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.

December 13, 2020 • The Third Sunday of Advent

Rev. Krystian Burdzy	Administrator
Deacon Sam Costantino	
Deacon Albert Coppola	R.C.I.A.
Maria C. Arcelay	Parish Secretary/PCL/Cemetery Coordinator
Wayne Behr	Director of Liturgical Music

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass	4:30PM
Sunday Masses:	8:30AM & 11:00AM
Adoration:	Monday at 6:00pm *(Except Holidays when Mass starts at 9:00am)* Tuesday - Friday 7:30 to 8:00AM & 8:30 to 9:00AM
Confessions:	Saturday afternoon 3:30 - 4:00PM
Daily Mass	Monday at 7:00PM *(Holidays at 9am, or otherwise stated)* Tuesday - Friday at 8:00AM
Holy Days	as announced
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
Office Open Monday-Friday 9:00AM - 4:00PM
Evenings by Appointment Only
Closed Weekends and Federal Holidays

Website: www.goodshepherdpanj.org
E-mail: Goodshepherd20@verizon.net

Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)

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

Like Us On Facebook

Follow us on Instagram

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 or visit www.diometuchen.org/vocations.

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

FINANCIAL CORNER

11/30/2020	$4,621.00
Christmas Flowers	$1,342.00
Thanksgiving	$1,288.00

MONTHLY OPERATING INCOME & EXPENSE SEPTEMBER 2020

Collection Income	$	24,595.00
Other Income	$	6,988.00
Total Income	$	31,583.00
Expenses	$	33,761.00
Month's Income/(Deficit)	$	(2,178.00)
Year-to-Date (July '20 - October 20) Income/(Deficit)	$	(19,637.00)
Outstanding Diocesan Assessment Debt **as of October 31st**	$	13,733.00
Outstanding Diocesan Roof Loan Debt **as of October 31st**	$	535,000.00

Online Giving Church Donations

We've made it more convenient to give, please visit our website and click on the green 'Online Giving" button on the top of the page, register and support your church.

We continue to thank our parishioners who mail or deliver their weekly envelopes to the Parish Office when they're unable to come to Mass. Even in these times of so many changes, suspensions and disruptions, our bills to run our Parish still need to be paid. If you are financially able, please continue to support our Church. You may mail your donations or put them in the locked mailbox, or door slot in the front of the Parish Office. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.
Stay well and God bless!

MISSING YOUR CHURCH??

We're back LIVE every Sunday 11am Mass only.

facebook

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

First Reading

IS 61:1-2A, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor,
to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God. I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

LK 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

R. (Is 61:10b) **My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked upon his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:

R. **My soul rejoices in my God.**

the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

R. **My soul rejoices in my God.**

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

R. **My soul rejoices in my God.**

Second Reading

1 THES 5:16-24

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil. May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

LK 3:4,6

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

JN 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?"
He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said:
"I am *the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord,*'" as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Fr. Krystian

My Dear Friends

Rejoice in the Lord always! (Phil 4: 4)

The lighting of the third rose-colored candle of the Advent Wreath brings us closer to the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The theme for the Third Sunday of Advent is "joy" and comes from the words of St. Paul who tells us to rejoice: "Rejoice in the Lord always!" The liturgy of this Sunday echoes the words of the apostle to support its meaning and significance as we celebrate "Gaudete" Sunday. The word "gaudete" means, "rejoice" or "be happy". Today, we are invited to reflect on the authentic happiness and joy of Christians. What is true happiness? It is being near Jesus. Unhappiness– is losing Him.

There is no greater time that I can remember that joy would be the last thing to describe life in the midst of our national and world affairs. The COVID-19 pandemic created an atmosphere of fear and chaos claiming lives of so many people. Lockdowns, social distancing, and wearing face coverings added another element of distrust and suspicion among the people of God. In addition, so many people lost their jobs, so many deals with social unrest and many others are affected by political challenges. Our personal struggles related to unexpected heath issues and many, many other problems that we face daily. So, what is so joyful about it??? Why should we be joyful?

In truth, on our own we can easily perish in the deep and turbulent waters of these situations. But the idea for us Catholic-Christians is that we are never alone. We need each other and we do so in the sharing of the gift of our faith in the context of worshipping in community. It is in today's liturgy that the Word of God meets us with an invitation to be joyful. First of all, we share in the joy of Israel who sings joyfully because God has repealed His condemnation. Furthermore, the divine presence of the Lord is in our midst with love and gladness and His power and salvation frees from all fears and renews the kingdom with its love. It is a protecting and safe presence. We rejoice because we possess the peace of God that goes beyond all understanding. This truth of the faith in God, the fruit of faith and baptism, is experienced in the liturgical celebration when we "tell God all our desires of every kind in prayer and petition full of gratitude." Finally, we rejoice because John the Baptist, the forerunner, proclaims the Good News of Christ. In light of all this, we can say that Christianity is the religion of joy. It is joy in the Lord, as St. Paul reminds us. In short, they remind us of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises, that the coming of Jesus is the essence of the Good News to hope and believe in. That God is the only source of joy and we are invited to participate to pass on that joy to others.

There is the joy of Advent that brings Jesus near to us. Therefore, happiness and joy should be essential to our Christian life. For us Catholics, joy is a state of the soul equated with happiness and it is also defined as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Joy, therefore, is not to be understood as something superficial or immature, but rather a decision supported by our behaviors and attitude to make Jesus the center of our lives. As we listen to the preaching of John the Baptist, we, too, need to respond to people in the way Jesus would. We, too, need to make His fire well up in our hearts so that our actions and deeds would conform our lives more perfectly to His. We, too, need to make ourselves authentic preachers of the same Good News Jesus preached. We need to make ourselves one with Him– the Way, the Truth and the Life. That is the direction to live a joyful life!!!!

On Thursday, December 17th, we will celebrate the Advent Penance Service at 7:00 pm. We have invited extra 3 priests to assist us. To comply with COVID-19 guidelines of social distancing wearing masks we will offer opportunities for individual confession. Also on December 18, 21, 22, 23 I will be available to hear your confession 30 minutes before and after 8 am Mass. I hope it will be plenty of time through confession receiving God's mercy, forgiveness and really preparing yourself for Christmas season.

With prayers,
Fr. Krystian

Have a blessed Third Week of Advent!

With prayers,

Fr. Krystian

For the month of December pray for those affected by Covid-19, and all hospital and nursing home personnel who are working so bravely and tirelessly , their families, our sick and homebound of our Parish family, especially:

Carlos Bendrell, Carmen Collura, 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, Nancy Hunt, Tommy Jones, Arleen Kopin, Judy Liik, Rose Langan, Louis Loso, 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, 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, Barbara White & 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.
Please keep in mind that we pray for all the sick every day in the general intercessions of the Mass.

Minister Schedule

LECTOR

Saturday, December 19th
4:30PM Linda Cruz

Sunday, December 20th
8:30AM Christine Greges
11:00AM Ben Salerno, Sr.

Thursday, December 24th
4:00PM MaryAnn Suhay
10:00PM Maria C. Arcelay

Friday, December 24th
8:30AM Gabriella Conrady
11:00AM Sian Brossard

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 19th
4:30PM Deacon Sam Costantino & M. Nunez

Sunday, December 20th
8:30AM Deacon Mickey & Colleen Coppola
11:00AM Carolina & Shawn Chichester

Thursday, December 24th
4:00PM Deacon Mickey & Coleen Coppola
10:00PM Deacon Sam Costantino & S. Gulyas

Friday, December 24th
8:30AM Deacon Mickey & Coleen Coppola
11:00AM Deacon Mickey & Coleen Coppola

For the Week of December 12 – 18th

SANCTUARY CANDLE
In Memory of
Adam Lanza (Oratory)

Teachers & Children of the Sandy Hook incident (Church)

BREAD & WINE
In Memory of
Teachers & Children of the Sandy Hook incident

BLESSED MOTHER FLOWER
In Memory of
Teachers & Children of the Sandy Hook incident

ALTAR FLOWERS
In Memory of
John A. Lesko, Jr.
Req Carol Ann

This year's Advent Wreath was donated **in memory of** Major & Mary Spear requested by Gloria Spear

PRAY FOR HER

*Please pray that our deceased loved one **Pauline Parkin** may know the joy and peace of eternal life. Pray that her family may be comforted.*

Notice to change in Daily Mass Schedule
Monday, December 28th Mass will be celebrated at 8am and there will be no Novena.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, December 14 :
St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
7:00PM Antonio Esposito, Rose & Salvatore Tedesco
Req Connie

TUESDAY, December 15 : Advent Weekday
8:00AM Teachers & Children of the Sandy Hook incident

WEDNESDAY, December 16 : Advent Weekday
8:00AM Hellen Egan
Req Estate

THURSDAY, December 17 : Advent Weekday
8:00AM Special Intentions
Req Antonietta Gianfranceso

FRIDAY, December 18: Advent Weekday
8:00AM Giovanino Gianfrancesco
Req sister Marie & family

SATURDAY, December 19 :
The Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent
4:30PM John A. Lesko, Jr.
Req Carol Ann

SUNDAY, December 20 :
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:30AM Berlingeri family
Req Biagio & Giulia
11:00AM Living & Deceased members of Good Shepherd Parish

Welcome….
The Parish Family of the Good Shepherd joyfully welcomes
Greyson Raphael Kuis
through the saving Waters of Baptism.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Saturday, December 19th, at 10:30AM
(Set up wreaths & nativity)
& Monday, December 21st, at 10:30AM
(decorate church for Christmas)

If you're interested in helping please call Linda for more information 732-826-4068. ***Please come out and help!!!***

Bambinelli Sunday

Our annual tradition, please bring in your baby Jesus from your home nativity to any Mass this weekend for a blessing.

Special Christmas Penance

Father will be offering several opportunities for Confession. Please join us on;
Thursday, December 17th at 7pm

Friday, December 18th (*before & after 8am daily Mass*)

Saturday, December 19th at 3:30pm to 4pm

Monday -Wednesday, December 21- 23rd
7:30am to 8am and 8:30am to 9am

Everyone is welcome to join us!

Religious Education

We are no longer accepting registrations for the 2020-2021 school year. If you would like information regarding next year's registration, please contact us at 732-826-4859.

RCIA - Adult Religious Education

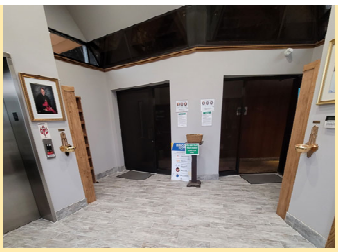
Registration is now closed

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. Our next class for registered member is:

Tuesday, December 8, at 7:00PM

Responsible young adult needed

Looking for extra help for a few hours every other day. If you have lots of patience and are interested in this paid position, please contact the Parish Office 732-826-4859.



Parish Library Update

Please be note that all books and movies have been relocated to the new bookcases in the bell tower entrance. In addition, items found previously on the credenzas have also been moved to this area.

As a reminder, all books and videos that are marked as "Return to the parish" are on loan and should be returned when you have finished with them.

Thank you.

Annual Memorial Tree

If you would like honor your loved ones with a ***Keepsake Christmas Snowflake Ornament,*** you may purchase your Memorial Snowflake Ornament from the Parish Office for $2.00. We have limited your purchases to three per family to insure availability for all members. You may use last year's ornament if you desire.

Insert your loved one's photo and place it on our Memorial Tree before or after any Mass during Christmas. When Christmas is over, you may take your ornament home with you. *Please indicate your name on the back to insure its safe return.*

Please call the office to make arrangements to purchase NOW through **Monday, December 28th.**

Feeding the Homeless

Monday, January 25th

We could use ***your*** help: with a monetary donation, or even a simple meal. Please call Mildred at (732)910-1277.

In need of a hot meal, or know someone...please join St. John the Baptist Episcopal church, 404 Division St. from 5pm to 6pm, every Monday. Prepared take-out (dinners only) to anyone that comes.

Thank you in advance.

Do You Need Help?

Please let one of the ushers know if you are unable to walk up at Communion time. A Eucharistic Minister will gladly bring Communion to you.

Coronavirus Rules

- **STAY HOME IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL.**
- **PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING.**
- **WASH** YOUR HANDS.
- **BRING** YOUR OWN HAND SANITIZER.
- **FOLLOW ALL GREEN POSTED SIGNS FOR YOUR HEALTH AND SAFETY.**
- **Our ushers will be taking the temperature of each member entering our church.**
- **Masks must ALWAYS BE WORN when entering our church.**
- **Masks must remain on during all Mass services.**
- You may sit with your family.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO GATHERING!**
- The distribution of the Eucharist will resume at its traditional placement during Mass.
- Instructions for the receiving line will be given before Mass. Please follow your Usher.
- ***FOR HEALTH REASONS THE EUCHARIST CAN ONLY BE RECEIVED BY HAND.***
  - **We would like to respect everyone's dedication to the Eucharist. If you insist on receiving it by tongue, you must wait and come at the very end of Father's receiving line to be served.**
- When receiving the Eucharist, you may bring your mask down, consume, then replace it to its original place. Then you may return to your seat.
- To avoid congestion during dismissal, the congregation will be dismissed by row.
- Your offertory donation can be placed in the baskets provided when exiting.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping us all safe!!!

LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ©LPi