

Welcome

HELLO, CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD FAMILY!

Welcome to our weekly CGS Guide that helps our parish families to grow in knowledge of the faith and deepen our relationship with Jesus as his disciples. As we encounter Jesus, we come to know him, love him, and serve him so that we can be reasonably happy in this life and happy with him forever in heaven.





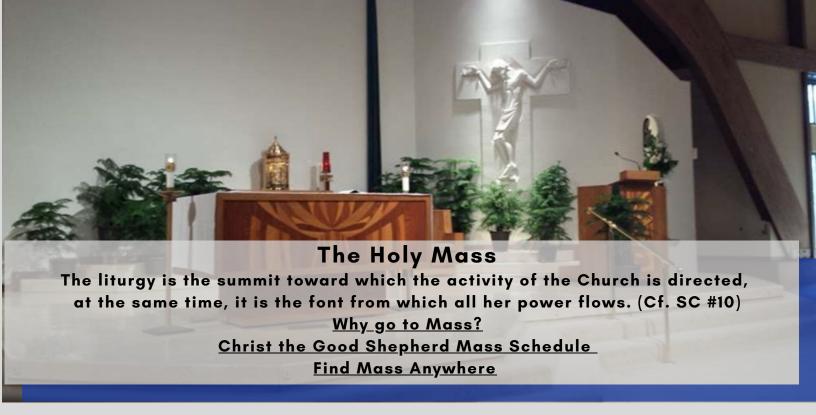
This Week

Our Hearts Burn

Our gospel this week is Luke telling the story of that first Easter afternoon when the risen Christ appeared to the two disciples who were walking together along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. The disciples are shocked that this unknown man they have met on the road was ignorant to the happenings in Jerusalem. How could anyone not know? It is only after Christ shares scripture with them, then breaks bread that their eyes were opened to seeing Jesus himself. At the moment of recognition, Jesus vanished. They asked each other were our hearts not burning within us as he spoke, opening scripture? The USSCB answers the why, "They were burning because in Jesus the disciples caught a glimpse into the heart of God and found their world made new. They saw for an instant the full scope of the Father's loving plan and its high point in Christ's death and resurrection. In that perspective, the pathway of their lives opened from confusion and despair into conviction and hope, and they began to grasp the height and depth of God's mysterious love."* After COVID, I watched as our parish came to life again, because hearts were longing/burning for what they had missed: tangible signs of God's Some hearts burned for the Word of God to be proclaimed, others for the Eucharist and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, still others for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and all of us for community and prayer. Our Catholic Faith provides us with many ways we can glimpse the Father's loving plan for each of us. This week take the time to really explore the guide question, "What is it in my Catholic faith that makes my heart burn?"

Anna Spalding

*§ 11 § Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States



We come to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

Third Sunday of Easter
readings and podcasts, Year A
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

First Reading: Acts 2: 14, 22–33
Psalm 16: 1–2, 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11
Second Reading: 1 Peter 1: 17–21
Gospel: Luke 24: 13–35

A Message About Mass
to the Parents
of Young Children

Explore

Opening the Word on FORMED

Reflecting on the Sunday Readings

Sunday Connection

Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Come as you are. Bring your family. We need prayer.

<u>See the schedule on our parish website.</u>



WE LEARN & BECOME DISCIPLES TOGETHER

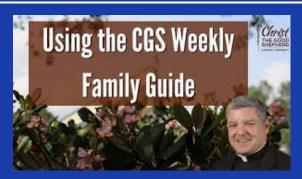
Getting Started

Why are we doing this?

How to manage a group discussion.

All underlined text is linked!

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE



Question of the Week

What is it in my Catholic faith that makes my heart burn?

Prayer

CONNECT with our GOD

- Let's start with the <u>The Sign of Cross.</u>
- As we gather to share our faith, ask the Holy Spirit to be present. Use your own words or offer a <u>Prayer to</u> the Holy Spirit.
- As someone reads out loud the Gospel for this Sunday, listen to the Lord speaking to you.
- Listen to one other as everyone shares what in the Gospel caught their attention.
- Pray the *Collect*--opening prayer of Sunday Mass.

Step One

CONNECT with our daily LIVES

When God has given you a genuine passion, you shine brightly and are an incredible force for good, what passion has God given you?



Step Two

CONNECT with Scripture and Tradition

Choose from among the following Scriptures and teachings for reading, prayer, and discussion.

In the HOLY SCRIPTURE we read:

- My heart and flesh cry out for the living God. Psalm 84:3
- (D)o everything for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church

- All divine Scripture speaks of and is fulfilled by Christ. #134-139
- Christ is present in the earthly liturgy #1088-1089

In Our Hearts Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States

§ 52 § Adults need to question, probe, and critically reflect on the meaning of God's revelation in their unique lives in order to grow closer to God. A searching faith leads to deepening conversion. Along the way, it may even experience doubt. Yet the essence of this quality of adult faith is not doubt, but search—a trusting, hopeful, persistent "seeking" or "hunger" for a deeper appropriation of the Gospel and its power to guide, transform, and fulfill our lives.

Discuss

- 1. Have you ever asked God why you or some you love was in a perticular situation? Has this helped you grow closer to Him? Explain.
- 2. Describe a time when you felt Jesus walking with you. How did make you feel? Why?
- 3. Did either of the above situations call you to a "seeking a deeper appropriation of the Gospel?" How did/do you allow this seeking to guide, transform, or fulfill your life?

WHAT IS THE CHURCH'S TEACHING?

POINTS OF UNDERSTANDING



Where they come from and ways to use them.

Want more? Go Deeper!

Reflection Question

How is Jesus calling you to walk with him? Does this make your heart burn?



Step Three

CONNECT with OTHERS...

Living the Gospel with commitment & action.

Spend time this week walking with Jesus in Sacred Scripture.

Practical Activities



For the Individual -- Do Your Own Walk to Emmaus

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus shared salvation history found in Sacred Scripture with the disciples. The letter to the Hebrews shares with us the faith of the Old Testement's saints, Jesus Christ's earthly life, and God's ultimate victory. Take the time this week on your own *walk to Emmaus* by reflecting on the <u>Letter to the Hebrews</u>.



For Couples - Reflect on your Nuptial Readings

The readings at a Catholic wedding liturgy are a proclamation of God's Word and of the Church's faith about marriage. When you got married one of the many descisions you made as a couple was which readings would be proclaimed. Take time this week to pray together over the readings you chose. If you need assistance with the reading and reflections go to For Your Marriage//Nuptial Mass Readings.



For the Domestic Church - Share Favorite Jesus Stories

Have each person answer the following questions: If you could be present at one event in Jesus' life, which one would it be and why? Look up each story in the Bible and discuss why the story is special and what it shows us about God's love.



Missionary Mindset - Invite others to learn Lectio Divina

This method of prayer goes back to the early monastic tradition. There were not bibles for everyone and not everyone knew how to read. So the monks gathered in chapel to hear a member of the community reading from the scripture. In this exercise they were taught and encouraged to listen with their hearts because it was the Word of God that they were hearing. Ask a few people to join you in this wonderful tradition. Need help on how, review these directions <u>How to Lead a Group</u> in Lectio Divina.



Sunday April 30, 2023

Cookies and Prayer Cards after each Mass

5-6:30PM Family Ice Cream Social

6:30 - 7PM Praise & Worship in the Chruch

7–9PM Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament

Closing Prayer

- We sign ourselves with the Sign of Cross.
- According to what we reflected on, or whatever is in my heart share a petition. At the end we all say: **Lord hear our prayer.**
- Then we can pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and the Glory be...
- As we finish, let us share a sign of peace with each other.



"Let us pray that families grow closer together, and together, closer to God." Fr. James

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,

As your Sacred Heart burns with love for all humanity, Make our hearts burn with love for you.

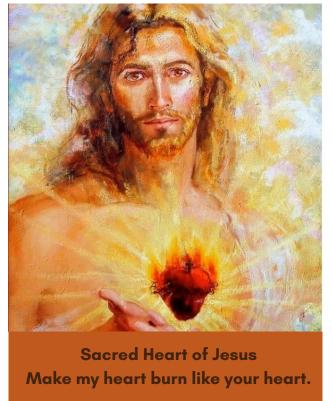
As we hear your words, which give us life, Give us the courage to love what you teach and obey what you command;

For when you were suffering alone in the desert, you yourself quoted the holy Word of God, saying:

"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

As members of your Body, the Church, for whom you gave your life, keep us always faithful to your teachings and never let us be parted from you. Amen.

(Reference Matthew 4:4 and Deuteronomy 8:3)



AT THE END OF THE LESSON OR END OF THE WEEK

From what you have learned, how would you now answer the Question of the Week?

What is it in my Catholic faith that makes my heart burn?

Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Come as you are. Bring your family. We need prayer.

<u>See the schedule on our parish website.</u>

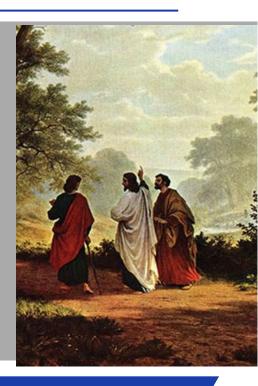


WE ARE THE CHURCH

What Makes us Catholic?

"Why were their hearts burning? They were burning because in Jesus the disciples caught a glimpse into the heart of God and found their world made new. They saw for an instant the full scope of the Father's loving plan and its high point in Christ's death and resurrection. In that perspective, the pathway of their lives opened from confusion and despair into conviction and hope, and they began to grasp the height and depth of God's mysterious love. What a profound learning experience that must have been?"

Paragraph 11 of <u>Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us:</u>
<u>A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States.</u>
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1999.



Word of the Week - Septuagint

The earliest translation of the Old Testament was the Greek **Septuagint**. The Old Testament was written mainly in Hebrew and some portions were composed in Aramaic and Greek. The original readers of biblical texts had no need to produce translations or versions in different languages, until classical Hebrew was gradually phased out as a spoken language. The Septuagint would have been translated between the third and first centuries B. C. * Scholars of many faiths have stated that Jews who lived before and during the time of Jesus used the Septuagint as well as the early Christians.

*Scott Hahn//Catholic Bible Dictionary

Faith Groups at CGS



Join a small Faith Group or start one of your own!

Ask us how.

Saints of the Month

by Jeremy Hearne



Podcast each Tuesday!

More for your Domestic Church

Find resources for your family, household, or small Faith Group, including how to use this Guide, and much more. <u>Visit our website</u> OR scan the QR code with your smart phone.



ADULT & FAMILY MINISTRY

Adulthood

Fr. Mike Schmitz//<u>Finding Balance in Your Walk with Jesus</u> -- Video (8:41)

Julien Hammond// <u>Listening with the heart I One Body</u> -- blog

EWTN//<u>The Eucharist (Season One) I The Emmaus Walk</u> -- Video (28:23)

Julian Paparella//<u>Lent and Easter: Christ transforms as we journey together</u> -- blog

DIVE DEEPER:

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops // <u>Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States</u>, 1999--an important document that is still being implemented in the USA (see esp. pages 3-5, points 2-14).

Catholic Apps



Laudate



IBreviary



Formed



Outstanding website
for those who are
married or hope
to be married!



Book Suggestions Output FIRST BAUL FIRS BAUL FIRST BAUL FIRS BAUL FIRST BAUL FIRST

Current Bible Studies

A Quick Journey Through the Bible

Monday Mornings & Wednesday Evenings

Young Adult Ministry

Ages 18-30

Monday Mornings & Wednesday Evenings
Other days, times and activities as announced.



Family Ministry

Your household is where "church" begins. Your parish is here to help you with support, resources, small Faith Groups, and gathered activities on our campus throughout the year. Visit our website or contact us if you need help.

For more ideas on how to build your home as a Domestic Church, go to: www.domestic-church.com or visit *The Family Fully Alive*, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, or Tools for Building a Domestic Church by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Early Adolescence (Jr.High, Grades 6-8)

Question: What are some things you enjoy about church? Why?

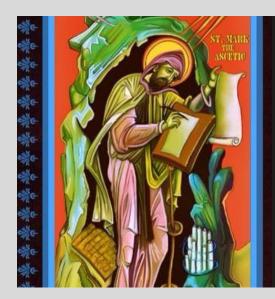
Grades 5 & 6: "Venture" by Pflaum Publishing **Grades 7 & 8: "Visions"** by Pflaum Publishing.

Ascension Presents// <u>Learning How to Love from the Bible</u> --video (8:53) Ascension Presents // <u>Why We Love the Catechism of the Catholic Church</u> -- video (7:06)

Breaking in the Habit // <u>50 Reasons Why I love Being Catholic</u> -- video (9:28) Living the Faith // <u>Why I love Being Catholic</u> -- video (0.15)

Characteristics of Adolescents & Parents Roles

Early Adolescence
Adolescence



A humble man who lives a spiritual life, when he reads Holy Scriptures, will relate all things to himself and not to others.

Saint Mark the Ascetic (Sermon 1.6)

Adolescence (High School, Grades 9-12)

Question: What are some things you enjoy about church? Why?

Odyssey // 7 Reasons Why I love the Catholic Church -- blog

Catholic Exchange // Seven Things | Like About Being Catholic -- website

Breaking in the Habit // 50 Reasons Why I love Being Catholic -- video (9:28)

Living the Faith // Why I love Being Catholic -- video (0.15)

Ascension Presents// Learning How to Love from the Bible --video (8:53)

Ascension Presents // Why We Love the Catechism of the Catholic Church -- video (7:06)



Youth Gather at CGS

Middle school and High school meet every Wednesday 7-8:30pm and Every Sunday from 5-6:30pm ending with Praise Songs from 6:30-7pm

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Birth to Age 2

The role of parents at this stage is to model the example of Jesus by offering God's unconditional love to their children and to others. Parents benefit from growing in their own faith so they are able to hand on the faith to the next generation.

Early Childhood (Ages 3-5)

Question: How does Jesus walk with you every day?
"Seeds" by Pflaum Publishing
Formed//Laugh and Grown Bible | He is Alive! -- Video (6:12)

Join a Group of Parents with Young Children-or start one! Inquire at discipleship@cgscc.church.

Characteristics of Adolescents & Parents Roles

Early Childhood
Childhood

Age-Specific Materials

Childhood (Elementary, Grades 1-5)

Question: How does Jesus walk with you every day?
Grades K-1: "Promise" by Pflaum Publishing and
Grades 2,3 &4: "Good News" by Pflaum Publishing
Sophia Institute // Ready to Use Lesson for Each Sunday
Together at one Altar // Road to Emmaus -- Article and video (2:38)





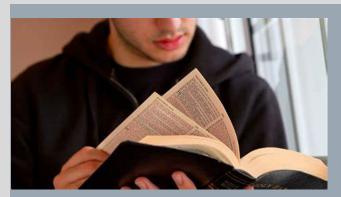
GENERAL RESOURCES

The Holy Bible

Online Bible via the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

If you don't know much about the Bible or want to learn more: Scripture Support

Catholics use the **New American Bible Revised Edition** (NABRE) as the translation for Mass readings. There are <u>many acceptable versions of NABRE</u> as well as <u>other approved translations</u>. You may purchase from any vendor. Basic editions are available upon request at no charge. Pick one up at the parish office.



Recommended Print Bibles

These are all by St. Mary's Press: Order directly from the publisher or search online for other vendors.

Catholic Family Connections Bible
(digital version available)
Catholic Youth Bible (Adolescents & College)
"Breakthrough" (Early Adolescents //Jr. High)
Catholic Children's Bible

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)

Online Catechism via the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

NEW! Simplified version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

If you don't know much about the Catechism or want to learn more: <u>Catechism Support</u>

Formed Online

Our parish subscribes to a library of online resources called **Formed.** It is excellent and free for you to use. Register at formed.org – Just click "Sign Up as a Parishioner." Need help? Watch this video.

Counseling & Spiritual Direction

Our parish offers **Rejoice Counseling** for individuals and families for a variety of issues and needs. You may use this <u>online form</u> to contact them directly.

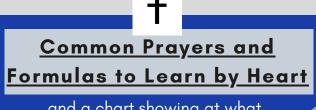
We also offer <u>Spiritual Direction</u> for anyone interested in a spiritual companion, discerning God's will in your life. Follow the links or inquire through the parish office.

Prayers and Praying

Ignatianspirituality.com//<u>Imaginative Prayer: A</u>
<u>Meeting on the Road to Emmaus</u> -- Article



Prayer Requests



and a <u>chart showing at what</u> <u>age level they should be learned.</u>

How to create a prayer table or prayer area in your home.

GENERAL RESOURCES

Sacred Art to Inspire You

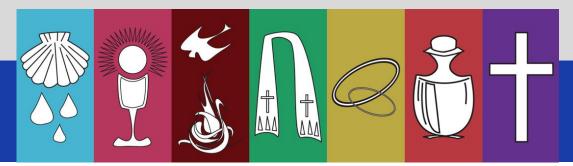
COVER IMAGE
Stephen B. Whatley// Sacred Heart of Jesus
full picture below





Music to Move You

Casting Crowns//<u>Desert Road</u>--Video (3:36) Micah Tyler// <u>Walking Free</u> - Video (3:45) I AM THEY// <u>Scars</u>-- Video (3:57)



Sacramental Information & Becoming Catholic

Visit the sacraments section of our parish website to find everything you need to get started with any sacrament or to inquire about becoming Catholic. Information is being continually updated. Contact Deacon Stacy Millsap our parish office if you have a question. We are glad to help you!



Our Vision Statement Building a community of love and hope by putting our faith into action.

This Guide is produced weekly by our <u>Office of Evangelization and Discipleship</u> for the family of Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Community.

"HELPING PEOPLE TO KNOW AND LOVE JESUS CHRIST."

How is this Guide working for you and your household?

We want to include your ideas. Share a resource, activity, or picture/video of what you are doing in your Domestic Church.

For questions, comments, and feedback, please contact us at DISCIPLESHIP@CGSCC.CHURCH



Join us on Flocknote: Text CGS to 84576.
You will receive emails & texts from CGS according to your preferences.



Official Page:

Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Church



ecgsyouth

18511 Klein Church Rd. Spring, TX 77379 (281) 376-6831 * cgscc.church

Very Reverend James Burkart, Pastor

The contents of this Guide are in accordance with the teachings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the Catechetical Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, under the pastoral care of Archbishop Daniel Cardinal DiNardo. Accordingly, the Catechetical Framework serves the definitive aim of catechesis which is to put people not only in touch with, but also in communion and intimacy, with Jesus Christ.