

Welcome to  
**Good  
Shepherd  
Parish**

Hopelawn,  
New Jersey 08861

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We are called by Jesus as a community of faith to love God and love one another by our acts of worship, fellowship and stewardship.



**March 8, 2020 • The Second Sunday of Lent**

Rev. Krystian Burdzy  
Deacon Sam Costantino  
Deacon Albert Coppola  
Maria C. Arcelay  
Wayne Behr

Administrator

R.C.I.A.  
Parish Secretary/PCL/Cemetery Coordinator  
Director of Liturgical Music

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil Mass	4:30PM
Sunday Masses:	8:30AM & 11:00AM
Daily Mass	Monday at 7:00PM ( <i>Holidays at 9am, or otherwise stated</i> ) Tuesday-Friday at 8:00AM
Holy Days	as announced
Confessions:	Saturday afternoon 3:30 - 4:00PM
Novenas:	Miraculous Medal and St. Jude Novena following Monday 7:00PM Mass St. Anthony Novena Wednesday morning following 8:00AM Mass

**THE PARISH CENTER**

Parish and Cemetery Offices  
625 Florida Grove Rd., Hopelawn, New Jersey  
Phone: 732-826-4859 • Fax: 732-826-6078  
Website: [www.goodshepherdpanj.org](http://www.goodshepherdpanj.org)  
E-mail: [Goodshepherd20@verizon.net](mailto:Goodshepherd20@verizon.net)  
Office Open Monday-Friday 9:00AM - 4:00PM  
Evenings by Appointment Only  
Closed Weekends and Federal Holidays

**PERTH AMBOY CATHOLIC**

**PRIMARY-UPPER LEVELS**

Sr. Beverly Policastro S.C., Principal  
St. Stephen School Building (732) 826-1598

**BLESSED SACRAMENT (CHAPEL)**

Located in the Parish Center  
Open for Private Prayer during office hours



## Parish Information

### *We welcome you to the Good Shepherd Parish Community!*

Please register at the Parish Office as soon as you are able to do so, and the staff will be happy to inform you about our parish and the opportunities we offer. Parish registration is required for religious education, celebration of all Sacraments and certification as a sponsor for Baptism and Confirmation. Regular Sunday worship with us indicates a practicing Catholic, not just parish registration. Attendance is necessary at weekend worship for the all sacraments and certification of sponsorship. Please notify the parish office of any changes in phone numbers, addresses, e-mail addresses or when leaving the parish.

We have hospitality Sunday, the first Sunday of the month. Please come and meet our Priest and fellow parishioners.

**Baptism:** All Baptisms are celebrated on the first Sunday of the month at **12noon**. The preparation process should begin at least three months before the planned date of the Baptism. A Baptism Preparation Class is required for parents (godparents may attend if they wish). This class is offered on the fourth Sunday of each month at **9:45 AM**. Please call the parish office to register. The date of the baptism is scheduled after attending the class. Parish membership and active worship is required for two months prior to preparation.

**Religious Education:** Provides faith filled instructions for Levels 1st through 8th. We have classes on two Saturdays a month from 8:45am to 11am. Special instructions are given for sacramental preparations.

**Initiation of Adults and Older Children:** This is an extended formation process for unbaptized or uncatechized adults or baptized Christians of other faith traditions who wish to become members of the Catholic Church, as well as for unbaptized or uncatechized school-aged children. Please contact the parish office for more information. Initiation is celebrated at the Easter Vigil after a formation period of one or two years.

**Adult Confirmation:** This is a program for persons over the age of 18 who have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Eucharist, but who never completed their initiation with the Sacrament of Confirmation. The program is a 10-12 week program, with Confirmation being celebrated on the Solemnity of Pentecost. Please call the parish office for more details.

**Matrimony:** Couples wishing to marry in Good Shepherd Parish must be registered members of our parish. They are required to make initial arrangements at least one year in advance. Four sessions with the priest or deacon, as well as Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter take place during this year. Active worship for at least two months are required before a date may be scheduled.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Anyone who is seriously ill or unable to come to church for a length of time should contact the parish office to arrange for the Anointing of the Sick. Eucharistic Ministers bring Holy Communion to homebound parishioners every Sunday, and our priest will visit on the First Friday of each month. Please call the parish office to make arrangements. The Diocese of Metuchen provides Catholic priests to serve at all local hospitals.

**Holy Orders:** If you are interested in learning more about the priesthood or religious life, contact the Vocations Office of the Diocese of Metuchen at 732-562-1990, ext. 1700 or by email at [vocations@diometuchen.org](mailto:vocations@diometuchen.org) or visit [www.diometuchen.org/vocations](http://www.diometuchen.org/vocations).

## GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

### FINANCIAL CORNER

#### Collection Report 2/23/2020

Offertory	TBA
-----------	-----

#### Collection Report 3/3/2020

Offertory	TBA
-----------	-----

#### MONTHLY OPERATING INCOME & EXPENSE JANUARY 2020

Collection Income	\$ 23,545.00
Other Income	\$ 12,620.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 36,165.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 45,660.00</b>
<b>Month's Income/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (9,495.00)</b>
Year-to-Date (July '19 –January '20)	
Income/(Deficit)	\$ (23,549.00)
Outstanding Diocesan Debt	\$ 106,067.00



### The Parish Family of the Good Shepherd Welcomes:

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Caffiero, Mrs. Violet Springle,  
Ms. Nancy Springle, Mr. Junior Jimenez & Ms. Rudi Acosta,  
Mr. Brian MacKeon Sr. & Ms. Desiree Medina,  
Mr. & Mrs. Pedro Perdomo, Ms. Kathleen Stolarz,  
Mr. Marvin Alonzo & Ms. Diana Pedro, Mr. Manuel Marcel &  
Ms. Consuelo Soto, Mr. Benjamin Rivera & Ms. Deivy Bargaf,  
Mr. Omar Maciel & Ms. Yazmin Huerta, & their families



### Votive Sanctuary Candles

If you would like to light a Votive Sanctuary candle, please see an usher before or after any Mass. Our suggested donation is \$3 each.

*Please remember to extinguish your wooden dowel before leaving the candle area. Fires can easily start.*

### ORGANIZATIONS

NAME	DAY	TIME
Holy Name Society	2nd Thursday	7:00PM
Ladies Guild	2nd Tuesday	7:00 PM
Rosary Altar Society	2nd Sunday	9:30 AM
Tuesday Seniors	2nd & 4th Tues.	12:30 PM
Wednesday Seniors	1st & 3rd Wed.	12:30 PM

*If you are interested in any of our above organizations/ministries, please contact the Parish Office for more information.*

### MINISTRIES

NAME	CONTACT	PHONE
Chairperson-Finance Council	Marty Joyce	732-826-4859
Music Ministry	Parish Office	732-826-4859
Religious Education	Maria C. Arcelay	732-826-4859



**Fr. Krystian**

My Dear friends,

As we celebrate the Second Sunday of Lent which is the path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive.

Therefore, **Lent is a great conversion experience, a period of purification** to help us become the best version of ourselves, with a special focus on the **three Lenten practices: Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving.**

**Fasting-** The purpose of fasting is to turn back to God and a sharp reminder that there are more important things in life than food. Lenten fasting helps to release us from our attachments to the things of this world and serves primarily as a spiritual exercise. We do not fast to impress other people. We fast to build our self-mastery and to embrace God more fully in our lives.

**Prayer-** Although central to the Christian experience, prayer is perhaps the most difficult thing we will ever do. Growing in character and virtue, learning to hear the voice of God in our lives, and walking where He calls us all require the discipline of prayer. **Lent is the time to know God, to know ourselves better,** and requires prayer—time when we talk to God. There are many different kinds of prayer (adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving), but in the end, prayer is simply conversation with God.

**Almsgiving-** Giving to those in need. We are called to expand the capacities of our hearts as we are invited to share the love of God with other people by being especially generous with our time, talent, and treasure. In truth, we cannot do everything, but what we can do, all of us, is make small sacrifices, and simplify our lives in some small ways so that others may simply live.

**Last Sunday in the life of RCIA** we celebrated the Rite of Election. On Sunday afternoon, the group of our candidates **Jariel Baez, Ricardo Bravo, Krystal Suarez, Darielene & Deeani Suriel & Juan Valencia** and catechumens **Edgar Puesan, Amanda & Gianna Taveras** entered into the final phase of their preparation for full communion with the Catholic Church. The celebration of the Rite of Election is a moment when the Church celebrates the direct action of the Holy Spirit in our midst as the bishop declares that those who stand before him have been elected by God and are so recognized by the Church.

**My dear Catechumens and Candidates,** please know that your experience of true conversion of heart, mind and soul, your example of faith and dedication has been a powerful example to all of us who has traveled this road with you. Each of you has been truly blessed and touched by the Spirit of God during this process and we have grown in our personal faith with you. **And for this I am most grateful to all of you.** I pray for each one of you to grow closer in your relationship with Jesus this Lent. Special thanks for the RCIA Team Deacon Mickey and his wife Colleen Coppola and also Toni Gianfrancesco, Thank you so much for your hard work your dedication to Christ and his Church and our Parish as well.

I wish you a blessed Lent!

With prayers

Fr. Krystian



**For the month of March pray for our brave soldiers & their families, those in nursing homes, and the sick and homebound of our Parish family, especially:**

Carlos Bendrell, Marie Burke, Andrea Costantino, Noah Dahlberg, Carolyn Duane, Pat Dunn, Chuck F., Victor & Melissa Ferrer, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Joseph Frisbe, Mike Gaffney, Carol George, Johnny Gondek, Richard Hajzer, Mary Harper, Nancy Hunt, Tommy Jones, Bill Karvalis, Arleen Kopin, Judy Liik, Rose Langan, Brianna Ortega, Megan Ortega, Carol Magyar, JoAnn Magyar, Fr. John Morley, Raymond Magyar, Ellen Malopolski, Maryanne Mateuszczyk, Connie & Vince Montuoro, Lynn Munoz, Mary Murray, Teresa P., Catherine Paone, Christopher Paone, Danny Parker, Dianne Petro-Duncan, Julia Possert, Caroline Pry, Stephen Pry, Ann Rapetti, Greg Rohrbacher, Fred Rose, Paul Sheena, Jack Stacey, Tamya Stacy, Maryann Suhay, Telofski Family, Dave & Louise Utter, Elsie Vega, Maryann Whalen & Bernard Yaros

**With respect to personal privacy only requests made by immediate family members will be taken.** If you would like to add or continue to keep a name on our list: call the parish office at 732-826-4859 or email [goodshepherd20@verizon.net](mailto:goodshepherd20@verizon.net).

**Please keep in mind that we pray for all the sick every day in the general intercessions of the Mass.**



## MINISTER SCHEDULE

### LECTOR

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH**

4:30PM Mary Ann Suhay

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH**

8:30AM Gabriella Conrady

11:00AM Rebecca Farley

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH**

4:30PM S. Gulyas, M. Joyce, M. Nunez, S. Petrick & Volunteer Needed

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH**

8:30AM Deacon Sam Costantino, Jose & Claudia De Jesus, C. Duane & L. Loso  
11:00AM Deacon Mickey & Colleen Coppola, L. De Jesus Sr., P. Hardish & L. Santamaria

### ALTAR SERVERS

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH**

4:30PM A. Gulyas, K. Petrick, Mackias & Zamira Ysaac

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH**

8:30AM M. Billig, K. Feliciano & K. Marmolejos & A. Ponik  
11:00AM Javier & Diego De Jesus, A. Rodriguez & J. Sierra

### PRAY FOR THEM

Please pray that our deceased loved ones  
**Sarah Payti, Rosita Stefani, Marion Slavic,**  
**Barbara Savoia, Thomas Boccippio,**  
**Louis Panigrosso & Thomas Charles Tuccillo**  
may know the joy and peace of eternal life. Pray that their  
families may be comforted.

## Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers)

Please contact the Parish Office at your earliest convenience, we will be placing our order for blazers within the next week to ensure Easter Delivery.

## CONFESSIONS

### LENTEN SCHEDULE

**Every Wednesday, 7:30-8:am**

**EVERY Saturday**

Confession will be heard from 3:30pm to 4pm

(There are **NO** Confessions on April 11th, Holy Saturday.)



## Our Good Shepherd ROSARY PROGRAM

In the three week period ending February 16th,  
we said 134, totaling 6,225 Rosaries.

**Keep going!!!**

Drop the tally sheet in the collection basket the weekend of March 8, 2020. No names are necessary. Every Rosary recorded will be counted and published in the next week's bulletin. Hopefully, our program will grow as everyone will be encouraged and reminded to pray the Rosary.

**There's no better way to say "YES" to the Blessed Mother.**

For more information visit [parishprojects.com](http://parishprojects.com)

## MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, March 9 : Lenten Weekday**

7:00PM Jonathan Signorile  
Req JoAnn & Bill Jarvis

**TUESDAY, March 10 : Lenten Weekday**

8:00AM Good Shepherd Parishioners Living & Deceased

**March 11 : Lenten Weekday**

8:00AM Beryl Behr  
Req Behr Family

**March 12 : Lenten Weekday**

8:00AM Giovanna Gianfrancesco  
Req daughter Antonietta Gianfrancesco

**March 13 : Lenten Weekday**

8:00AM Donna Miceli  
Req John Capuano

**SATURDAY, March 14 :**

**The Vigil of the Third Sunday of Lent**

4:30PM Elvin Serrano  
Req Mabel Serrano

**SUNDAY, March 15 :**

**The Third Sunday of Lent**

8:30AM Good Shepherd Parishioners Living & Deceased  
11:00AM Florence Ruggiero  
Req daughters Emily & Jean

**For the Week of March 7-13th**



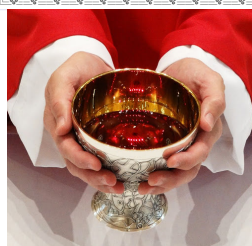
### SANCTUARY CANDLE

In Thanksgiving of  
St. Jude  
Req Linda



### BREAD & WINE

In Memory of  
Ida & Ed Aleski  
Req Linda & Manny



## RECEIVING THE HOLY COMMUNION

During this season of heightened awareness for the present situation of contagious illnesses, we have not received any advisory that would raise the level of concern. Rather, Bishop Checchio encouraged each Priest to

use his best discretion and make changes temporarily if need be.

At this time, Fr. Krystian has decided to temporarily suspend the distribution of the Precious Blood. Although, there is no prescribed display for offering the sign of Peace. It is not necessary to shake hands or hug. It is perfectly appropriate to wave.

We as a Parish will also do our part as to visibly place hand sanitizers and disinfectants in the appropriate areas for your convince. Please note, these changes are not to cause a panic we are simply taking preventive actions to safeguard your health as well as our own. May God bless you and keep you safe always!

## Purgatorial Mass Society

March 2020

William "Bill" Mauro  
Req loving wife & daughter

*Enrolled Society members will be listed in the Bulletin once a month. At every First Friday Morning Mass the names of those enrolled for the month will be placed on the Altar for one year.*



## Feeding the Homeless Monday, March 16th

The Confirmation Candidates deliver and serve food to the homeless. We could use your help by: volunteering, or with a monetary donation, or even a simple meal. Please call Mildred at (732)910-1277.  
**Thank you in advance.**

## ORGANIZATIONS

*Everyone is invited! New members are welcome!  
All meetings are held in Msgr. Gambino Hall*

**Holy Name:** Thursday, March 12th, at 7pm. Meetings are normally held once a month.

**Ladies Guild:** Tuesday, March 10th, at 7pm. Meetings are normally held once a month.

**Rosary Altar Society:** Sunday, March 8th, at 9:30am. Meetings are normally held once a month.

**Tuesday Seniors:** Tuesday, March 10th at 12:30pm. Meetings are held twice a month.

**Wednesday Seniors:** Wednesday, March 4th, at 12:30pm. Meetings are held twice a month.

## TRIPS

**Please join us!!**

All bus trips begin in our parking lot behind Most Holy Rosary Church.



**"Golden Nugget Casino" - Atlantic City, NJ**

Bus Leaves 10am, on Thursday, March 12th

Cost \$30.00, receive \$25.00 in play, \$5.00 in food. Please call Connie 732-442-4978 or Ronnie 732-442-5252.

**"Sherlock Holmes Mystery" - Hanterton Hills playhouse,**

Bus Leaves 10am, on Wednesday, April 29th

Cost \$100.00, includes, Bus, Lunch & Entertainment. Deposit of \$50.00 required. Please call Connie 732-442-4978 or Ronnie 732-442-5252.

**"River Lady Lunch Cruise" - Barnegat Bay Sight**

Bus Leaves 9am, on Thursday, July 30th

Cost \$75.00, Cruise along Barnegat Bay—includes sit down lunch with cash bar. Please call Janet Tonic 732-225-5552 or Judy Wiuff 732-738-4394.

**"Queen Esther" - Sight & Sound theater, PA**

Bus Leaves 8:30am, on Thursday, August 6th

Cost \$130.00, Deposit of \$50 required. Includes Show, Lunch at Shady Maple. Please call Janet Tonic 732-225-5552 or Judy Wiuff 732-738-4394.

**"Octoberfest" - LiGreci's Staaten, Staten Island, NY**

Bus Leaves 10am, on Monday, October 5th

Cost \$90.00, Deposit of \$50 required. Includes Show, Bus, Luncheon. Please call Connie 732-442-4978 or Ronnie 732-442-5252.

**"Germanfest" - Silver Birch, PA**

Bus Leaves 8am, on Tuesday, October 13th

Cost \$90.00, Deposit of \$50 required. Includes Bus, entertainment, family style lunch (open bar). Please call Janet Tonic 732-225-5552 or Judy Wiuff 732-738-4394.

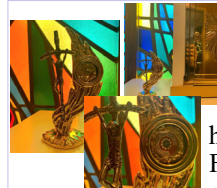


**Every Friday,  
beginning  
February 28th,  
at 6:00pm**

All Soup Dinners are prepared & provided by the generosity of our Parishioners.

*Donations are happily accepted and will be offered to the  
CRS Rice Bowl Campaign.*

*Come pray with us.*



When Fr. Jakub was visiting us from the Ukraine in October, 2019, he gifted us with a first class relic of St. John Paul II.

Catherine and Tony Paone purchased a holder for the relic, called a reliquary, which Fr. Kristian intends to display in our Church once our roof is repaired and there is no chance for any damage to the relic.

The beautiful reliquary is presently in the Chapel in the Parish Office for anyone to come during office hours to view and venerate it. We remember St. John Paul II as a saint who lived in our times, and we trust in his intercessions for us.



**2020 Easter  
Basket  
Collection  
February 29th to  
March 29th**

The Ladies Guild is the proud sponsor of the 2020 Easter Basket collection for the benefit of children at Catholic Charities. We are asking our parish community to help ensure that these children have a blessed Easter.

Tags for boys and girls, ages 3-5, will be available at the rear of the church beginning Saturday, February 29th and **must be returned by noon on Sunday, March 29th**. Buy or make a basket of goodies. Wrap it, put the tag on the wrapped basket so that the name is visible and return it to the tables in the rear of the church. Please note that if you take a tag, you are responsible for supplying a basket for that child. We do not want to disappoint any of the children.

If you have any questions, please call Chris Grege at 732-266-4670. We thank you for the continual generosity you show to those who are less fortunate.



**It's that time  
of year again!**

There will be a pre-planning meeting on **Thursday, March 26, 2020** at 7pm. If you'd like to help volunteer this year please join us!



To maintain a spirit of reverence, **please turn off or silence your cell phone during Mass.**

## RCIA - Adult Religious Education

If you are an adult over 18 years of age who has not received the Sacrament of Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation, please contact our Parish Office for more information regarding next year's classes. Registration for 2019-20 is now closed.

Our 10th session will be held on Tuesday, March 17th at 7pm.  
**We hope to see you then!**



INTERESTED IN  
BECOMING  
CATHOLIC?

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Please remember to pray for our elect/candidates as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. *Catechumens* Are **Edgar Puesan, Amanda & Gianna Taveras**. Our *Candidates* are **Jariel Baez, Ricardo Bravo, Krystal Suarez, Darielene & Deeani Suriel & Juan Valencia**. If you have not had an opportunity to select an elect or candidate to *spiritually sponsor* during Lent, please take one of their prayer cards which are at the doorways of the Church. A small note, or card, indicating your support, will help make them feel welcomed into our community. Bring it to the Parish Office, or drop it in the collection basket, addressed to the name of the elect or candidate c/o RCIA.

For more information regarding registration for next fall, call the Parish Office at 732-826-4859.

## Good Shepherd Parish 2020 Scholarship Application

Good Shepherd Parish Scholarships are awarded to young men and women of our parish who give of themselves to their school, community and the parish. To date, the parish has awarded 78 scholarships to students who are attending a Catholic high school or starting college. If you are a registered member of Good Shepherd Parish and attend weekly Mass on a regular basis, you may apply for a scholarship by picking up an application from the Parish Office located at 625 Florida Grove Road, between the hours of 9am-3pm Monday through Friday, or call the Parish Office (732-826-4859). You may also request an application to be mailed to your home or email the Parish Office at:

[goodshepherd20@verizon.net](mailto:goodshepherd20@verizon.net)

Completed applications must be returned to the Parish Office no later than **Friday, March 20th by noon**. Applications will not be accepted after that date. For more information or questions, please call the Parish Office at 732-826-4859.



In support of

**Perth Amboy Catholic Schools (PACS)**  
at Holy Trinity Church hall  
35 Lawrie St,  
March 14, 2020 7-11pm

**\$20.00 per person** with advance sale (\$25 at the door)

Doors open at 6pm) Includes 3 books for ten games & complimentary coffee & cake. Raffle baskets & 50/50 drawing will be held. All proceeds to support catholic education. For more information please call 732-826-1598 or 732-442-0512

**"Please respect the Sacred Silence"**

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2020-2021 TUITION ASSISTANCE

### ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at

<https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) no later than **March 31, 2020**. Applications are available in English and Spanish. Families that need assistance completing the online application or need access to a computer to apply should contact their school.

## Holy Water Bottles

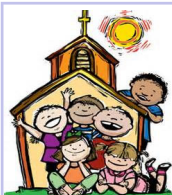
We currently have holy water bottles available for a small donation. Please contact the Parish Office 732-826-4859.



## Religious Education

*For the first time ever!!! We will be offering Religious Education to Kindergarteners beginning the September 2020-21 school year.*

*Please check back here for more information.*



If your school aged child has not received any Sacraments and is between grade levels 1-9th, or your family is new to our Parish and you would like information on how to continue your child's Religious Education, please call the Parish Office 732-826-4859.

Children registered in our program are required to attend all special sessions (additional classes) in preparation of First Communion & Confirmation.

This includes all **8th level registered Catholic School students**.





## LENTEN INSTRUCTIONS-2020

So that the Diocese of Metuchen may be spiritually one in a common observance of Lent, the following days of fast and abstinence are to be observed by all Catholics of the Diocese who enjoy the blessings of **good health**:

1. The days of **fast and abstinence** are **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**.
2. **All other Fridays** of Lent are **days of abstinence**.
3. From the **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper** on **Holy Thursday** until the celebration of the **Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday**, the **Easter fast** should be observed so that, with uplifted and welcoming hearts, we may be ready to celebrate the joys of the Resurrection. This ancient tradition, intimately connected with the **Rites of Holy Week** and the **Order of Christian Initiation of Adults**, is encouraged, especially in those places baptizing catechumens at the Easter Vigil.

The obligation to **fast** applies only to Catholics **between the ages of 18 and 59**. To fast in the Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal during the day so as to experience hunger.

The obligation of **abstinence** affects all Catholics who have **reached the age of 14**. Abstinence in the Catholic tradition means to abstain from meat and all meat products.

The obligation of fast and abstinence, as a whole, is a serious obligation. While failure to observe **any** penitential day in itself may **not be considered serious**, the failure to observe **any** penitential days at all, or a **substantial number** of them **without good cause**, would be considered a **grave matter**. Those unable to abstain for a valid reason on any given Friday of Lent are asked to perform **some other penitential act**, or to **abstain on another day**.

## 2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal

### Stepping Forward in Faith: Grace in Action

Twenty-four percent – \$1.7 million dollars – of the funds raised by the 2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal is earmarked for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. Through more than 100 programs, Catholic Charities serves those most in need of our assistance. If you have yet to make your pledge to this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal, you will have the opportunity to do so the weekend, March 21/22, which has been designated as **Bishop's Annual Appeal In-Pew Weekend**. Help us reach our target of 100% participation. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated.

## Spreading the Word

*"Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you."*

*"Genesis 12:1"*  
God calls all of us to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we may have to struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness and greed. Yet God promises to show us a new land and a better way to live. Remember what St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "God does not call us to be successful, God calls us to be faithful."



### Fish and Chips Dinner at Trinity Episcopal Church

650 Rahway Ave at Trinity Lane, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Sunday March 29, 2020

4pm to 6pm (Catered by Thistle)

Adults \$16 Child under 8 \$8

Chicken available - pre order by March 26

**TAKE OUT AVAILABLE** Call for tickets 732-634-7422



## Rice Bowl Campaign

We are called to join our faith community and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the back of the Church on weekend of Sunday March 1st. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the challenge of global hunger and how it affects our human family. *Thank you for your generosity through CRS Rice Bowl this year!*



**St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Woodbridge** is in need of volunteers to make a difference in the lives of our senior residents. If you are able to offer your time and talents, please come and spend time with them. Just talking and being with the residents or doing simple crafts with them will brighten their days. We are especially seeking ladies young at heart from **Monday to Saturdays** around **9:30 a.m. until 3:45pm**. Please come even for a few hours whatever is convenient for you. If you can help us, please call the **Activity Department of St. Joseph's Nursing Home: (732) 750- 0077** You can make a difference!

*God bless you and thank you!*



The Good Shepherd Parish has several ways in which we support each other in special personal prayer. The ways that are most familiar to many occur during Mass, during which Mass Intentions are announced. Mass Intentions are dedicated to the intentions of the petitioner and are said aloud at the end of the Prayers of the Faithful. These can be for the support of the sick, for repose of the soul of a loved one, for thanksgiving, or for other special intentions. They are mentioned during the Mass and in the weekly Sunday bulletin.

Each Mass at the Good Shepherd Parish is said in honor of a loved one. As of today, there are no more weekend Masses available. Our next available weekday Mass is in late May, 2020. Fortunately, our friend Fr. Jakub Debicki from Ukraine has offered to take your Mass requests. If you are looking for a Mass to be said immediately, you may submit your Mass Intention to be said by Fr. Jakub in the Ukraine, by calling the Parish Office.



## 11 Day Classic Austria & Germany September 22-October 2, 2020 Visiting Heidelberg, Rhine Valley, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Vienna, Munich & Rothenburg

*If you have an interest in joining us on this trip we recommend that you contact us ASAP! Our Travel company has advised us that tickets to the Passion Play are limited and selling at a very fast rate.*

*Hosted by the Good Shepherd Parish Travel Club,  
with Fr. Michael Krull,  
featuring the "Passion Play of Oberammergau".*

**\$3979 PER PERSON FROM NEWARK**

For a brochure, Please contact:

Phyllis Edwards 732-442-0843 / pwardwards64@aol.com  
Marie Acciani 732-442-442-6916 / mgacciani@gmail.com