions
Thursday Sept 21 Saint Matthew, Apostle, and Evangelist
Friday Sept 22 7:00pm Town Hall meeting in the church.
Saturday Sept 23 Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

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 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

Website: www.goodshepherdnj.com , Email : gsirvington@comcast.net

Pope Francis: Addressing others' wrongs 'without rancor' requires kindness, courage

Pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for the pope's weekly Angelus reflection on Sept. 10, 2023. Credit: Vatican Media

Pope Francis waves to pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for his Angelus reflection on Sept. 10 Rome Newsroom, Sep 10, 2023 / 07:05 am

To dialogue with someone who has wronged us is a process that requires “real courage,” Pope Francis said Sunday, reflecting on the theme of “fraternal correction.” In Sunday’s Gospel reading (Mt 18:15-20) Jesus says: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother.”

Fraternal correction is “one of the highest expressions of love, and also the most demanding, because it is not easy to correct others,” the Holy Father observed, speaking on Sept. 10 from a window at the Apostolic Palace to pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square. “When a brother in the faith commits a fault against you, you, without rancor, help him, correct him: Help by correcting.”

The pope went on to condemn gossip, or “chattering,” which is “not right” and is “not pleasing to God.” He called gossip “a plague on the lives of people and communities because it brings division, it brings suffering, it brings scandal, and it never helps to improve, it never helps to grow.” Fraternal correction, on the other hand, is a process that allows us to help the other person “understand where he is wrong. And do this for his good, overcoming shame and finding true courage, which is not to speak badly, but to say things to his face with meekness and kindness,” Pope Francis said. But he warned that “pointing the finger” at the other’s fault “is not good, in fact, it often makes it more difficult for those who made a mistake to recognize their mistake.”

“But we might ask, what if this is not enough? What if he does not understand?” the pope asked.

“Then we must look for help. Beware, though: not from the group that gossips! Jesus says: ‘Take one or two others along with you,’ meaning people who genuinely want to lend a hand to this misguided brother,” Francis urged.

“And if he still does not understand? Then, Jesus says, involve the community. But here, too, this does not mean to pillory a person, putting him to shame publicly, but rather to unite the efforts of everyone to help him change,” the pope said.

“And so, let us ask ourselves: How should I behave with a person who wrongs me? Do I keep it inside and accumulate resentment?” Pope Francis asked. “Do I talk about it behind their backs? ‘Do you know what he did?’ and so on. Or am I brave, courageous, and do I try to talk about it to him or her? Do I pray for him or her, ask for help to do good? And do our communities take care of those who fall so that they can get back up and start a new life? Do they point their fingers or open their arms?”

The pope asked again: “What do you do: Do you point the finger or open your arms?”

Pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for the pope's weekly Angelus reflection on Sept. 10, 2023. Credit: Vatican Media

Following his reflection, the Holy Father expressed his “closeness to the dear people of Morocco” in the aftermath of a devastating 6.8-magnitude earthquake on the evening of Sept. 8 that has left more than 2,000 people dead and more than 2,000 injured as of Sept. 10.

Pope Francis also spoke briefly about the [beatification of the Ulma family](#) in Markowa, Poland. The Nazis brutally executed the devoutly Catholic family of Józef and Wiktoria Ulma and their seven children in 1944 for hiding eight Jews in their home outside the village of Markowa in southeast Poland. This is the first time an entire family has been beatified together.

The pope highlighted the family’s courage and evangelical love, for they “represent a ray of light in the darkness of the Second World War, be a model for all of us to imitate in our desire for good and in the service of those in need.”

Pope Francis used the example of the Ulma family to call for acts of charity to counter violence, as well as prayer; especially “for many countries that suffer from war; in a special way,” he said, “let us intensify our prayers for the tormented Ukraine.”