



This is a Google Maps view of our Parish Center identifying the Meeting Room, the Social Hall, and driveway. The section of the roof that is to be replaced is bordered in **Red**. Rooftop AC units on that section will be replaced as well. A letter announcing the project and a reply envelope were mailed last week to each registered parishioner. Please consider contributing to this campaign.

**1. SOCIAL HALL**

**2. MEETING ROOM**

**3. DRIVEWAY**

**4. ROOF TO BE REPLACED**

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – FEBRUARY 22, 2026

## Week of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, Calendar of Events

**Rosary** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month 20 min. before 9am Mass

**Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> NO MASS/COMMUNION SERVICE**

**Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERV.**

**Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>– NO MASS/ COMMUNION SERVICE**

**NO** Passion Narratives this week

**Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>– NO MASS/COMMUNION SERVICE**

Stations of the Cross 6:30pm

**Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

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](mailto:pastor@goodshepherdwm.org)

**RELIGIOUS ED DIR. – Lauren DeFelice**

Email: [religioused@goodshepherdwm.org](mailto:religioused@goodshepherdwm.org)

**PARISH SECRETARY – Rhonda Dolin**

Email: [parishoffice@goodshepherdwm.org](mailto:parishoffice@goodshepherdwm.org)

**MUSIC DIRECTOR – Greg Hansley**

**PLANT MAINTENANCE – Gary Wojtalik**

**KITCHEN MANAGER – Michelle Whalen**

**PRAYER REQUEST**

Email: [prayerrequestsgswm@gmail.com](mailto:prayerrequestsgswm@gmail.com)

Phone: (724)977-3369

### COLLECTION

Feb. 15, 2026

# of Registered Families

602

# of Envelopes Used

207

Attendance at Mass

550

Attendance Online 02/15

296

Offertory Collection

\$8,207.00

Loose Offertory

\$1,489.00

Cath.Comm./Latin Am.

\$20.00/\$30 00

Ash Wed. /Easter Flowers

\$62.00/\$48.00

### Mass Intention Date & Time

### Intentions

### Requested By

Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30am

**For Our Parishioners**

Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am

**NO MASS / COMMUNION SERVICE**

Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

**NO MASS or COMMUNION SERVICE**

Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am

**NO MASS / COMMUNION SERVICE**

Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am

**NO MASS / COMMUNION SERVICE**

Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

**Margaret Supel**

**Bob & Rose Rodgers**

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am

**Frank & Helen Cook**

**Family**

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:30am

**Russell Warner**

**Family**

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### LECTOR

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### USHERS (HU –Head Usher)

### GREETERS

### ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>  
at 6:00pm

Diane Flamino

Ed Robich  
Cliff Sederland  
Michael Drda  
David Pringle

Paul Bauer – HU  
Kathy Bauer  
Jody Drda

Cyndee Adamo

Alexa & Antonio  
Macchia

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
at 9:00am

Carol Gilliland

Howard Fagan  
Tom Hubert  
Diane O'Rourke  
Mary Ann Palanti

Patrick Miller – HU  
Don & Darlene  
Kotuby

Amy Hubert

Vincent Miller

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
at 11:30am

Erin Borowicz

Erin Borowicz  
Judy Miller  
Arlene Repko  
Ann U'Halie

Pam Esposito – HU  
Raymond Repko  
Maurice Igou

**VOLUNTEER**

James Maynard

# CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, WEST MIDDLESEX, PA



FROM OUR PASTOR

***“Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.”***

If given a choice, which would you choose: a debate with the tempter of souls or the sublime gathering of angels? Most nice people do not hesitate to voice their preference for the latter. That reflex I think comes too easily – the “right answer” instead of the true one. The reality is humanity has fundamentally and regrettably chosen the infernal side of the debate – and we choose it again, oh, at least once an hour.

The first conversation in the Bible is with God. God blesses the first couple in chapter 1 and gives the first commandment – *thou shall not eat of that tree!* – to the man in chapter 2. Yet neither man nor woman seek the companionship or council of God again in the story. They actively hide from their Maker. It is God who seeks them out, significantly after their free betrayal of that singular and only commandment.

We might imagine that God could have interrupted the mini-debate between the woman and the serpent...or could have been divinely present between the woman and the man before the great betrayal was complete with the handing over of the forbidden fruit. Respecting human freedom, God remains through both transactions. God, who speaks first in the story, awaits a response from us. Original sin is the unhappy result.

You and I still have choices to make daily: to embrace the guardians of heaven or to dicker with demons. When we choose violence, prejudice, judgment, falsehood, idolatry or infidelity, we’re breaking one of the Ten Commandments that deny us access to the blessing God freely bestows on us and wants us to have. Each time we cause harm to our

neighbors or ourselves, we’re disregarding that primary commandment of Jesus to demonstrate our love for God in loving people. Every hour of history the solution is the same: Talk to God. Listen to the divine word. But each hour far too many of us incline an ear to that “Pssst! Hey buddy!” coming from the tempter’s direction.

In the tradition of the Synoptic Gospel tradition (Luke, Mark and Matthew), Jesus reenacts the Genesis moment of crisis – though not in a lush garden surrounded with creature comforts. No, Jesus stands in a wilderness, hungry and weary from fasting. And unlike the first couple who enjoyed each other’s support, Jesus is alone. The Gospel writers show us Jesus effectively in the same position we are today: suffering the result of a fallen world that is no paradise, where each of us endures the profound isolation and hunger that the Garden of Eden story reveals is the literal fruit of sin. The debate with the devil begins, but something is different this time. Instead of being swayed by his sweet lies, Jesus clings to the word of God. The devil finds such company intolerable and when he departs, the landscape is flooded with angels and the desert becomes a paradise. That is good news for all of us as we enter the Lenten desert ourselves!

Fr. Frank/Fr. Glenn



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### Religious Education Calendar

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

March 1 Class all grades

March 7 Saturday Mass participation

grades 3-5 6:00pm Mass

March 8 Class K-5 and Confirmation

March 8 EDGE Retreat – 1PM – 5PM

(more information to follow)

### 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.

**Baptisms:** *Carter Brooks Van Buren* was Baptized this weekend. He is the son of Jeff & Courtney. Congratulations to the Van Buren Family!



HERE'S  
WHAT'S COMING UP?

### THE PASSION NARRATIVES

Beginning last 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. Five sessions except for this Thursday, Feb. 26.

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!

### LADY OF FATIMA STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross on Tuesdays at 12:15pm. with communion to follow.

### LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:00pm  
at Notre Dame (Hermitage, PA)

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm  
at St. Joseph Parish (Sharon, PA)

Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm  
at Good Shepherd (West Middlesex)

Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00pm  
at Beloved Disciple (Grove City, PA)



**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

THAT'S  
ITALIAN!!!

**GET YOUR VOTE OUT THERE!**

Mercer County Food Bank is a finalist for getting a \$10,000 dollar grant from GBU Foundation, which is based out of Pittsburgh, PA. If they get this grant, it will help get food for the pantries in Mercer County and includes our Good Shepherd Food Pantry.

As a parish, we can help get this grant. All we have to do is **VOTE**. All you have to do is go online and type in [GBU.org/foundation](http://GBU.org/foundation).

Go to Vote Now and scroll to the Charitable Giving Category and click Mercer County Food Bank.

**The voting will end on February 28th.**

Thank you,  
Good Shepherd Food Pantry Team



**The annual Parish Spaghetti Dinner was a huge success!**

A record number of 572 meals were served in the dining room and takeout!

Everyone enjoyed the break in the weather and friendly fellowship over a delicious meal.

Although I am the chairperson of this dinner, a successful event like this does not occur without some tremendously talented and giving people.

I am grateful to the original Spaghetti Dinner dream team of:

John Moroco and his wife Cathy, who ordered all the supplies, made the outstanding sauce, and coordinated the meatball production.

Judy Onestak and her husband Tom, who organized the adult volunteer workers and ran the kitchen.

Ed and Meg Grober for helping with supplies, the three days of preparation, cooking, serving and cleaning up.

I'm so thankful for ALL the volunteers and I want to especially thank the following folks:

DJ Puskar and Joe Selenchak -- the pasta cooking gurus

Paul and Kathy Bauer, Gary Salatino -- coffee and drinks

Pat Miller, Ron Adams, Diane Salatino, Meg Grober, Cathy Moroco, Tom Onestak, Vicky Miller,

Lisa Saltzgeber and Monica Hanrahan -- pasta line

Lauren DeFelice -- basket raffle

Marsha Garver and Tracey Colella -- hostesses

Holly & Matt Macchia and Mary Ellen Doult -- window service

31 Teen Shepherds served the meals, set and cleared tables.

Maria David -- coordinated the Teen Shepherds

Mark Colella -- music

Judy Selechenk, Lisa Voytko, Bob & Dorothy Walczak -- ticket sales at the doors

Mary Svrby, Cindy Byers, Linda Gassner, Howard & Marylou Fagan, Linda Cook, Bonnie Smith,

Gina Szelest and Ann Evans -- salads and kitchen help



**\*CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

Pat Bleggi, Ed Robich, Mary Anne Russo, Connie Lange, Patty Holsapfel, Joyce Dickinson, Ken Garver, Laura Gargiulo and the tremendous group in the Takeout room.

Mary Ann Palanti, Jean Fetsko, Donna Pavlovich, Kathy Bauer & The Altar Rosary Society ladies and other parishioners for the outstanding homemade desserts.

Brian Biggins, Ed Grober, Don Kotuby, Cliff Sederland, Tony Russo, Gary Byers, John Wingerter, Ray Szelest, Craig Smith and the Men's Club for washing dishes & running the dish room.

I am certain I forgot to mention a few people, and for that I apologize. Please know I appreciate you all in giving of your time and talent to make this fundraiser a huge success for the Religious Education students at Good Shepherd. The financial summary will be posted in an upcoming bulletin.

Thanks again!

Leah Ann Williams

Your Parish Council President  
Spaghetti Dinner Chairperson



Parish Council: DJ Puskar, Pat Miller, Brian Biggins, Mark Colella, Gary Salatino, Marsha Garver, Deb Sokolak and Ron Adams



### Spaghetti Dinner Basket raffle

*Thank you , thank you , thank you* to all who donated baskets for the raffle. We had **38** baskets. We made **\$1500**. This parish is amazing and the parishioners always support the efforts of the Religious Education program. **We are most grateful and blessed.** A complete list of donated baskets and winners are posted on the bulletin board in the gathering space.

### Beginning this Lent

St. Joseph Church will host a Men's Rosary Group on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Choir Room. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, February 19. We will be reading *The Contemplative Rosary: With St. John Paul II and St. Teresa of Avila*, having an in-depth discussion on the mysteries of the rosary, and praying the rosary together. There will be a \$20 fee to cover the cost of the books and supplies.

To sign up, please call the church office at 724-981-3232.

Games! • Swimming! • Food! • More!

SHENANGO VALLEY  
YOUTH NETWORK

**Teen Takeover**

Sunday, March 1 • 4-7pm

Sign up for 3v3 basketball:

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## 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

**\$16 Fried or Baked** Fish Dinners include choice of: fresh cut fries or baked potato, homemade coleslaw or applesauce, and peanut butter cookie

**\$13 Palacinke Dinner**

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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.