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 18, 2022 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

Rev. Krystian Burdzy	Administrator
Deacon Sam Costantino	
Deacon Albert Coppola	R.C.I.A.
Maria C. Arcelay	Parish Secretary/Cemetery Coordinator/Website Admin. & Notary
Anna Krasowska	Bookkeeper/Business Manager
Margaret Russo	Director of Religious Education (PCL)
Wayne Behr	Director of Liturgical Music

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass	4:30PM
Sunday Masses:	8:30AM & 11:00AM
Adoration: *(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)*	Monday at 6:00pm only *(except Holidays when Mass starts at 9:00am)* Thursday from 8:30am to 10:30am
Confessions:	Saturday afternoon 3:30 - 4:15PM
Daily Mass	Monday at 7:00PM *(except Holidays when Mass starts at 9:00am)* Tuesday - Friday at 8:00AM
Holy Days	as announced

The Parish Center

Parish and Cemetery Offices
625 Florida Grove Rd., Hopelawn, New Jersey
Phone: 732-826-4859 • Fax: 732-826-6078
Office open for phone calls only
Monday-Thursday 9:00AM - 4:00PM
Fridays at 12Noon (only during the Summer)

Website: www.goodshepherdpanj.org
E-mail: goodshepherd20@verizon.net

Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)

Located in the Parish Center
Open for private prayer during office hours by appointment only.

(To easily access to all Good Shepherd Social Media links, visit our homepage of our website with the QR Code).

Like Us On Facebook
Follow us on Instagram
FOLLOW US ON twitter
Subscribe to our YouTube Channel

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.

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: We provide faith filled instructions for Levels 1st through 8th. There are times, due to Covid-19 we must implement virtual instruction, otherwise our program is offered in person. 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

12/4/22	TBA
E-offering	TBA
12/11/22	TBA
E-offering	TBA

MONTHLY OPERATING INCOME & EXPENSE AUGUST 2022

Collection Income	$ 26,549.00
Other Income	$ 9,479.00
Total Income	$ 36,028.00
Expenses	$ 35,111.00
Month's Income/(Deficit)	$ 917.00
Year-to-date (July '22-August '22) Income/(Deficit)	$ (20,241.00)
Outstanding Diocesan Assessment Debt **as of August 31st**	$ 8,533.00

Donations to Good Shepherd Parish

We thank our parishioners who support our parish with their weekly/monthly offerings, and are especially grateful to those parishioners and friends who are supporting our capital campaign.

Please remember all checks must be made payable to Good Shepherd Parish.

Contributions to the parish can be made in one of the following ways:

- Drop envelopes in the baskets at the church doors when you come to Mass.
- Mail your contributions to the parish office.
- Drop off your contributions in the locked mailbox or the door slot of the parish office.
- Contribute using our online giving service. You must have an email address to register for an account and you can start the process using our website's "Online Giving" button found on the top of the web-page.

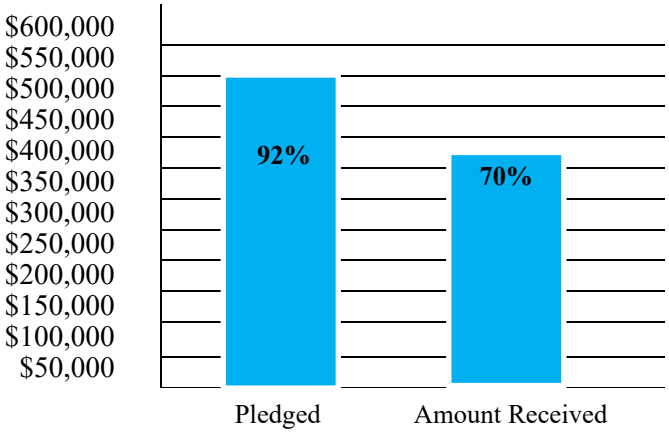
Please Note:
Checks for the capital campaign or donations for the roof must be separate from regular church donations as they go to a totally different financial institution. **Please write your name and envelope number on the envelope and label the envelope "Capital Campaign" or "Continuing Our Mission" or "Roof Project".**

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.
Stay well and God bless!

Capital Campaign
Update As of October 6, 2022

"Continuing Our Mission"

Goal: $600,000



Minister Schedule

This Week

LECTOR

Saturday, December 17th

4:30PM Lynda Vanoni

Sunday, December 18th

8:30AM Liz Shurina

11:00AM Loni Rodriguez

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 17th

4:30PM G. Conrady, Deacon Sam Costantino, S. Gulyas

Sunday, December 18th

8:30AM D. Cherubini, Deacon Mickey & Colleen Coppola

11:00AM L. DeJesus Sr., Ken & Jeanette Gonzalez

Altar Servers

Saturday, December 17th

4:30PM A. Gulyas, *Volunteers needed*

Sunday, December 18th

8:30AM *Volunteers needed*

11:00AM *Volunteers needed*

Next Week

LECTOR

Saturday, December 24th

4:30PM Ben Salerno Sr.

10:00PM Lynda Vanoni

Sunday, December 25th

8:30AM Gabriella Conrady

11:00AM Loni Rodriguez

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, December 24th

4:30PM Deacon Mickey & Colleen Coppola, K. Gonzalez

10:00PM Deacon Sam Costantino, S. Gulyas, *Volunteer needed*

Sunday, December 25th

8:30AM M. Russo, D. Cherubini, L. Loso

11:00AM Deacon Mickey Coppola, Jose & Claudia De Jesus

Altar Servers

Saturday, December 24th

4:30PM *Volunteers needed*

10:00PM A. Gulyas, *Volunteers needed*

Sunday, December 25th

8:30AM *Volunteers needed*

11:00AM *Volunteers needed*

All Saints Parish
Our sister Parish in Ukraine

Good Shepherd Parish has formed a long-term relationship with All Saints Parish in Ukraine. Although we no longer have Masses available for this 2022year, Fr. Jakob is willing to take your requests and honor your Mass Intentions at our Sister Parish ***All Saints.*** If you are interested please contact the Parish Office with your requests.

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.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 19 : Late Advent Weekday

7:00PM Edward Martin Augustyn Jr.
Req twin brother Frank & wife Marie Augustyn

TUESDAY, December 20 : Late Advent Weekday

8:00AM Living & Deceased members of the Good Shepherd

WEDNESDAY, December 21 : Late Advent Weekday

8:00AM Helen Egan
Req Estate

THURSDAY, December 22 : Late Advent Weekday

8:00AM Helen Baumlin
Req Mary C. Stankewicz

FRIDAY, December 23 : Late Advent Weekday

8:00AM Harold & Jewel Augustine
Req daughter Lillian

SATURDAY, December 24 :
The Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)

4:30PM Intentions of All Good Shepherd Parishioners

SUNDAY, December 25 :
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

8:30AM Intentions of All Good Shepherd Parishioners

11:00AM Intentions of All Good Shepherd Parishioners

For the Week of December 17-23th

SANCTUARY CANDLE
In Memory of
Helen Baumlin
Req Mary C. Stankewicz

BREAD & WINE
In Memory of
Thomas & Nicholas Hudanish
Req wife & Grandmother

BLESSED MOTHER FLOWERS
In Memory of
John A. Lesko Jr.
Req daughter Carol Ann

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

Bringing Up Gifts at Mass

If you are interested in bringing up the gifts, please be sure to let one of our ushers know before the beginning of Mass.

The Good Shepherd Parish
offers a warm
Congratulations to
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Mendez
who were married on
December 15, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Reading

Is 7:10-14

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary people, must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6.

R. **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it. For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.
R. **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD? or who may stand in his holy place? One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain.
R. **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks for him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

R. **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

Second Reading

Rom 1:1-7

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

Mt 1:23

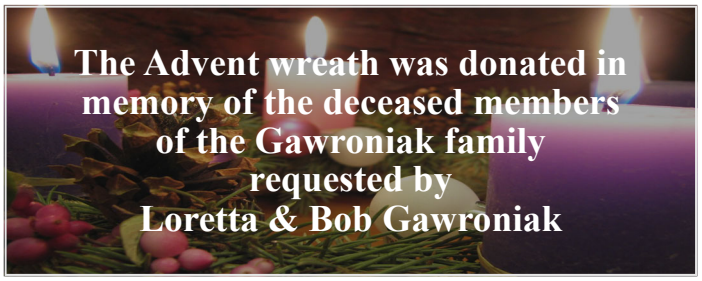
Alleluia, Alleluia
The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel.
Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

Mt 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,* which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

The Gospel
of the Lord.



Christmas Mass

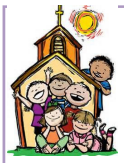
Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24th
4:30pm & 10:00pm

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25th
8:30am & 11:00am

There will be no Mass on Monday December 26th

Parish Office will close at 12noon on
Friday, December 23rd,
in observance of
The Christmas Holiday. We will also be closed on Monday, December 26th.
We will resume regular business practices on
Tuesday, December 27th at 9am.
There will be no daily Mass or Adoration on Monday December 26th.

Thank you!



Religious Education

Registration for 2022-23 is now closed.

Our next Class is scheduled for January 7th

If your 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 for **September 2023-24,** please call the Parish Office 732-826-4859, or email Mrs. Margaret Russo at gspreligioused@gmail.com.

Children registered in our program who are in levels 2 & 8 are required to attend special sessions. This is to include 2nd and 8th Grade registered Catholic School Students.

If your child is absent please make sure to contact Mrs. Russo and complete any necessary homework (*All homework can be located on our website*) prior to our next class.

Adult Religious Education

Registration for our 2022 - 2023 RCIA classes is **Closed.** If you are an adult over 18 years of age who is interested in exploring the Catholic faith or if you have not received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation, please contact our Parish Office for more information.

For those already registered or interested into our program, our next class is scheduled for :

Tuesday, January 10th, at 7pm in our church hall

Session 4: Living the Christian Life:
The Sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation

SAVE THE DATES!

- **January 8, 2023 - Hospitality Sunday**
- **February 18, 2023 - International Dinner/Parish Raffle**
- **June 2023 - Festa**
- **October 2023 - Tricky Tray**

Please check back for more details regarding any of the above events in future bulletins. If you would like to volunteer or head (be responsible for the planning) of one of the Events please contact the parish or attend any committee meeting.

CHRISTMAS DE-DECORATIONS

Please come out and help.
Tuesday, January,10th at 10:00AM

If you're interested please call Linda for more information 732-826-4068.

Holy Heroes Advent Adventure
For children ages 5-12
Fun, faithful and free activities all through Advent
Register at
www.AdventAdventure.com

With Hallow

Hallow is a Catholic prayer and meditation app that helps you deepen your relationship with God and create a daily habit of prayer through audio-guided prayer sessions ranging from 1-to -60 minutes long - there are over 5,000 unique sessions available on the app, and a version that is always free which has over 1,000 sessions available.

Hallow is currently offering their annual Advent Pray 25 Challenge, "Journey to Advent with the Chosen People" featuring the cast of The Chosen. The challenge will feature daily meditations that journey through Old and New Testament scripture to encounter the joy that Jesus' birth brings to the world. The app makes it easy to set and achieve a goal of daily prayer this Advent. You can even set reminders on your phone so you don't forget!

In order to have full access to Hallow, including the Advent #Pray25 Challenge, you can scan the QR code then follow the signup instructions.

Enjoy the free trial of the full unlocked version and cancel anytime.

FEED MY SHEEP

~Serving The Homeless~

Monday, December 19, 2022

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

If you're in need of a hot meal, or know someone...please join St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, 404 Division St. from 5pm to 6pm, every Monday. Prepared take-out (dinners only) are available to anyone who comes.

Thank you in advance.

"Resorts Casino" Atlantic City

Bus Leaves 10am on Tuesday, February 7th

Cost $35.00, receive $15.00 in play, seating is limited. Please call either Connie at 732-442-4978 or Nancy at 732-541-5929. All bus trips begin in our parking lot behind Most Holy Rosary Church.

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

Friendly Reminder

If you've made requests for Candles, Flowers or Mass Intentions for 2022-23 and haven't had the opportunity to make your donation, please contact the parish office.

For the month of December pray for those affected by Covid-19, frontline workers in hospital, nursing home personnel, Military Personnel, our sick, and homebound, and those suffering from the atrocities in Ukraine, especially those of our sister parish: Ortega, Megan Ortega, Carol Magyar, JoAnn Magyar, Nancy Milochik, Fr. John Morley, Raymond Magyar, Maryanne Mateuszczyk, Etelvina & Edite Monteiro, Lynn Munoz, Mary Murray, Teresa P., Catherine Paone, Christopher Paone, Danny Parker, Dianne Petro-Duncan, Ann Poznick

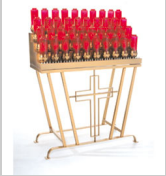
Carlos Bendrell, Bob Bunton, Ron Chabala, Carmen Collura, Andrea Costantino, Knoah Dahlberg, Chuck F., Victor & Melissa Ferrer, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Joseph Frisbe, Mike Gaffney, Bob Gawroniak, Carol George, Johnny Gondek, Richard Hijzer, Nancy Hunt, Tommy Jones, Arleen Kopin, Rose Langan, Louis Loso, Brianna , Caroline Pry, Stephen Pry, Mario Rapetti, Greg Rohrbacher, Marie Ross, Joseph Signorile, Virginia Sokolowski, Jack Stacey, Maryann Suhay, Telofski family, Melissa Telofski, Dave & Louise Utter, Elsie Vega & Barbara White.

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.***

"THANK YOU"

A sincere "Thank you" To Christina P. for her donation of Christmas trees to our Parish. Some were given to those families in need and a few were placed in our Parish. Your generous donation has touched many.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



Votive Sanctuary Candles

If you would like to light a Votive Sanctuary candle, please do so! Remember to place your donation in the collection box attached to the stand. Our suggested donation is $2 each.

Thank you!

Christmas Oplatki

The tradition of the Oplatki originated in Poland during Early Christian times. This Christmas Custom began with a simple white wafer, baked from flour and water. The wafers are wonderfully designed to display Christmas images, such as the Nativity.

HOW TO CELEBRATE THE OPLATKI TRADITION

The Oplatki are enjoyed by families, typically right before the Christmas Eve meal. The entire family will gather around the table with the Oplatki. Generally the eldest member of the family will begin the ritual by breaking off a piece of the wafer and passing it to another family member with a blessing. This blessing can simply consist of what you desire for your loved one in the upcoming year – whether it be good health, success, or happiness. The purpose of this act is primarily to express one's unconditional love and forgiveness for each member of his or her family.

THE SYMBOLISM

The significance of the Oplatki Christmas wafer is that it shadows the Eucharistic meal that Catholics participate in at each Mass. Just as we share in the Eucharist as one family in Christ and receive Christ's love through the Eucharist, the Oplatki allows for one's immediate family to come together and share the love they have for one another. This symbolism is deepened by the fact that the name of the town where Jesus Christ was born, Bethlehem, means "House of Bread," which makes the Oplatki tradition an especially beautiful way to celebrate the charity and unity so characteristic of the Christmas season.

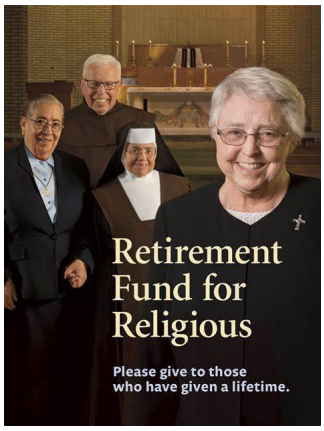
YES, EVEN FOR FAMILY PETS!

Although this tradition is primarily enjoyed by the human members of the family, even the family pets can partake in this meal. Traditionally, this corresponds to the animals that were the first to greet Christ at his birth. In current times, this can also represent the important role that pets play in the family. Whereas the wafers are generally white in color, there are colored Oplatki made especially for pets (although both colors are edible by people). We have packs of 4 Oplatki wafers which contain 3 white ones for the humans and 1 pink one for the family pets.

A SYMBOL OF FAMILY UNITY

The Oplatki tradition is one that is easy, fun, and deeply meaningful to introduce to the family anytime during the long Christmas season. All it requires is a simple wafer paired with love and affection, and the willingness to share it. This is a heartwarming tradition that will complete your family's time together during the Christmas season.

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) are currently available in the Parish office for a small donation. If you are interested, please stop by the office.



Religious give thanks. A sister writes, "We remember the many people who believe in the Retirement Fun for Religious, thanking them in prayer for their great generosity and compassion." God bless you for donation to last weeks second envelope.

Prayer for Peace – Ukraine and the World

Mary, Queen of Peace, save us all, who have so much trust in you, from wars, hatred, and oppression. Make us all learn to live in peace, and educate ourselves for peace., do what is demanded by justice and respect the rights of every person, so that peace may be firmly believe. **Amen**

Pope Saint John Paul II (1920-2005)

Did you know that our Church Ushers do more that just collect our Offerings?

Perhaps you've noticed that our Ushers try to greet the congregation as they come in, assist with seating, and offer bulletins. They can answer questions regarding location of bathrooms or cry room, religious items, bulletins and the Church Library. They help our Eucharist Ministers identify those who in need of communion in their pews, designate members of our parish to bring up the gifts, and call for medical help if necessary.

Thank you to the Ushers for serving God in serving others!

St. Andrew Church

244 Avenel Street, Avenel
Tuesdays, 7:30 PM

Doors open at 6:00 PM
Food, drinks, homemade cakes and cookies. Meet new friends!!!
Call 732 634-4355 for info.

Join us
FOR HOSPITALITY SUNDAY
Sunday, January 8th
(and every first Sunday of the month)
Following 8:30am Mass and before 11am Mass for hospitality, faith fellowship, light refreshments and an opportunity to socialize with your parish family.

If you, your family, or Parish Organization is interested in hosting a Hospitality Sunday please let us know. You may contact the Parish Office 732-826-4859, or complete the form on our Website goodshepherdpanj.org.

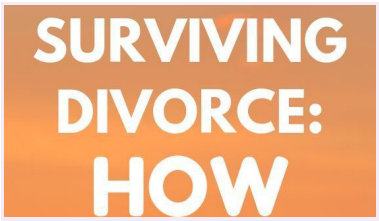
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH AT 2PM

We are holding our second annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at Good Shepherd to honor our loved ones who have passed.

If you have purchased a snowflake ornament in the past, you may put it on our tree after December 10th. We have new ornaments for sale at the Parish Office or by calling Joyce at 732-887-7800, and leave a message.

If you would like the names of your deceased loved ones read aloud at the Tree Lighting, please call the Parish Office, call Joyce or email Rose at rlund3@verizon.net. And let us know how many of your family will be coming to our refreshments in the Hall following the service.

Many thanks from the Rosary Altar Society



Surviving Divorce – For men and women seeking healing from separation or divorce. This 12-week program, while based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce. Meetings will be held on Thursdays 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM beginning March 2, 2023 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ. For more information or to register contact Ro Bersch at 908-313-5947.

3 Kings Dance

Saturday Jan. 7, 2023, 7:00-12:00
Good Shepherd Church Hall
625 Florida Grove Rd, Hopelawn, NJ 08861

Tickets are $60 per person - includes live Salsa Band, Dinner, Drinks (Beer, Wine, Sangria, Liquor, Soda, and Water)

Please contact Norberto 732-259-2630 for tickets.

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Gregory B. Chubenko
Manager, N.J. Lic. No. JP04322
Gary Earl Rumpf
Director, N.J. Lic. No. JP03353
Parishioner and Member of the Holy Name Society
Joseph P. Diaz
Director, N.J. Lic. No. JP03841

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Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.
For further information, please call the Parish Office.

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