

Church of the Good Shepherd



Isn't this
the Parish
Pastoral
Council
President's
space?

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 8, 2026

Week of February 9, 2026, Calendar of Events

Rosary 1st Sunday of every month 20 min. before 9am Mass
Monday, February 9th – First Communion Mtg. 6PM Youth Room
Tuesday, February 10th
Wednesday, February 11th
Thursday, February 12th
Friday, February 13th
Saturday, February 14th – Spaghetti Dinner prep.

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

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	Feb. 1, 2026
# of Registered Families	600
# of Envelopes Used	182
Attendance at Mass	600
Attendance Online 02/01	329
Offertory Collection	\$7,806.00
Loose Offertory	\$1,424.75
Catholic Communication	\$73.00

Mass Intention Date & Time	Intentions	Requested By
Monday, February 9 th at 8:30am	Norma Vranjes	Pat Bleggi
Tuesday, February 10 th at 8:30am	Diana Pavlovich Lee	John & Donna Pavlovich
Wednesday, February 11 th at 8:30am	NO MASS	
Thursday, February 12 th at 8:30am	Leslie Sok	Brother, William
Friday, February 13 th at 8:30am	For Our Parishioners	
Saturday, February 14 th at 6:00pm	Robert Kemerer	Joe & Marge Latona
Sunday, February 15 th at 9:00am	Gene Schilling	John & Linda
Sunday, February 15 th at 11:30am	Marcie Mondoc	Sandra & Barry Kimmel

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	USHERS (HU –Head Usher)	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday, Feb. 14 th at 6:00pm	Donna & John Pavlovich	Fran Deeb James Sobey David Pringle Michael Drda	John Moroco – HU Jody Drda Colleen Pickens	Cathy Moroco	Hadley & Reagan Simmons
Sunday, Feb. 15 th at 9:00am	Ron Carson	Howard Fagan Tom Hubert Ken Rogers Ron Adams	Patrick Miller – HU Vicki Miller VOLUNTEER	Amy Hubert	Vincent Miller
Sunday, Feb. 15 th at 11:30am	Jennifer Muir	Arlene Repko Ann U’Halie Erin Borowicz DJ Puskar	Deb Sokolak – HU Raymond Repko John Collins	VOLUNTEER	James Maynard

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, WEST MIDDLESEX, PA



FROM OUR PASTOR

“You are the salt of the earth...you are the light of the world.”

For almost 50 years, the Christian and Catholic churches in America and Europe have been in decline. That shouldn't be news to any of us. Not that long ago, the church was at the center of society. Its leaders enjoyed public acclaim; its opinions were valued at political discussions; its ethics were lifted up as a guide to worthy behavior; its services (health, educational, social) were sought after as guides for the young and needy.

All that has changed. Now the church is rarely mentioned in the news, except when it is shamed as a result of a leader's malfeasance or duplicity, its voice is silent except when extremists are lifted up as a caricature or buffoon. And if all that might be true for our age, how much more was it true for Christ's earliest disciples?

From what we can glean from the gospels and Paul's letters, the early church was an odd lot of fishermen, homemakers, shepherds, farmers, and tax collectors. They had no parish councils, mission statements or pastoral plans. If we used the 21st century standard of measuring the health of congregations, the early church would be considered anemic.

And so, we find ourselves centuries later attempting to meet the challenges of declining numbers, diminished services, and uncertainty about the future. And just to muddy up the waters some more, an act of God and old man winter visited Our Lady of Fatima rectory several days ago, leaving a wet and destructive path from the second floor down to the basement. The furnace cut out, water lines froze and ruptured, carpeting needs to be torn out, ceilings fell, a frozen version of Niagara Falls is attached to the dining room window, but *THE CHURCH AND BASEMENT ARE TOTALLY DRY AND COZY*, as the church has an independent water and heating system – thank God for small favors!!

Joe Perrico and Pam and Dave Rabold were Johnny-on-the-spot securing speedy service by Seth Alexander Plumbing to shut off the main, and remediation work initiated by DISS Restoration. Their prompt response helped to minimize what is already extensive damage. The days ahead will be taken up with prioritizing remediation, restoring some heat to the shell of the building so work can continue, and encouraging that “Can Do” spirit of Fatima to energize us day by day.

Dave and Pam moved computers and files to their home and day-to-day work will continue. Our Self-Insurance Program, run by Gallagher-Bassett is already working with us to sustain the efforts of the cleanup crews and to assess the loss sustained to the building, which at this point is a moving target.

The MOST IMPORTANT THING is that no one was hurt and as Pam says, “It's all just stuff!”

Back to the gospel...notice that the current 21st century view of organizational management (planning, committees, certifications) that to us might be measures of strength don't seem to be of interest to Christ as useful for Kingdom-building. Jesus DOES NOT SAY “You should be the salt of the earth,” as if we're responsible for setting goals and measurable outcomes. Nor does JESUS SAY, “You will be the light of the world,” as if to suggest that God will make this happen in the fullness of time.

Jesus says instead, “You ARE the salt of the earth,” “you ARE the light of the world.” Right now! Already! Here and now!

So what might that mean for our parishes not to try to retrieve our former “glory,” but instead to explore what it looks like to be salt and light for the world today??

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education Calendar

CLASS TIME IS FROM 10:00AM -11:15AM

- February 4 Wednesday,
First Reconciliation Parent Meeting 6pm
- February 8 Class all grades
- February 15 NO CLASS ANY GRADE
Spaghetti Dinner

Themes for

Student Spaghetti Dinner Raffle baskets

- ✦ Grades K -1 – **movie night** – examples
 - DVD, popcorn , candy
 - ✦ Grade 2 – **Pet basket** – examples
 - pet toys, treats, combs. brushes
 - ✦ Grade 3- **Summer Fun** – examples
 - sidewalk chalk, hula hoop, jump rope.
 - ✦ Grades 4-5 **Game night** –
 - card games, Yahtzee, connect four.
 - ✦ EDGE (grades 6,7,8) **3 baskets**
lottery ticket, game night , snack
- NOTE: Edge is a large class you need only donate one item total – NOT one item for each basket**
- ✦ Confirmation (grades 9) **coffee and tea**
- Please send your donations In by February 8.**

Spaghetti Dinner Basket Raffle

Spaghetti dinner raffle baskets. The religious education classes will be making themed baskets for a basket raffle during the spaghetti dinner. Since our total number of students in religious education is eighty, we will also be taking raffle basket donations.

Basket Drop off times:

Sunday, February 8 – 8am – 1pm
Monday, February 9 - 8am – 5pm
Tuesday, February 10 – NOON – 5
Saturday, February 14 – 9am – NOON
Sunday, February 15 – before 9am Mass



How does the religious education use the money?

The money is used for sacramental retreats, snacks, arts, and crafts supplies as well as VBS supplies. This parish is a great supporter of Religious Education. The catechists, teen shepherd leaders and Lauren are grateful and humbled by the parishioner's support. Thank you.

HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP?

THE PASSION NARRATIVES

Beginning on the day after Ash Wednesday, Thursday, February 19 for four weeks, there will be a Scripture Study group focusing on the four Passion narratives in the New Testament – Mark, Matthew, Luke and John. Like our sessions on the Prophet Isaiah last year, we'll follow the same format on Thursdays: 10:30 – noon / 4:00 – 5:30 pm. Registration sheets will be available in the gathering space up until Ash Wednesday.

No book will be required, but common texts of each version will be available *THE WEEK BEFORE THE SESSIONS BEGIN*. There is no cost for the sample texts, but there is homework!

Becoming Catholic

Rite of Sending

The Rite of Sending is celebrated near the beginning of Lent. In this rite the parish community sends the catechumens and candidates to the Bishop for the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion. This rite allows members of the parish community to express their approval of and support for the catechumens and candidates.

The Rite of Sending will take place at 9:00am Mass on February 15. We have a total of eleven people joining the church at the Easter Vigil this year. Five of them are children.

Catechumens (unbaptized)

Gavin Mathews	Luke Baker
Cross Arbuckle	Ava Sellers
Mackensie Attiscano	Gabby Ricker

Candidates (Baptized Christians or Catholics who did not complete initiation sacraments.)

Noah Bianco	Joshua Dobbins
Ashley Baldsberger	Bill Logan
Ainsley Cain	

Please pray for them as they continue their journey to the Easter sacraments.

Spaghetti Dinner



SUNDAY FEB. 15, 2026 11:00am-3:00pm

Advance Tickets: \$ 12 Adults/\$6 Children (12 and under)

Tickets at the Door:\$15 Adults /\$7 Children (12 and under)

*Tickets available after Mass,
beginning 1/ 17/2-26*

TAKE OUT MEALS AVAILABLE

Good Shepherd Church Social Hall
West Middlesex PA

Proceeds to benefit Religious Education

Here are the Lottery Winners from the sales of Lottery Tickets for the Altar Rosary Society.

Jan. 25. 322 \$100.00
Father Glenn

Jan. 26. 873
Kerry Milo

Jan. 27. 423
Frank Fetsko

Jan. 28. 033
Cindy Supel

Jan. 29. 378
Bonnie Smith.

Jan. 30. 374
JoJo Rahn

Jan. 31. 265
John Bradac



FOOD PANTRY NEWS! 2 BIG THANK YOU'S.

To volunteers who helped
with the distribution
of groceries on Feb. 3.

And a special *Thank you* to Mrs. Kirsten
Kollar & students who helped with bagging
this month's groceries.

GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD PANTRY "FEBRUARY FOOD DRIVE"



PASTA AND SAUCE (no glass jars please)

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

**ASH WEDNESDAY WILL BE HERE
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!
BRING YOUR OLD PALMS IN AND
PLACE THEN IN THE BIN SET UP IN
THE GATHERING SPACE.**



RECENT/NEW REGISTRATIONS

If you have filled out the Parishioner's Registration Form on the back of the bulletin, we will send you a more complete form for you to complete.

This form can either be mailed back to us or dropped off in the collection basket or in person, in the Rectory office.

I will add your name and address for the envelope company to send you offertory envelopes. However, it may take them a while to send. In the meantime, please use a blank envelope or one in the pews. Your contribution will be credited once you registered with us.

Without a completed form that we send you, the small form from the bulletin is not enough to register you.

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.

HELP NEEDED

Housekeeper Wanted:

Fr. John Hindman and Fr. Frank DiCristina are in need of a housekeeper one day every two weeks. Work would entail dusting and cleaning.

If you are interested, please contact Fr. John at 951-236-8024.

Contribution Statements for Tax Purposes

If you wish to receive a statement of giving for your 2025 income tax records, please fill out the information below. Please return it to the parish office or by placing it in the mail or in the collection basket marked to the attention of the Parish Secretary.

Full Name _____

Envelope # _____



The poster features a central white rectangle with a blue fish illustration at the top. The background is decorated with diagonal stripes in red, teal, and yellow. Text on the poster includes: 'St. Anthony Lenten FISH FRY', 'Beginning Fri., Feb. 20th and serving every Friday during Lent, including Good Friday', '4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dine In or Take Out', 'MENU' with a list of items, '\$13 Palacinke Dinner', 'TRY OUR FISH AND YOU'LL BE HOOKED', 'ANTONIUM (Sherman Ave. Entrance)', and 'Hall is Handicap Accessible'. A red starburst graphic contains the text '\$16 Fried or Baked'. A small blue plant illustration is in the bottom right corner.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments- AI-generated Explicit Images. With the rising use of AI, explicit nonconsensual images can be generated easily and without the victim's knowledge. An offender may not even need an explicit image to work from. When threatened with explicit AI-generated images being published or distributed online, victims often succumb to demands for money, in-persons meetings or worse. This can affect anyone, regardless of age or gender – but children are most at risk. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children provides a free service called, "Take It Down," that can help one remove or stop the online sharing of nude, partially nude, or sexually explicit images or videos of minors. For information visit <https://takeitdown.ncmec.org/>. For additional resources visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection/



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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.