



Congratulations to our Confirmands!!!

On June 29 Bishop Dietsche Confirmed Brittany Alexander, Joseph Ciallela, Katie McKeown, Jack McKeown, Liam Kenny, Zack Palmer, Alex Palmer, Sindy Rosso, Lauren Rothschild, Taylor Simpsom, Catalina Trinidad, and Christian Trinidad, and he received Jose Trinidad into the Episcopal Church! Congregations!!!!

Prayer List

We pray for the churches and clergy of the Diocese of New York and our own Saw Mill Clericus, our parish wardens, officers, and vestry members, the children of the Carpenter's Kids Program, the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem, the women and orphans of the Kwithu (*KWEE-too*) Feeding Center in Malawi, the Community Center of Northern Westchester, Somers Boy Scout Troop 376, for our service men and women on active duty especially Charlie, Brendan, Noah, and Nicholas, for Joan for safety in childbirth, for Don, Mary, Bill, Gerard, Christian, Josephine, Melissa, Stephanie, Kerry, Lois, Cheryl, Craig, Connie, Jackie, Carrie, Delia, Pat, Lee, Wilfried, Jeff, Nina, Henry, Victoria, Harry, Patrice, and Eric,

Are there others?

Go to goodshepherdny.org, click on "[Prayer Request](#)" at the top of the page, and fill out the online form. You will receive a confirmation email that your request has been received, and it will be added to the prayer list. Alternatively, you can fill out a paper Prayer Request form, which can be found on the table at the back of the church. Simply fill out the form and place it in the wooden box marked "Prayers".

Our Local Feeding Ministry

By the Rector

A few related stories from the first week of August...

Last week, as I was preparing my sermon on the Feeding of the 5000, I decided to send out a request for food donations to support our Food Pantry partners at the Community Center of Northern Westchester (CCNW). I thought it seemed like a logical "rubber meets the road" interpretation of the Gospel: Jesus feed the hungry multitudes, and we are called to do that too. After the 10AM service concluded I was thrilled to see an enormous pile of food and supplies for the food pantry.

That same week (last week), I received a text from Jose Trinidad informing me that our July donations for the CCNW Food Pantry totaled 225 pounds. The Trinidads volunteered throughout July to take donations over to the CCNW, and Jose wanted to let me know that we had a large amount of food donated! On Sunday, Cathy Trinidad announced that the Food Pantry is looking for volunteers as well as food donations.

During announcements this past Sunday Nancy Haensch, who is our liaison with the CCNW, again reminded the congregation that the shelves at the Food Pantry are less full throughout the summer and our continued donations makes an enormous

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Anyone interested in joining the Stewardship Committee is invited to come to introductory/joining meetings next Sunday, August 10, in the Guild Room immediately following each of the 8AM and 10AM services. All are invited.

If you cannot make either of those meetings, please feel free to contact Eric Parsons at 914-980-1114 or by e-mail at ericparsons2000@yahoo.com

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL THANKS

Thanks to all of those who have already responded to our July Stewardship Appeal. We raised \$4,650 (\$4,150 in hand and another \$500 pledged). If you have not already made a donation, you are still invited to. Thanks!

Feast of SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN

Friday, August 15
Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM
Said Eucharist at 6:00 PM

Eve of
HOLY CROSS DAY
Saturday, September 13
Evensong at 5:00 PM
Chicken Festival 5:30 PM

difference. Nancy told me that she had made similar announcements throughout July.

The last few Sundays we have had a small "Farm Stand" set up at Coffee Hour asking for donations to the Outreach Fund in exchange for vegetables and herbs from our church Vegetable Garden (built by Bruce Barber and Bob Velzy three years ago). The garden has had bad luck with blight and that sort of thing that last few years, but this year we have harvested a solid amount of produce! Each of the last few weeks we have had a dozen or so cucumbers and several bunches of basil and other herbs. The tomatoes are coming in and (God willing) we will have lots of tomatoes at the GS Farm Stand in the coming weeks. If you have extra vegetables or herbs in your own home gardens, please feel free to bring some in and donate them to the GS Farm Stand. The Farm Stand accomplishes a few things. First, it makes a little money for outreach: thus far we have raised \$43 towards the Outreach Fund. Second, as much as we all love Hot Dog Season at Good Shepherd, it is probably a bit healthier to promote and provide vegetables. Please make sure everything that gets donated is taken home; even if you don't have a donation for every item, it is important that none of the food goes to waste.

Thanks to Nancy Haensch for continuing to make announcements about the Food Pantry. Thanks to the Trinidads for hauling all of the donations to the Food Pantry throughout July. Thanks to all of the families who have taken the time and energy to carry hundreds of pounds to the Food Pantry over the last few months (Haensch/December; Trinidad/January; McKeown/February; Palmer/March; Miller/April; Hintze/May; Velzy/June; Trinidad/July). Thanks to all those who have signed up for the coming months (Sotter & Buschel/August; Bracken/September; Youth Group/October; Whalen/November). We are still looking for a volunteer to deliver food in December

2014, and there is a completely wide open signup sheet for 2015. Thanks to Nicole Mead, Diane Buschel, and Jane Rothschild for tending the garden! Thanks to the Palmer and Haensch families for supplying recyclable bags with attached shopping lists to make it easier for anyone who walks out of Good Shepherd to donate.

I think we have a thriving feeding ministry at Good Shepherd. We donated more than 2000 pounds of food last year, and I think we are on track for that this year, maybe even more if July is any indication. Looking back, we have come a long way in the last few years. The food donations started as a collection on Harvest Sunday at Thanksgiving every year. In 2010 we expanded that collection to year round and placed a permanent basket at the back of the church – you may recall the large blue plastic bin that predated our current wicker bin. We then began a series of food drives throughout the year – Lent, Michaelmas, etc. In 2013 we became official community partners with the CCNW. Around that same time we began providing bags with shopping lists (I think that was thought up by a Haensch or a Palmer, but I am not sure). Over the last few years donating food has become part of life at Good Shepherd. Every Sunday a few shopping bags are dropped off at the back of the church, and delivered to the Food Pantry.

The role of our vegetable garden has also grown each year as well. We always had planting mastered. What we needed to work on was weeding, watering, harvesting, and distributing. \$43 isn't a ton of money, but I think it is a good start. Maybe we can bring in \$200 with our harvest this year? Maybe we can expand our Farm Stand with donations from home gardens to a point where we can advertise it and have enough leftover vegetables that we are able to bring them to the Food Pantry? Maybe we can transition from Hot Dog Season to Hot Dog and Healthy Choices Season

BIG, BIG, BIG HOLY DAYS

Mark your calendars NOW!!!

MICHAELMAS

Monday, September 29

6:00 PM Sung Eucharist

Sermon by Archdeacon William Parnell

7:00 PM OKTOBERFEST

*Archdeacon Parnell is the Archeacon for
Mission in the Diocese of New York.*

*If you want to support or help out prepare for
OKTOBERFEST, please contact Father Matt or
write a donation to the Church of the Good
Shepherd with memo: "FELLOWSHIP FUND"*

**MICHAELMAS IS A MAJOR FOOD DRIVE DAY:
PLEASE BRING FOOD PANTRY SUPPLIES!!**

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ALL SAINTS' DAY

Saturday, November 1

5:00 PM Evensong

Sermon by the Bishop Allen Shin

5:30 PM hors d'oeuvres & reception

*Bishop Shin is the Suffragan Bishop of the
Diocese of New York.*

**ALL SAINTS' IS A MAJOR FOOD DRIVE DAY:
PLEASE BRING FOOD PANTRY SUPPLIES!!**



by providing our own vegetables at Coffee Hour each week?

I think that Local Outreach is something that every church and every Christian should be involved in, and I think we have found a few ways that everyone in the congregation can get involved in either through time, talent or treasure. How? Well, you can always bring in supplies and leave them at the back of the church. If you make a habit of picking up a few things for the food pantry every time you go shopping, you can make supporting a local feeding program part of your daily life. If you have time to bring donations over, then please consider signing up for an upcoming month (the signup sheets are in the Breezeway). If you have a few hours to spare each week or each month, you can volunteer at the Food Pantry. If you have a home vegetable garden, bring in a few extras each Sunday to supplement the GS Farm Stand. If we have too much food, we'll figure out a way to make sure it gets to the Food Pantry or to people in our church community who could use vegetables. If you have any ideas about how we can expand or facilitate our feeding ministry (or any outreach project), please speak to me, our Outreach Chair Amanda Slattery, or our CCNW liaison Nancy Haensch.



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Saturday, SEPTEMBER 6, 2014

ARTS JAM!

[\(information on the last page of the newsletter\)](#)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

[\(information on the next page\)](#)

Calling All Elves!

The elves are starting to work and get ready for the Christmas Bazaar....so please help us by providing items from this list below....if you have any questions please reach out to Arleen Flury or Courtney Velzy....thank you!! 😊

- Wine Corks
- Small Pom-Poms
- Burlap Material
- Ribbon (all widths, and all kinds/wired if possible) in Red, Green, Gold, Burgundy, Silver and Holiday Prints
- Clear Glass or Plastic Ornaments (Xmas Balls)
- Fake Snow (Spray Form & Flake Form)
- Artificial Xmas Greens, Poinsettia Flowers & Berries
- Small Artificial Birds
- Small Xmas Balls in all colors
- Cinnamon Sticks
- Red and Green Thread
- Wooden Spools from Thread
- Felt Fabric
- Styrofoam Balls and Tree Shapes
- Pillar Candles (Red, White, & Green in 3in, 6in, or 9in sizes)
- Pine Cones (Nice Round Ones)
- Large Jingle Bells
- Thin Cork (Square or Round Shaped)
- Battery Candles
- Christmas Printed Material

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Good Shepherd offers our first-ever
Vacation Bible School in August...**

**Sunday School resumes Sept. 7 with
Blessing of Backpacks...**

Hope everyone is having a great summer! The Sunday School Committee has been busy working on the coming year's programming and activities.

First off, as previously announced, we will offer our first-ever Vacation Bible School during August. The dates are August 19, 20 and 21, from 9am-12noon daily. Each day will have a theme, with Bible lessons and activities to support each theme. This program is for children ages-3-12. Older children are welcome to attend as helpers.

It is NOT too late to join this exciting program. PLEASE notify Father Matt or Glenn Hintze immediately if you wish to register your children. Cost is \$30 for first child and just \$10 for each sibling. We have 10 children registered to attend right now. This special session will be hosted by Father Matt, Bruce Barber and Megan Whalen.

We've offered Craft Sundays through the summer and that will continue through August 31. Thanks to Megan, Suzanne Bracken, Kerry Irwin, Nicole Mead and Sally Stevens for teaching!

Our new school year will kick off Sunday, September 7, with the annual "Blessing of

the Backpacks" during the 10am service. All children should bring their backpacks that day to receive a special blessing from Father Matt.

Sunday School Registration for the new year will take place that day as well. Class sessions will begin on September 14. Once again we will have three grade levels of classes: Pre-K to Grade 2, Grades 3-5, and Grades 6-8. We will continue using a lectionary -based curriculum that has worked well for several years now. This means the children will be learning the same lessons weekly, at their appropriate levels, that are being discussed in the church service. This has made for great discussions later at home!

We've had several folks sign up to teach for the first time this year---we are grateful for that. We need more teachers through the year, especially beginning in January 2015. Please prayerfully consider doing so. We need teaching assistants as well, which is a great way to "dip your toe" in the Sunday School waters. It's a great place to be! Talk to Father Matt or any Sunday School Committee member.

Glenn Hintze, for the Sunday School Committee (Suzanne Bracken, Jan Corning, Fran DiBernardo, Arleen Flury, Megan Whalen and Father Matt)

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Summer Reading

By the Rector

July is often a time for me to catch up on books. Two books I read in July have a

YOUTH GROUP

As the Youth Group begins meeting in the fall, we welcome any and all church youth in grades 7 through 12.

The Youth Group's first activity after summer break will be participation at the Arts Jam. We will help with set-up, refreshments and sharing our artistic gifts.

On Sunday 9/14 after church we will go for a hike in Lasdon Park. We will have a brown-bag lunch at the park and return to church for parental pick-up at 1pm. At the hike we will confirm our fall activities.

If you have any questions, contact Fay by email (fw1@nyu.edu) or cell (914)672-4231 or Fr. Matt.

Around the Parish Bright Beginnings

After 31 years at Good Shepherd, Bright Beginnings will no longer be leasing the parish hall for its daycare program. A decline in student enrollment has forced the school to move the class at Granite Springs to its Yorktown center. While we are very sad to see the program end, it does free up the space at Good Shepherd for other activities. If you have any ideas about how we can use the parish hall during the week or on weekends, please contact Father Matt or Maria Kaprielian.



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR “GOOD SHEPHERD SHEEP” TEAM

The Good Shepherd Sheep team, is going to be involved in the Support Connection Support-A-Walk once again.

This year the walk is Sunday, October 5th. The team will be co-chaired by Donna Paterno, Sarah Connors and Diane Buschel.

We will be having our second fundraiser on Friday, August 22nd and we invite you to an Origami Owl party featuring custom jewelry! You can get beautiful personalized gifts just in time for any special occasion. You can design your own lockets , bracelets or earrings. Refreshments will be served.

Please join us and bring a friend in the Guild Room at 6:30 pm for some fun and fellowship!

related theme: stories that revolve around a painting.

The first book was *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. This book won the most recent Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. I don't want to spoil any part of the book for those who might want to read it, so I will be brief. The story revolves around the Goldfinch, a painting, and the first person narrator, Theo. The story begins when Theo is 13 years old making a trip to see the Goldfinch with his mother at the Met. An accident during this trip changes Theo's life permanently and the story takes off from there as Theo narrates a variety of adventures he has over the years.

My brother-in-law and mother both highly recommended the book, and so I sat down to read it. It is about 800 pages, and I finished it in 4 days, so at least from that perspective it is a very interesting read and a page turner. I highly recommend this to anyone who likes a good, but drawn out story. It reminded me of books like *War And Peace*, *Les Miserables*, *The Apprenticeship of Wilhelm Meister* that follow one main character through the years while offering sweeping details of places and politics of the (at the time) contemporary world. The *Goldfinch* is all over the map in its details including many, many vivid descriptions of the different worlds that exist in New York City. I highly recommend it!

My normal pattern of summer reading is to start with a new book, then jump to a classic that I never read. The book I read immediately after the *Goldfinch* was *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. Like the *Goldfinch*, *Dorian Gray* revolves around a main character and painting. Going too far into any detail of this masterpiece would



spoil the book. It is a case study in narcissism and though it was written over one hundred years ago, it has much that might condemn our 21st century culture's endless focus on staying young and placing beauty and celebrity above all else. I highly recommend this book at well, and for those who might not be up for a long book, I am happy to say that it is less than 300 pages and it too is a page turner.

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“Pray? Who, me??”

By Chris Palmer

I had a great conversation with a friend recently who told me that aside from saying grace before dinner and the occasional “Our Father”, he feels like prayer is something that only those holy, church people do. “It’s not for a regular ol’ person like me!” That reminded me of another conversation from about a year ago, when someone else told me, “What can I do? I’m not special. I pray for my family and friends sometimes, but I’m just thinking about them, and thinking about God... it’s not like it’s anything official. So why would my prayers matter?”

Why? Because God *says* they matter, that’s why!!

Prayer is a concept that has both intrigued and baffled me for many years. I feel moved to pray. I feel better when I pray. I think prayer is awesome! And I also don’t get it. It really is a mystery to me, yet something that I feel called to continue doing.

Maybe it’s because for so long, I thought the same thing as my friend, above – “real” prayer was reserved for other types of people, not just

regular ol' me. But I have come to appreciate that prayer is an amazing practice that has the power to transform us, and it is available to everyone.

One way that anyone can pray is to simply pray for people by name. We do this together in church, when we share the prayers of the people as a community. I've always loved that we are invited to add our own petitions, said either silently or aloud. That got me thinking...

Last year, an EfM buddy of mine and I began exploring the idea of introducing a prayer group at GS. We felt it was important to ensure that our prayer list was being lifted each and every day, whether or not there was a service scheduled in the church. This has blossomed into a wonderful and fulfilling ministry! The Prayer Group now has 10 members, and the congregation's prayers are being lifted every day of the week, even when no one is physically in the church.

The Prayer Group provides the opportunity for you to lift the prayer list on behalf of your parish family, on your own schedule and in your own way. And anyone can do it!

- This can be done at any time during the day that is convenient for you, from your home, work, at Good Shepherd, or from anywhere you like.
- Depending on the format you choose to use, it typically takes 5-20 minutes.
- You pick the day that works for you, and we will add you to the schedule.
- Then, each week on your chosen day, we will know that you are praying for us all, on behalf of the parish.

Please consider joining our group so that our prayer network continues to grow and flourish. The only thing you need is a willingness to give it a try, and you just might be surprised where it takes you! If you are interested, please contact Chris Palmer or Father Matt.

Prayer List FAQs

How do I put someone on the prayer list?

It's easy! Go to goodshepherdny.org, click on "Prayer Request" at the top of the page, and fill out the online form. You will receive a confirmation email that your request has been received, and it will be added to the prayer list.

Alternatively, you can fill out a paper Prayer Request form, which can be found on the table at the back of the church. Simply fill out the form and place it in the wooden box marked "Prayers".

How long will my request stay on the active list?

When you submit your request, please specify how long you would like that person to remain on the active list. If you choose "Indefinitely", you must provide additional information or speak with Fr. Matt directly. If no end date is specified, the default is one month.

Who sees my prayer requests?

All prayer requests are kept completely confidential. The only people that see your request are the rector and the coordinator of the pastoral care team (currently Chris Palmer). Unless you specify otherwise, the details of your request are not shared with anyone, including the prayer group. Only the name of the person to be added is shared.

Church of the Good Shepherd

Arts Jam!

SATURDAY, Sept. 6th, 2014

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm



MUSIC, SPOKEN WORD, FINE ART ON DISPLAY,
PERFORMANCE, ARTS & CRAFTS
HOT DOGS/BURGERS, BBQ, SOFT DRINKS
GOOD FAMILY FUN!! FREE TO ATTEND!!

**DISPLAY AND SELL YOUR ARTS &
CRAFTS - SPACES AVAILABLE \$20 EACH**

Vendors Please Bring Own Table

Rain Date - September 13th

**39 Granite Springs Road, Granite Springs, NY
CALL TO RESERVE SPACE: Scott 973-979-3346**