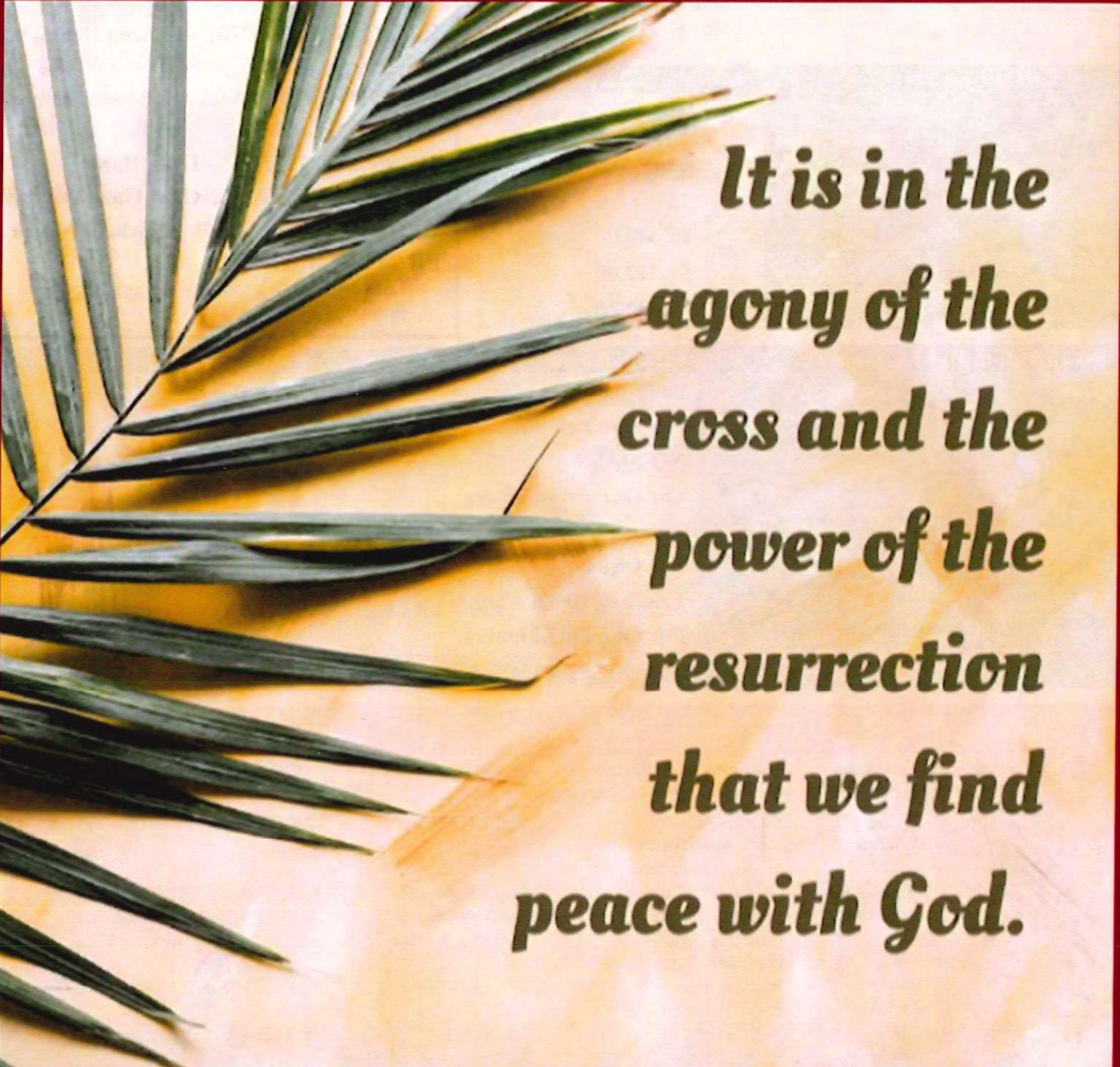


# Church of the Good Shepherd

A photograph of several green palm fronds lying on a light-colored, textured surface that resembles parchment or aged paper. The fronds are arranged diagonally from the top left towards the bottom right. The background is a solid dark red color.

***It is in the  
agony of the  
cross and the  
power of the  
resurrection  
that we find  
peace with God.***

# PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD– MARCH 29, 2026

## Week of March 30, 2026, Calendar of Events

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

**Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>** – Food Pantry Distribution 3-4:30 pm

**Holy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Mass at 7:00 pm

**Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>** – The Passion of The Lord at 3:00 pm

**Stations of the Cross 6:30 pm (All Offices Closed Today)**

**Holy Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** - Blessing of the Baskets at noon

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	March 22, 2026
# of Registered Families	616
# of Envelopes Used	207
Attendance at Mass	620
Attendance Online 03/22	329
Offeratory Collection	\$6,649.00
Loose Offeratory	\$1,212.00
Easter Flowers	\$642.00

Mass Intention Date & Time	Intentions	Requested By
Monday, March 30 <sup>th</sup> at 8:30am	Pat Jones	Ed Robich
Tuesday, March 31 <sup>st</sup> at 8:30am	For Our Parishioners	
Wednesday, April 1 <sup>st</sup>	NO MASS	
Holy Thursday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm	For Our Parishioners	
Good Friday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 3:00pm		
Holy Saturday, April 4 <sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm	For Our Parishioners	
Easter Sunday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> at 7:30am	Frank & Helen Cook	Family
Easter Sunday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00am	For Our Parishioners	
Easter Sunday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> at 11:30am	For Our Parishioners	

LITURGICAL MIN. SCHED.	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	USHERS (HU –Head Usher)	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Holy Thursday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup> at 7pm	D. Flamino D. Salatino	E. Robich, P. Williams M. Hanrahan, & C. Schwarz	Deb Sokolak	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Good Friday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 3:00am	J. Sobey P. Williams	Ed Robich Mary Ann Palanti Monica Hanrahan	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Easter Vigil Saturday, April 4 <sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm	Michael & Lyndon Cain	Charlene Cain Michael Drda Christine Swartz Gary Salatino	Paul Bauer – HU Kathy Bauer Mary Ellen Douth	Alexis Onestak	Alexa & Antonio Macchia Rianne Cain
Easter Sunday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> at 7:30am	Donna Pavlovich	Rudy Koraus Frank Langosh	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
Easter Sunday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00am	Carol Gilliland	Tom Hubert Howard Fagan Tom Sokolak Ken Rogers	Ed Grober – HU Darlene & Don Kotuby	Pat Thompson	Andrew David
Easter Sunday, April 5 <sup>th</sup> at 11:30am	Angela Dalessandro	Judy Miller Mary Lu Walters Beth Garrett DJ Puskar	Deb Sokolak – HU Mary Killingsworth Jake Bayuk	VOLUNTEER	James Maynard



*“One of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the cabal of high priests and said, “What will you give me if I hand him over to you?” They settled on thirty silver pieces. He began looking for just the right moment to hand him over. “*

What’s the point of the passion? It’s a questions many Christians are too polite to ask. We worship beneath a cross that is fearful and strange and makes us uncomfortable. We proclaim a gospel that takes a terrible route through torture, horror and agony before arriving at a gracious and uplifting victory. It’s a story we prefer to keep from small children as we fill our religious programs with stories of healing, miracles and good deeds. Some of our churches replace the traditional crucifix on the wall with an image of the Risen Lord or the great High Priest that reveals the majesty more appropriate to the end of the story than to its darkest hour.

Simply put, why didn’t God save the world another way? Why couldn’t the Almighty wipe the slate of history clean without the suffering and bloodshed? If you or I were God, we’d seek another means of executing a rescue from sin and death. If the choice were ours, we’d find a way to do the greatest good without personally undergoing the greatest anguish.

We’d seek an alternative to the cross because that’s what we already do. We’ve turned the sacred law of love into a creed of niceness. Love takes risks; we play it safe. Love suffers for the cause of justice and truth. We embrace every compromise that keeps us from conflict, even if it means adopting little white lies all along the way.

**JESUS CHRIST DIDN’T DIE ON THE CROSS SO THE WORLD WOULD BE A NICER PLACE!** Prophets didn’t suffer abuse and ridicule, saints didn’t march to their martyrdom, so that the rest of us might be pleasant and agreeable. Was Jesus pleasant and agreeable? He spoke to his mother and his friends rather harshly. He was even less polite to his opponents. Jesus wasn’t above saying insulting things to his dinner hosts. The love

he demanded of us wasn’t a matter of easy charity. To steal a description from literature/media, it was a bonfire of vanities! Jesus said he came to set such a fire burning and he couldn’t wait to see the world ablaze.

As Father Bob told us this past week during the parish mission, Divine love isn’t a stroll in the park, arm in arm, in a replenished Garden of Eden. Divine love is a curious mix of personal silence and a journey – perhaps even a mountain - that is scaled with tremendous effort, courage, and focus. It’s not unlike the Cross; it must be mounted, every limb committed and nailed in place. The point of the Passion is that love isn’t easy. It costs everything we have, and it’s worth it.

Through the Passion of the cross, we learn that God so loved the world, so loves you and me right now, that no compromise is possible, and any price is worth paying.

It’s not about being nice!

Fr. Frank/Fr. Glenn

### **THANKS VERY MUCH**

So many people made our Parish Mission with Fr. Bob Gielow, CM a memorable, challenging and uplifting experience. We don’t see too many twin brothers that are 82 years old, members of the same religious order (the Vincentians, founded by St. Vincent de Paul, titled the Congregation of the Mission “CM” for short), ordained for 55 years, with Midwestern drawl, equipped with spiritual wisdom and engaging personalities in these parts very often. What a gift to us!

It couldn’t have happened without Lauren Defelice at the helm and the volunteers who stepped up each day – Lectors: Mary Svirbly, Donna Pavlovich, Diane Flamino, Altar Servers: Antonio Macchia, Rianne Cain, Luke Seelbaugh, Eucharistic Ministers: Howard Fagan, Mary Ann Palanti, Ken & Marsha Garver, Ed Robich, Ushers: Matt & Holly Maccha, Music team of Greg Hansley, Jeff Hogue, & Jan Crews, **CONTINUED...**

the Hospitality Committee: Chuck & Deb Antonelli, Diane & Brady Flamino, Jeanna Savastano, Patty Chupak, Rhonda Dolin, and all who made goodies for the event. : Nancy Pence, Jean Colella, Meg Grober, & Mary Ann Palanti.

Special thanks to the parish Uber drivers Lauren and Garv Woitalik.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### Religious Education Calendar

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

April 5 Easter NO CLASS

April 11 Saturday First Communion Retreat  
9am – 11am

April 12 Class all grades

April 19 Class all grades

April 25 Thursday Confirmation Mass at  
Notre Dame 7:00pm

April 26 LAST CLASS

### **Becoming Catholic**

*Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation and  
Reception into the Full Communion of the  
Catholic Church*

This celebration takes place at the Easter Vigil. The elect are initiated into Christian faith and the Catholic Church through their reception of the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Candidates who have been previously baptized in another Christian church are received into the full communion of the Catholic Church and celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Candidates who have been previously baptized in the Catholic Church celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

*Period of Postbaptismal Catechesis or  
Mystagogy*

The period of Postbaptismal Catechesis or Mystagogy takes place during the Easter season following the celebration of the sacraments of initiation. It is a time for new Catholics to reflect upon their initiation, deepen their understanding of the Christian faith, and experience being fully a part of the Catholic community.

### 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>	<b>\$52,074.00</b>
<i>Total Pledged as of 03/24/26:</i>	<b>\$96,505.00</b>
<i>Total Paid as of 03/24/26:</i>	<b>\$64,542.00</b>
<i>Surplus after paid Assessment:</i>	<b>\$12,468.00</b>
<i>Parish Project Goal:</i>	<b>\$90,500.00</b>
<i>Surplus from 2025 CSA:</i>	<b>\$37,419.24</b>
<i>Remains at Good Shepherd to be used toward roof replacement on Social Center / HVAC.</i>	

### CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL 2026

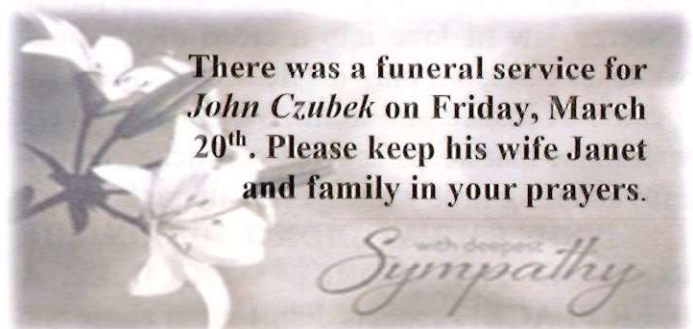
A *sincere thank you* to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Service Appeal.

#### OUR LADY OF FATIMA TOTALS

<i>Diocesan Assessment</i>	<b>\$21,724.00</b>
<i>Total Pledged as of 03/09/26</i>	<b>\$32,862.00</b>
<i>Surplus after Assessment</i>	<b>\$4,150.00</b>
<i>Remains at Our Lady of Fatima to complete the restoration of our Rectory and Office after our winter water disaster.</i>	

### 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.



**ALL OFFICES ARE CLOSED  
FRIDAY, APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>. WE WILL  
REOPEN ON MONDAY, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>.**

**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, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>  
 FROM 3:00 - 4:30 PM**



**FOOD PANTRY NEWS!  
2 BIG THANK YOU'S.**

To volunteers who helped  
 with the distribution  
 of groceries on April 1.

And a special *Thank you* to our Religious  
 Ed. students who helped with bagging this  
 month's groceries.

**NO ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY  
 MEETING APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>.**

**ALTAR ROSARY WILL MEET ON  
 THURSDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>.**

**EASTER  
 EGG HUNT**

**GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH**  
**DATE: EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 5**  
**TIME: AFTER 9:00AM**  
**PLACE: WEATHER PERMITTING**  
**IN THE GRASSY AREA**  
**BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND THE WEST MIDDLESEX SCHOOLS**  
INCLEMENT WEATHER: HUNT WILL BE HELD  
 IN THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BUILDING  
**BRING YOUR OWN BASKET**  
**ALL CHILDREN WELCOME**  
**TODDLERS TO GRADE 5 (AGE 12)**



**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

❖ **HOLY THURSDAY,  
 APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>**



**MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER  
 AT 7PM.**

**ADORATION FOLLOWING  
 UNTIL 11PM.**

❖ **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL  
 3<sup>RD</sup>**



**LITURGY AT 3PM**  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
 AT 6:30PM**

❖ **HOLY SATURDAY,  
 APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>**

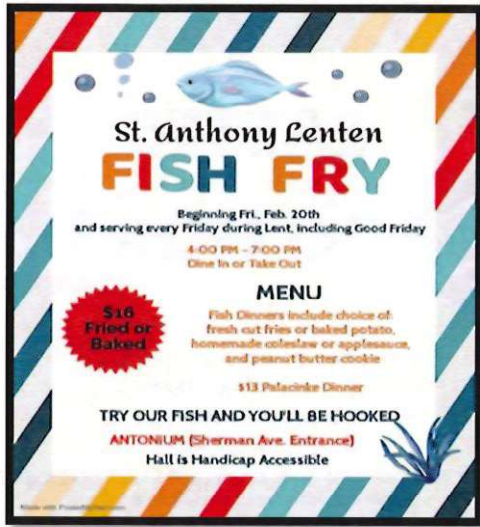


**NOON - BLESSING  
 OF THE BASKETS**  
**EASTER VIGIL AT 8:30PM**

❖ **EASTER SUNDAY,  
 APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>**



**MASSES AT 7:30AM (NO MUSIC),  
 9AM, & 11:30AM (WITH MUSIC).**



**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 Palacinka Dinner**

TRY OUR FISH AND YOU'LL BE HOOKED

ANTONIUM (Sherman Ave. Entrance)  
Hall is Handicap Accessible

**A NOTE ABOUT YOUR ENVELOPES FROM THE DISTRIBUTOR**

"We are writing to provide information on a potential for late delivery of your upcoming supply of donation envelopes to your parishioners. This is due to equipment issues that occurred at our production facility, compounded by unexpected delays in receiving critical replacement parts from overseas suppliers. We sincerely apologize in advance for the inconvenience this causes your parish's stewardship efforts and offertory collections."

"We are projecting to be back to our normal delivery schedule shortly. Our team is working additional longer shifts, including weekends, to get fully caught up and minimize any further impact."



**25th Anniversary!**

**Strike Out Poverty**

**BOWL-A-THON**  
PRINCE OF PEACE CENTER

April 19, 2026 • 10 Pin Alley, Hermitage • 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**\$35 individual contribution includes:**

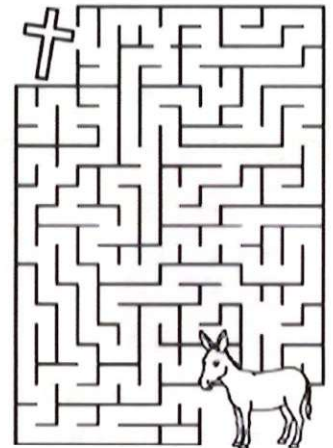
- three games
- event t-shirt
- door prize
- shoe rental
- lunch
- entry

**Sponsors, bowlers, & more info:**  
[www.princeofpeacecenter.org/2026-bowlathon](http://www.princeofpeacecenter.org/2026-bowlathon)

OR 

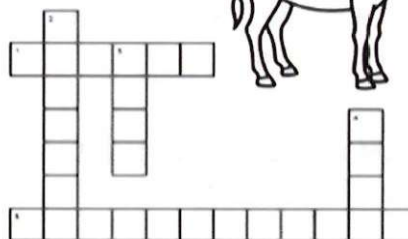
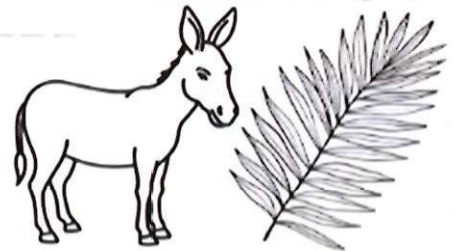
*We look forward to seeing you there!*

Questions or more info?  
724-346-5777



Unscramble the letters to reveal the word.

- YKQEND \_\_\_\_\_
- LUMA \_\_\_\_\_
- NSOMINA \_\_\_\_\_
- VAEIV \_\_\_\_\_
- EDRO \_\_\_\_\_
- YKCN \_\_\_\_\_



- Across**
1. Jesus rode this into Jerusalem
  5. People waved these in the air
- Down**
2. People shouted \_\_\_\_\_
  3. People said Jesus was the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel
  4. Blessed is he who comes in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord



**EMPTY BOWLS**  
Thursday, April 23rd  
from 4-7pm  
Hickory VFW Post 6166  
5550 E State St.  
Hermitage, PA

*Have questions about the event? Contact Patty at 724-981-0353 ext. 103*

**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.



**Flynn's Tire**  
& Auto Service

*Save Time, Shop Online!*

**LOWEST TIRE PRICES  
GUARANTEED!!!**

[www.FlynnTire.com](http://www.FlynnTire.com)

**"MORE GOOD  
HAIR DAYS"**

**10% off**

Your First Appointment  
With a Copy of This Ad

**Kenneth's Beauty Salon**

441 State Rt 18 - New Wilmington, PA  
Salon - 724-946-2771 Text - 724-944-9556

**DAVANO**  
PAVING CO.

**DRIVEWAYS - PARKING LOTS  
RESURFACING - SEALCOATING**  
*"PAVING THE WAY SINCE 1957"*

**724-528-9575**

**CENTRAL  
Heating & Plumbing**

Reliable Service  
Since 1967

NEW CASTLE GROVE CITY  
SHARON

[www.centralheatingandplumbing.com](http://www.centralheatingandplumbing.com)



**Nelcom  
Technologies**

**MANAGED IT SERVICES**

3009 Wilmington Rd - Suite B  
New Castle, PA 16105  
**724-654-4007**

**"We Do IT Better"**

*A Catholic community  
foundation serving you*



814-824-1237  
[MyCatholicFoundation.org](http://MyCatholicFoundation.org)

**JOHN FLYNN**  
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY INC  
Serving All Faiths & Cemeteries

2630 E. State St Hermitage, PA 724-347-5000  
BRIAN R UZARSKI Funeral Director

**GEALY**  
MEMORIALS  
MONUMENTS  
**724-342-5186**  
Hermitage Pa

For advertising information, contact Jim Sarvas • (724) 301-7825



J. BRADLEY  
**McGonigle**  
Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc

724-347-7575

[www.McGonigleFuneralHomeandCrematory.com](http://www.McGonigleFuneralHomeandCrematory.com)

## Tam O'Shanter

Golf Course  
I-80 & Rt. 18 North  
Hermitage 981-3552  
-Yours For Better Golf -

1479 N. Hermitage Road  
Hermitage, PA 16148

724-962-3200

JFSWA.COM



**JFS**  
Wealth Advisors



## Smith Funeral Home, Ltd.

3126 Main Street  
W. Middlesex, PA 16159  
724-528-3222

Craig Cunningham Smith  
Supervisor

*The law firm where we treat you like part of the family*

## HARTLE ELDER LAW PRACTICE, LLC



2500 Highland Road • Suite 105  
Hermitage, PA 16148

CAROLYN E. HARTLE, ESQUIRE

Phone: 724-962-3606

Fax: 724-979-6610



## BUYERS OF STANDING TIMBER

Manufacturers of Industrial Lumber and Fine Hardwoods

Please contact Patrick Chovan, President

[hello@omegalumber.com](mailto:hello@omegalumber.com) • [www.omegalumber.com](http://www.omegalumber.com)

**(724) 342-5430**

## CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY

PRAY EVERYDAY AT 3pm on: EWTN

[www.thedivinemercy.org/message](http://www.thedivinemercy.org/message)

HOSPICE, HOME HEALTH,  
HOME & PERSONAL CARE

HELPING HANDS  
HOME CARE SERVICE  
724-996-7580



YOUR HEALTH, YOUR HOME, OUR HELPING HANDS

RONALYN MITCHELTREE  
Multi-Million Dollar Producer

Cell: 724-730-2702

Office: 724-654-5555 Ext 270

[rmitcheltree@howardhanna.com](mailto:rmitcheltree@howardhanna.com)



Howard  
Hanna  
Real Estate Services

## BAKER Professional Counseling

Quality Ethical Care  
for Children and Adults  
with Mental Health needs

**724-201-2779**



## LOMBARDI DENTAL

"DISCOVER YOUR SMILE"



DOMENIC G. LOMBARDI, D.M.D. - PARISHIONER

60 N. Mercer Ave, Sharpsville, PA 16150 724-962-2138

[WWW.LOMBARDISMILES.COM](http://WWW.LOMBARDISMILES.COM)

For advertising information, contact Jim Sarvas • (724) 301-7825

### 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.