



Good Shepherd Church

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 4 & 5, 2017



† MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

Saturday November 4
4:00 PM Parishioners of Good Shepherd

Sunday November 5
8:00 AM All Souls Intentions
10:00 AM All Souls Intentions

Monday November 6
8:00 AM All Souls Intentions

Tuesday November 7
8:00 AM All Souls Intentions

Wednesday November 8
8:00 AM All Souls Intentions

Thursday November 9
8:00 AM All Souls Intentions

Friday November 10
8:00 AM All Souls Intentions

Saturday November 11
4:00 PM All Souls Intentions

Sunday November 12
8:00 AM Robert Sukel ~ Wife, Marianne
10:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd

Television Mass: Fr. McHugh will be the celebrant of the pre-taped Mass that will be shown on channel 13 on Sunday, November 5, at 7:00 and 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM.

FROM THE PASTOR... Fr. McHugh.

Because of the excellent response to the fall Scripture session, I am going to offer an added session on Thursday November 9, at the regular 9:00 AM time. My last session on Purgatory, while not a major doctrine in the Catholic Church, and one which many Protestant Churches reject, is a topic that the Catholic Church has not really developed since Vatican II. I do feel that it merits study. Perhaps Purgatory studies have become dormant due, to some extent, to the ecumenical movement. Purgatory is a divisive issue among Christian Churches. This, perhaps, has led to a lack of effort on the part of Catholic biblical scholars or dogmatic theologians to treat the topic. Through the efforts of Jim McGuire, I will offer notes on my presentation of Purgatory on October 26th which were not provided to you and supplement this with material I have not yet offered to you. Anyone is welcome to attend. You need not to have been present for previous sessions. Again, thank you for your support of the Scripture sessions this fall and for the past 11 years.

Stewardship

684 families received envelopes.

Offertory Envelopes for the weekend 10/28:

MASS TIME	NUMBER OF FAMILIES OFFERING	AMOUNT OF OFFERING	ATTENDANCE AT MASS
4:00 PM	82	\$ 984.00	186
8:00 AM	59	\$ 609.00	158
10:00 AM	75	\$1,699.00	259
	Loose	\$ 142.00	
	Total	\$3,434.00	603

Breakfast: We welcome the Men of Malvern Retreat group to the 10:00 AM Mass. They have an annual Mass in honor of deceased members in November. The group will attend our breakfast following the Mass. Breakfast is served from 8:00 AM until 12:00 Noon.

Worship

The Tabernacle Candle burns this week in thanksgiving.

The Rose for Life this week is in memory of **Veronica Wisdo** by daughter, Valerie and son-in-law, Carey Gallagher.

Personal Care and Nursing Home Masses: Fr. McHugh is scheduled to offer Mass at Providence Place on Tuesday, November 7, at 10:00 AM, and at Fritzingertown on Thursday, November 16, at 10:15 AM.

Diocesan Annual Appeal: As of Monday, October 30, Good Shepherd donated \$14,293.33 outright to the Appeal with another \$3,719.67 pledged for a total of \$18,013, which is 69.2% of our goal. We are \$7,987 short of our \$26,000 goal. To date, we have 160 donors contributing to the Appeal. We thank everyone who has donated to date. If you are new to the parish or a frequent visitor to it, Appeal envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church. Last year, several non-registered people did help Good Shepherd attain its goal.

Scripture Session: An additional Scripture session on Purgatory will be offered on Thursday, November 9, at the regular 9:00 AM time.

Building and Grounds Chairperson: We need a new Buildings and Ground chairperson. We thank Al Olshefski for his services. Please notify me if you are interested.

We thank Richard Chura for volunteering his services this summer by keeping our grass cut and trimmed. Richard also helped trim the shrubs in the front of the church.

Word

Theme – Proper Religious Leadership: Today's Gospel from Matthew offers a sharp polemic against the Pharisees. Matthew really intends to use this criticism of the Pharisees to warn the religious leaders of his own community about poor religious leadership. The Pharisaical attitudes that Matthew is attacking are: not practicing what one preaches, laying heavy burdens on people without offering a hand to assist them, desiring honors and signs of respect in public, places of honor at worship and banquets, over-concern for titles, etc. Even though Matthew's Gospel stresses authority, Jesus desires those in authority to be humble and willing to serve others. Jesus does not desire those in authority to dominate others. The first reading from the prophet Malachi features his attack on the Jewish priests for not providing the proper spiritual leadership. Malachi issues a strong warning to listen to the Word of God. Those priests are responsible for turning others away from God. Malachi also accuses those Jewish priests for showing partiality and not providing proper example for the people entrusted to them. St. Paul, in his first letter to the Thessalonians, speaks of how he has, as a religious leader, cared for the people he led. Paul did everything possible to promote God's Word.

Praying With Scripture:

1. Pray for leaders of the Church that they may be faithful and give good example.
2. Do you exercise any type of leadership at the present time?
3. Has any Church leader been of help to you?

Areas That the Diocese Scrutinizes With the Ever-Dwindling Number of Priests:

1. Is the parish solvent?
2. The number of parishioners
3. Does the parish support the Diocesan Appeal?
4. Parish activities and outreach ministries
5. The baptismal rate in comparison to the death rate
6. Mass attendance – some dioceses have a policy that weekend Masses should not be offered if they do not average 200 or more people

What You Can Do to Help Prevent the Reduction of Services:

1. Attend Mass regularly and financially support your parish
2. Register as a parishioner if you have not already done so
3. Volunteer for some ministry or be active in parish projects

4. Support the Diocesan Appeal
5. Participate in outreach projects

If you do these things, you are casting a vote for not having services reduced. If you don't do the above, you are voting for a reduction in parish services. It's your choice!

Volunteer & Staff Christmas Party: This will be held on Wednesday, December 6, at The Pines in Hazleton, located on the corner of Broad and Wyoming Streets. There will be a cash bar from 5:00 to 6:00 PM and dinner at 6:00 PM. The entertainment will be by the Scranton duo "The Frost," who will perform music from the '60s, '70s, etc. They especially have a nice selection of Fleetwood Mac songs and also will have Christmas songs. "The Frost" duo consists of Christian Gratz and Leah Beth Evans. Volunteers and staff are free. The cost for non-volunteers and guests is \$25 per person. Please turn in the coupon by Tuesday, November 28, if you plan to attend. Specify volunteer, non-volunteer, or guest.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Volunteer _____

Non-Volunteer or Guest _____

FR. CONNELL'S TRIVIA

1. True or False: Kurt Warner is the only quarterback to have won Super Bowls with 2 different teams.
2. Which running back was the first NFL player to have 20 rushing touchdowns – Tony Dorsett, Emmitt Smith, John Riggins, or Jimmy Brown?

Last Week's Answers:

1. Mickey Mantle is the all-time leader in World Series homeruns with 18.
2. Whitey Ford, of the Yankees, leads all hurlers with 10 World Series wins.

Community

Tuesday Night Bingo at Good Shepherd Church starts with our Early Bird game at 6:00 PM. We play 22 games each week and payouts range from \$50 to over \$500. Our regular games pay \$100 each. The kitchen opens at 5:00 PM with special soups, sandwiches, beverages, ethnic foods and a variety of other goodies including fries, pretzels, candy, chips,



and more. We also provide complimentary coffee, tea, and cake to our players (and volunteers).



The Valley Food Pantry helps those in need of food, paper products, and hygienic articles. We have been asked to collect coffee, mayonnaise, canned chili or stew, toilet paper, and tissues. Please check expiration dates.

Monthly Breakfast: Breakfast is this Sunday, November 5,

at Good Shepherd Church Hall. The menu includes ham, bacon, sausage, eggs to order, potatoes, pancakes, pastry, yogurt, orange juice, coffee, tea, and chocolate milk. The cost is \$7.00/adult and \$3.00/child. Serving time is from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM.



Thank You: Thank you to all who donated, sorted, set up, and bought books at our recent book sale. Thanks to you, it was a great success. \$1,626 was raised. We also thank the women who gave of their time in the kitchen.

Comforting the Sorrowful is one of the Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy, which have been an important part of Christian tradition throughout history. Fr. McHugh is pleased to announce the formation of a Good Shepherd Bereavement Support Ministry effective January 2018. Opportunities exist for interested parishioners to volunteer their time and talents in a number of ways. For more information, please call Marie at 570-401-9720 or plan on attending the introductory meeting to be held on **Thursday, November 9, a few minutes after the end of the morning Scripture Session** in the **St. Joseph Room**. Membership is open to all Good Shepherd parishioners. *"No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear."* – C. S. Lewis

Election Day Pasta Dinner: Fr. Ric invites you to come to the Election Day Pasta Dinner at St. John Bosco Church on Tuesday, November 7, from 4:00 – 7:00 PM in their Parish Center. Take-outs will be from 3:30 – 7:00 PM. The dinner includes penne pasta, meatballs, salad, Italian bread, homemade desserts, beverage, and a complimentary glass of wine. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under. Tickets may be purchased after the weekend masses, at the parish office, and at the door. A Raffle of Cheer and theme baskets will also be featured.

Holy Family Bingo: On Sunday, November 12, Holy Family Academy, 601 N. Laurel Street, Hazleton, will sponsor an Ugg and Purse Bingo. Doors open at 12:00 PM and games begin at 1:00 PM. The cost is \$25.00.

Natural Family Planning is a way of life, and a way of love. To hear about the benefits of Natural Family Planning, call diocesan-approved instructors and parishioners Eric and Bernadette Jespersen at 570-788-4560.

The Women of Good Shepherd

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday, November 13, at 6:30 PM**. The Next Picasso, a trendy entertainment venue, will show us how to create an autumn sign made with wood and stencils. For more information about the event, please contact 570-401-5092. Pre-registration is a must so supplies can be provided. **This is the last week to sign up for the event.** Join us for a fun evening. Membership is open to all women of Good Shepherd Church.

We extend a big **thank you** to Kashubski's Farm who also donated pumpkins to our pumpkin painting event. Thank you to Steve and Karl for picking and delivering them!

Our Thanksgiving Raffle has begun. A turkey wall hanging adorned with \$150 worth of gift cards and lottery tickets will be chanced off on **Sunday, November 19**, after the 10:00 AM Mass. Tickets are being sold in the church vestibule and will also be available during the November breakfast. Chances are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Proceeds will benefit The Women of Good Shepherd Scholarship fund.



Next Weekend is "Text to Give" Weekend

The End of My Song

Not a great crescendo
Not a melancholy adagio
Not an enthusiastic outpouring
Not a subtle bitterness
Just soft sounding notes
Played disinterestedly.

My visions gone
My music must end.
Yet my old songs still live
As absolute silence approaches,
Verbal tombstones of young dreams,
Songs which never end.

Rev. Connell A. McHugh