

Church of the Good Shepherd



FIRST

RECONCILIATION

&

RETREAT



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER– APRIL 26, 2026

Week of April 27, 2026, Calendar of Events

Rosary 1st Sunday of every month 20 min. before 9am Mass

Monday, April 27th

Tuesday, April 28th

Wednesday, April 29th

Thursday, April 30th –

Friday, May 1st – First Friday Adoration & Benediction

Saturday, May 2nd

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND,
THOSE ON OUR PRAYER CHAIN, AND THE HOSPITALIZED.

Church of the Good Shepherd

Office Phone: (724)528-3539

Office Address: 3613 Sharon Road

(PO Box 226)

West Middlesex, PA 16159

PASTOR – Fr. Glenn Whitman

Email: pastor@goodshepherdwm.org

SACRAMENTAL ASSISTANT –

Fr. William Barron

RELIGIOUS ED DIR. – Lauren DeFelice

Email: religioused@goodshepherdwm.org

PARISH SECRETARY – Rhonda Dolin

Email: parishoffice@goodshepherdwm.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR – Greg Hansley

PLANT MAINTENANCE – Gary Wojtalik

KITCHEN MANAGER – Michelle Whalen

PRAYER REQUEST

Email: prayerrequestsgswm@gmail.com

Phone: (724)977-3369

COLLECTION	April 19, 2026
# of Registered Families	620
# of Envelopes Used	197
Attendance at Mass	706
Attendance Online 04/19	279
Sunday Collection	\$8,781.00
Loose Offertory	\$1,415.00
Easter Collection	\$45.00
Holy Land Good Friday	\$35.00
Children/Ascension	\$2.50/\$20.00

Mass Intention Date & Time	Intentions	Requested By
Monday, April 27 th 8:30am	Isabelle Rea	Rick & Melissa Rea
Tuesday, April 28 th 8:30am	Helen Butoryak	Joseph Butoryak
Wednesday, April 29 th	NO MASS	
Thursday, April 30 th at 8:30am	For Our Parishioners	
Friday, May 1 st at 8:30am	Patricia James	Hanssen Family
Saturday, May 2 nd at 6:00pm	Drew Mezei	Wayne Mezei & Alan & Joyce Blanke
Sunday, May 3 rd at 9:00am	Jacob Bakuhn	Andrea & Joe Wienczkowski
Sunday, May 3 rd at 11:30am	Erik Van Buren	Pamela Notoro Good

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	USHERS (HU –Head Usher)	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday, May 2 nd at 6:00pm	John Rumelfanger	David Pringle James Sobey Monica Hanrahan Fran Deeb	Mat Macchia -HU Mona Macchia Colleen Pickens	Connie Titus	Alexa & Antonio Macchia
Sunday, May 3 rd at 9:00am	Ron Carson	Mike Bartolo Ken Garver Marsha Garver Tom Hubert	Bob Devlin – HU Darlene & Don Kotuby	Amy Hubert	Andrew David
Sunday, May 3 rd at 11:30am	First Communion Students	Beth Garrett Erin Borowicz Mary Lu Walter Arlene Repko	Deb Sokolak – HU Raymond Repko John Collins	VOLUNTEER	James Maynard Rylee Adams

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, WEST MIDDLESEX, PA



FROM OUR PASTOR



“I am the Good Shepherd.”

The Fourth Sunday of Easter derives its gospel from the tenth chapter of John which describes the role of the Good Shepherd. Over several generations, it has also become a week when the church has set aside prayers that focus on the priesthood – a time to pray for an increase in the number of priests in our country. But we also know that it has become a crisis in the USA. And over the last several years both at Good Shepherd and Our Lady of Fatima, I have been unabashed in rubbing our noses in the downward spiral of ordinations the Erie Diocese is facing. And we are not alone.

We need to talk frankly about this crisis. We all know why we’re having this problem, though public rhetoric imparts the blame to this group or another. Some folks fault the ambition of Catholic parents, who push their children to pursue careers studded with financial incentives and material success. Others blame generations of church leaders, both clergy and religious, who abused their authority shamefully, mailed in their performances, and offered scant few reasons to embrace the call.

Traditionalists who blame the Vatican Council argue that the secularization of the church has led to faint feelings among the faithful toward religion in general and the Holy Eucharist in particular. Progressives say clinging to old formulas that limit who might be eligible for leadership is to blame. And a whole bunch of people simply shrug and admit that society around us is living so high on the hog, why should anyone surrender all the other occupational possibilities in favor of something as unusual as celibate service?

We can blame parents, bishops, priests and nuns, Vatican II (for changing things) or its backlash (for not changing them enough), or modern culture altogether. These factors definitely contribute to a decrease in affection

for a career in the church. But the main reason our leadership is imperiled is simpler: Catholic men and women have been choosing other directions for their lives. Institutionally speaking, we want them to want “us,” to join our mission and our vision. But the vast majority of Catholics are saying, “No thank you very much,” to that.

Is it our job as church leaders to persuade others to become like us? Or is our mandate to empower Christians to engage and fulfill their Christianity? It might make the most sense to lead our communities to understand and embrace their identity in what we’ve traditionally called the Mystical Body of Christ. If some are sincerely called to be preachers, teachers, administrators, and apostles, the Holy Spirit should be trusted to sort that out. But if current leaders do not lead their assemblies to cherish the baptismal vocation and its implications, it would be awkward, even dangerous, to prompt these same un-evangelized members to become our future leaders. Un-evangelized leadership is yet another reason how we got into this mess to begin with.

The mission of the church has been the same for 2000 years: Proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. Good shepherds know that and do it fearlessly. Equipping our parishes to know who they are in Christ will assist them in whatever these good Catholic women and men actually do choose as their life’s direction. In Christ, they will choose wisely. Apart from Christ, does it really matter what they choose?

Follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.

Fr. Glenn

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Please thank these catechists
for giving of their time and talent
to lead our children to Jesus.

First Grade: *Mary Svirbly and Andrew David*

Second Grade Reconciliation: *Christine Wiesen and Hannah Wiesen*

Third Grade First Eucharist: *Mary Ellen Doult*

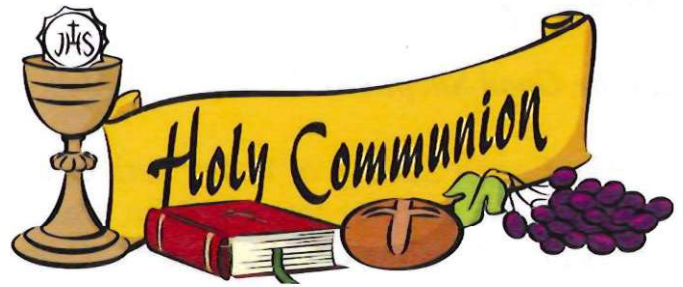
Fourth/ Fifth Grade: *Lisa Voytko*

EDGE Team grades 6 -8: *Mary Pat Hannsen, Leah Ann Williams, Maria, and Andrew David*

Confirmation Preparation: Ninth Grade
Kateri and Jeff Linn (Jim Bird)

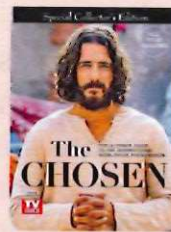
Liturgy of the Word: *Dana Adams, Heather Campbell, Priscilla Kovach, Shanay Wiley, and Laura Maynard*

Teen Shepherd Leaders: *Neil and Nanci Hosick, and Matt and Holly Macchia*



Please pray for our third graders as they prepare for First Communion on May 3rd.

Isabella Barris, Haddie Campbell, Luke Davis, Presley Gilliland, Corbin Hogg, Sophia Marmo, Marcus Maynard, Bianca Newton, and Cora Sheasley.



Adult Education Miracles of Jesus

Lauren will lead a discussion about Jesus' Miracles using the Chosen video series.

Mondays May 11 and 18 June 3

Times : 9:30am – 10:30am or

4:30pm – 5:30pm

- May 11 – Wedding at Cana
- May 18- Healing of the Paralytic
- June 1 – TBA

NO cost / signup sheets in the gathering space.

CONGRATULATIONS: TO THE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS FROM GOOD SHEPHERD!

Luke Baker

Connor Brown

Ella Dymbrowski

Cascia (CC) Linn

Sofia Logue

Armani Newton

Reagan Simmons

Zoe Wilson

CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL 2026

A *sincere thank you* to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Service Appeal.

GOOD SHEPHERD TOTALS

<i>Diocesan Assessment:</i>	<i>\$52,074.00</i>
<i>Total Pledged as of 04/13/26:</i>	<i>\$108,735.00</i>
<i>Total Paid as of 04/13/26:</i>	<i>\$76,489.00</i>
<i>Surplus after Assessment:</i>	<i>\$24,415.00</i>
<i>Parish Project Goal:</i>	<i>\$90,500.00</i>
<i>Surplus from CSA 2025:</i>	<i>\$37,419.24</i>

Remains at Good Shepherd to be used toward roof replacement on Social Center / HVAC

CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL 2026

A *sincere thank you* to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Service Appeal.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA TOTALS

<i>Diocesan Assessment</i>	<i>\$21,724.00</i>
<i>Total Pledged as of 04/07/26</i>	<i>\$38,352.00</i>
<i>Total Paid as of 04/07/26:</i>	<i>\$30,877.00</i>
<i>Over goal:</i>	<i>\$9,153.00</i>

Remains at Our Lady of Fatima to complete the restoration of our Rectory and Office after our winter water disaster.



GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD PANTRY
"APRIL FOOD DRIVE"
ASSORTED CANNED VEGETABLES



There will be grocery carts in the Gathering Space for drop-off.

God Bless and thank you
 Good Shepherd Family!

*"A generous person will prosper;
 whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."*

Proverbs 11:25

Food Pantry Committee



**FOOD PANTRY
 DISTRIBUTION
 IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 6
 FROM 3:00 - 4:30 PM**



FOOD PANTRY NEWS!
2 BIG THANK YOU'S.

To volunteers who helped
 with the distribution
 of groceries on May 6.

And a special *Thank you* to Mrs. Kristen
 Kollas and students who helped with
 bagging this month's groceries.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
SCHEDULED

Sunday, May 17th at the 11:30am Mass

**Refreshments and light snacks will be
 served after Mass in the church.**

ALL LADIES OF THE PARISH

You're invited to put on your favorite

"BLUE JEANS"

WILD WEST

**And join the Altar Rosary Society
 for**

Fellowship, fun, & food

At our end of the year Bash!!!

When: Thursday, May 7, 2026

Where: Church Social Hall

Time: 6:00pm

RSVP Before April 26, 2026 by

Calling or texting:

Cindy – (330) 717-6813

Kathy – (724) 813-3766 or

Lisa – (724) 977-0531

Hope to see you there!!!



Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquets

*Spiritual Bouquets are available for
 Mother's Day in the gathering space.
 Please complete the outer envelope in
 Memory/honor of your loved one and
 place with your donation in the basket
 provided on the table. Please keep the
 card enclosed to deliver or mail to your
 family member. A memorial list will be
 printed in an upcoming bulletin.*



Knights of Columbus

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday May 17, 2026

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

SHORT STACK FOR A TALL CAUSE

Notre Dame Multipurpose Room

Includes Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Fruit, and Drinks!



Fr. Glenn and Fr. Bill are looking for someone to cook dinner for them twice a week. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please let Fr. Glenn know. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

Good Shepherd is hosting the West Middlesex Community VBS!
Dates: July 12-July 16
more information coming soon.



Sipping with the Saints

Discover the Saints like never before!

Join us for a night of inspiring talks, live music, light hors d'oeuvres and a handcrafted beverage echoing the life of the Saint we celebrate - an evening of faith, community, and fresh perspective for adults 18+.

Babysitting also available so parents can relax and enjoy.

MAY 21

Fr. Christopher Mannerino
Priest in Diocese of Pittsburgh

Time: **7:00-8:30PM**

Doors Open at 6:30PM for Live Music

We'll be sipping with St. Philomena



RSVP Here:

Scan Here!

Call or Text: (724) 301-6127

Or Email Gabby @ youthforChrist@dioceseofErie.org

NOTRE DAME IN HERMITAGE

OUR LADY OF FATIMA CAVATELLI FOR SALE

Our Lady of Fatima's Cavatelli can be purchased in the Good Shepherd Social Hall on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9am - 11am. The cost is \$15 for a 5 lb. bag of cavatelli.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Child Abuse Prevention Month: Be Vigilant: Keeping kids safe starts with all of us. Pay attention to how people interact with children - and speak up if something feels off. Notice the signs of abuse, take them seriously and report concerns right away. If you see behavior that seems inappropriate or just doesn't feel right, don't ignore it. Reporting could prevent harm. Have questions about warning signs or what's considered inappropriate? Call the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth at 814-824-1195.



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www.thedivinemercy.org/message

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PARISHIONERS REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

STREET _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

CHECK: New Registration Change of Address Moving out of Parish Want envelopes

Please drop this information into the Offertory basket or mail to the Rectory.