



Our Worship Schedule

Weekly Sunday Worship

8:00 am Rite 1 Eucharist, with coffee afterwards

9:45 am Sunday School & Middle School Youth

10:00 am Rite 2 Eucharist with hymns, followed by our festive coffee hour

11:30 am High School Youth meets

Special Upcoming Services This Month

Sunday, April 14 – Palm Sunday

8:00 am & 10:00 am (start in Memorial Garden).

Easter Triduum – The “Three Days”

Each evening, we share a fellowship meal at 6:30 pm, followed by the liturgy at 7:30 pm:

Thursday, April 18 – Maundy Thursday

Mediterranean-themed potluck

Friday, April 19 – Good Friday

Soup & bread potluck (no meat or alcohol)

Saturday, April 20 – Easter Vigil

Pizzafest! hosted by the Youth Group

Sunday, April 21 – Easter Sunday

8:00 am & 10:00 am Said Eucharist

11:00 am – Annual Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt!

Rector's Remarks

Hi Everyone,

Don't miss our Holy Week services! They are beautiful, mystical, and powerful, and I wouldn't miss them for anything. Come to one or all. But don't miss them!

First, we start in the Memorial Garden for Palm Sunday, blessing the palms with sprinkled holy water, and then march into the church like Jesus and his disciples paraded into Jerusalem. The readings are powerful and they set the stage for what comes next.

Next, we gather for a great potluck Mediterranean feast on Thursday, April 18, Maundy Thursday, at 6:30 pm. Bring a potluck dish if you can, but feel free to just show up, too. We always have plenty of food. Just come and be fed in body and soul. The Maundy Thursday liturgical service begins at 7:30 pm. This is an important celebration, because we celebrate the institution of the Lord's Supper, the giving of the

Holy Eucharist. At the end of the service, we strip the sanctuary of all furnishings in silence as we prepare for Good Friday.

On Good Friday (April 19), we shall have morning prayer at 8 am, a new children's Stations of the Cross at 10 am (designed by me and Megan), the traditional Stations of the Cross at noon, and our 6:30 pm simple potluck dinner of soup and bread (no alcohol, meat, or desserts for this meal, please). At the 7:30 pm Good Friday worship service, we venerate the cross, honoring (in the words of St. Paul) that the cross is nothing less than "the power of God" to humble, save, and reconcile us to God and one another (1 Cor. 1:18).

On Saturday, April 20 at 6:30 pm, the High School Youth will throw "Pizzafest" – homemade pizzas by the youth with whatever toppings you want on them. Come enjoy! Afterwards at 7:30 pm, we celebrate the Easter Vigil, my favorite service of the whole year! For the vigil, we again start in the Memorial Garden, in the dark, lighting the paschal flame in the darkness to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. We each receive a candle and light our candles from the paschal candle. We all then parade through the dark with our lit candles into the dark church and listen to some of the great scripture passages of our salvation history: the formation of the world in Genesis; the escape of the Jews from pharaoh and Egypt in Exodus; Ezekiel's prophecy of dry bones coming back to life, and more. It's a big, joyous, full service, and all should check it out at least once. Come to the Triduum! It can change your life.

On Easter Sunday, we shall have two services, as usual, at 8 and 10 am. They too shall be festive and joyous, as we celebrate Christ's resurrection and its meaning for our lives and for all of creation. Come to whatever service works best for you and yours.

Thanks to many in the parish for all the hard work to pull off these special celebrations. It's a team effort and we have a great team at Good Shepherd. Many hands not only make for lite work but they also make for great liturgies. Thanks ahead of time to all who through their hard and generous efforts make these special feasts possible!

In these times of trial and stress, it's important to ground oneself on a solid rock, and church can be that rock. These Easter services are powerful! Let them ground you. Come and soak up their uniqueness and grace.

Blessings to you and yours,

With love and prayers,

Hal





Holy Week

April 14, Palm/Passion Sunday

8:00 AM Palms & Said Holy Eucharist

10:00 AM Palms, Procession & Holy Eucharist with Hymns

April 18, Maundy Thursday

6:30 PM Agape Dinner: Mediterranean Potluck

7:30 PM Celebration of the Lord's Supper

April 19, Good Friday

12:00 PM Stations of the Cross

6:30 PM Soup & Bread Potluck Dinner

7:30 PM Good Friday Liturgy

April 20, Saturday, Easter Eve

6:30 PM Pizzafest

7:30 PM The Great Vigil of Easter

April 21, Easter Sunday

8:00 AM Said Holy Eucharist

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Hymns

11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt & Festive Coffee Hour

Sunday School



The Sunday School took the dreary winter and turned it into a lot of fun so far this year! First we held the 12th Night Epiphany Bingo Night where much fun was had by all. We collected baby items for the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center (PNWWRC), enjoyed a potluck meal, were visited by the 3 Magi and of course played BINGO!



In February, the Sunday School children and Seniors started a new tradition this year with "Valentine-a-palooza". The group made over 100 valentines for the Veterans and had so much fun doing it together!



Sunday School spent much of January and February working on our songs for the Musical Celebration Family Service on Mardi Gras Sunday and it was wonderful. The Sunday School children sang and played instruments to "Sing Out Earth and Skies". They also participated in the COGS Children's Instrumental Group performing "God is Love". Children also played special roles in the Family Service. After the service Sunday School Families sponsored the Mardi Gras Celebration Coffee hour. We played "Throw me something, Mister" and ate lots of wonderful New Orleans-inspired goodies.



Finally, in March the Sunday School group went on their spring outing to A Maze in Pottery. The children each created a unique plaque that will be hung in the Parish Hall or Breezeway to add some more beauty to our church. It was a nice day together! Please share thoughts and feedback regarding Sunday School with Megan Whalen at meganswiderski@hotmail.com.



Our Mardi Gras Family Service



Pottery
was
A-Maze-
ing!

Middle School Youth



Once again our MS Youth were out in the community delivering love wherever they went! After having a great 12th Night Bingo and Potluck party, the MS Youth delivered the baby item donations to PNWWRC and spent some time learning about the center from Ms. Ann. It was an educational afternoon.

The MS Youth also participated in Valentine-A-Palooza, both making the Valentines with the Seniors and then hand-delivering the Valentines to the Veterans, thanking each one for their service to our country.

Also in March the MS Youth collected and delivered the food donations from Good Shepherd to the Community Center of Northern Westchester (CCNW). What made this trip extra fun was that we invited our new friends from The Church of the Holy Communion in Mahopac to join us. They helped stock shelves and then we all enjoyed hot chocolate together!

The MS Youth also participated in the Celebration of Music Family Service by both playing special roles in the service and showing off their musical abilities. John and Julia played a lovely clarinet duet and also participated in the COGS Instrumental Group's rendition of "God is Love".

Please share thoughts and feedback regarding MS Youth Group with Megan Whalen at meganswidorski@hotmail.com.



EASTER

Eggstravaganza!

**Bring Friends
& Neighbors!**

Sunday April 21st after the 10 am service!

High School Youth Group



The HS Youth group bowled with our interfaith youth groups as an active statement of our fellowship and support of one another. We had a great time bowling and praying together for peace.



On April 13th Annual HS Youth Group sleepover at church to prepare our hearts and minds for Holy Week and build our connections with each other through prayer, food, and fun! Remember to bring your favorite snack, sleeping stuff and don't forget your toothbrush! We begin with Stations of the Cross at 5pm, followed by dinner (homemade chicken and waffles), a movie (The Princess Bride), dessert (crepes and ice cream), silent prayer in church, maybe a bit of sleep. Then breakfast at Bob's Diner. We will attend the 10am service

On April 26th the High School Youth Group will volunteer our time and talent at the Support Connection Gala. We have decided to volunteer to support our parish family member's ministry as an advocate for cancer survivors' support needs.

Don't forget to buy your plants from our annual plant sale on Mother's Day. We will share the proceeds with the CCNW and the PNWWRC. Buy your Mother's Day plants on Mother's Day! We will have annuals, perennials and vegetable plants.





WOCOGS (Women Of the Church Of the Good Shepherd)

The book selected to read for our April meeting is
"Sign Off" by Patricia McLinn.

We'll meet on **Friday, April 12 at 7:30 PM** in the
Guild Room. Hope you can be there.

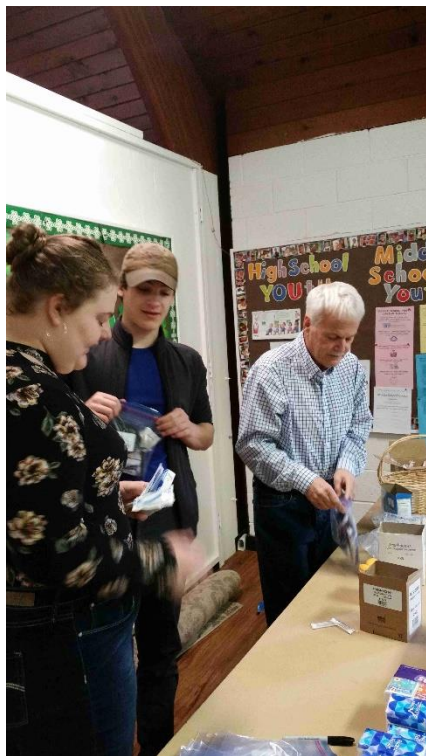


Seniors Group

Join us **Saturday, April 27** for an entertaining afternoon at the **Yorktown Stage!** We will be meeting at Oscar's in Yorktown Heights for lunch at 12:00 pm and then attending the play; "Mamma Mia" at the Yorktown Stage in Yorktown Heights at 2:00 pm. Folks can chose to do one or both and there will be carpooling available. The cost of the play is \$25 per ticket and lunch is on your own. There is sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Everyone is welcome to attend!



Our next **Seniors Saturday** is May 18. We'll have our meeting at 12:00 pm, then share lunch and some fun fellowship. Come along, and invite a friend!



Our first Amenity Bag Packing Party was a HUGE success! We packed **hundreds of bags** of toiletries for both men and women. Thank you to all who donated, and all who helped pack and deliver the bags.

April Charitable Opportunities

We are blessed to have so many active ministries with a variety of charitable opportunities throughout the year. Remember: you are not expected to attend every social event or participate in every charity. Pick and choose the ones that work for you. Together, we make a huge difference.

| What? | For Whom? | When? | How? |
|----------------|---|---------|--|
| Pet supplies | SPCA of Westchester | Ongoing | Donations of pet food, blankets, towels, etc. can be placed in the Parish Hall. |
| Toiletries | Parents of sick children at the Trauma Center at Westchester Medical Center | Ongoing | If you're traveling and have toiletries from hotels, please donate for the parents of children being treated at the Trauma Center. |
| Food donations | Community Center of Northern Westchester (CCNW) | Ongoing | Put donations in the basket under the table in the back of church. |





Candlemas, Chilifest
then a rockin'
multi-generational
game of Taboo!

Great for Newcomers!

At Good Shepherd, we offer a continuous stream of events and opportunities that are great for newcomers. Here are some to consider in the coming weeks:

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil

Informal, free fellowship meal each night at 6:30 pm, followed by the service at 7:30 pm.

Easter Sunday

Eucharist at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Easter Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt (1500+ eggs!) after the 10:00 am service. Bring the kids!

Friday, April 12

Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm in the Guild Room

(To learn more, contact Arleen Flury at afgranite@aol.com)

Saturday, April 27 – Mamma Mia at the Yorktown Stage

Lunch at noon at Oscar's in Yorktown, then 2:00 pm performance

(To learn more, contact Bruce Barber at barberbruce@yahoo.com)

Saturday, May 4 – Middle School Youth Trip to St. John the Divine

A fun trip to our cathedral in New York City!

(To learn more, contact Megan Whalen at meganswidorski@hotmail.com)

Sunday, May 5 – Confirmations & Receptions

ONE SERVICE AT 9:00 AM

If you are interested in being received into the Episcopal Church, this is a great day to do it!

(To learn more, contact Fr. Hal at hal@goodshepherdny.org)

Sunday, May 12 – Youth Group Mother's Day Plant Sale

Buy your Mother's Day flowers here!

(To learn more, contact Fay Wright at fwphdrn@gmail.com)

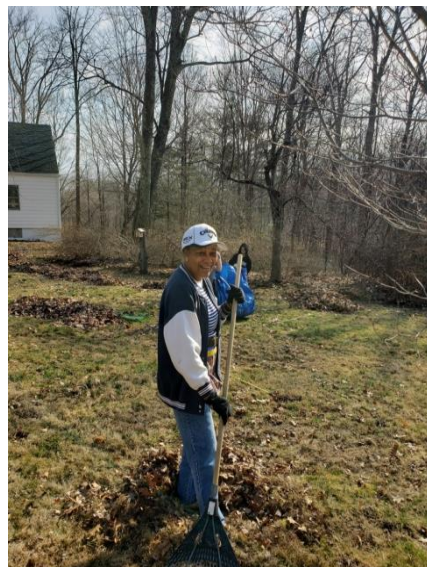
Thursday, May 30 – Ascension Day & Steakfest

Eucharist at 6:30 pm, followed by our awesome annual Steakfest!

Check the calendar at the back of the newsletter for other opportunities in April & May. All our events are open to our members, their guests, and walk-in visitors. The key to spiritual growth is involvement, and we have something for everyone at Good Shepherd.

Our Spring Clean Up was a HUGE success!

Thank you to the over 30 volunteers that came out and got a tone of work done.
And special thanks to Courtney Velzy for organizing such a great day of work!





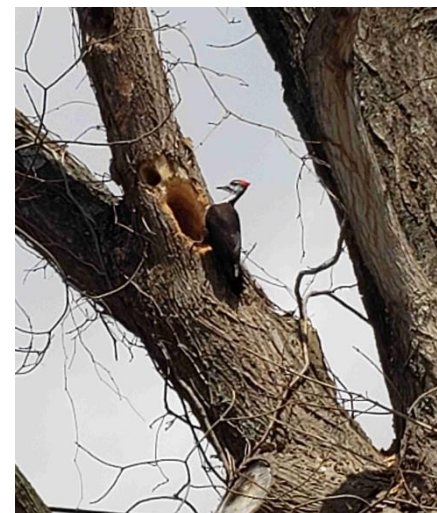
Greetings from EfM!

This is a collect we wrote together recently:

Dear God, You are a God of infinite possibilities. We pray that you will help us to accept all the difficulties and disappointments that occur in our lives, so that we turn our failures into successes. Amen.

EfM is a vibrant and invigorating program of adult Christian formation. Participants meet weekly to study together, pray together, laugh together, and reflect together on their lived experience from a theological point of view. EfM makes our faith real, relevant and personal.

We will begin a new year of study in September, and we want YOU to join us! Keep an eye out for upcoming informational sessions. To learn more, speak to Chris Palmer or Wilfried Haensch anytime.



SERVER, READER, & ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

APRIL 7:

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL
CRUCIFER: CHRISTIAN TRINIDAD
READERS: JULIE MAYE, LUIS DELAHOZ
PRAYERS: LORI KENNEDY
USHERS: ARLEEN FLURY, BOB VELZY
COUNTER: COURTNEY VELZY

APRIL 14 – PALM SUNDAY

CHALICE:
CRUCIFER: EMILY VESPERMAN
READERS: GLENN HINTZE, CHRIS PALMER
PRAYERS: FAY WRIGHT
USHERS: GLENN HINTZE, RIC LARSON, RICK VESPERMAN
COUNTER: LESLIE FULTON

MAUNDY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER VIGIL

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ OR SERVE DURING THESE WONDERFUL SERVICES, PLEASE SPEAK TO FR. HAL.

APRIL 21 – EASTER SUNDAY:

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL, CATHY & JOSE TRINIDAD
CRUCIFER: CHRISTIAN TRINIDAD
READERS: MICHAEL HAGEN, RICK VESPERMAN
PRAYERS: JANICE VESPERMAN
USHERS: RICK VESPERMAN, NICK POYSER, + 2

APRIL 28:

CHALICE: JOSE TRINIDAD
CRUCIFER: JONATHAN TRINIDAD
READERS: DOROTHY BAEDER, LORI KENNEDY
PRAYERS: BOB BUBECK
USHERS: GLENN HINTZE, SCOTT BRIEANT
COUNTER: JOHN KAPRIELIAN

PRAYER LIST

We pray for our core community partners: the Community Center of Northern Westchester; the Putnam/ Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center; Somers Boy Scout Troop 376; and the Somers Granite Springs AA Group.

We pray for all who serve in the armed forces, especially Billy, Brendan, Jason, Matthew, Nicholas, and Noah; all expectant mothers, especially Katie and Sarah; and we pray for Jesus, Nancy, Maria, Mike, Nihad, Ardi, Lynn, Curt, Johanne, Kory, Tom, Luke, Katherine, Max, Mike, Rich, Nancy, Roger, Jeff, Rebecca, Christopher, Pat, Amy, Sharen, Janice, Judy, Bernie, Connie, Margery, Franca, Lois, Lee, Herb, & Maureen.

We pray for all who have died, especially Gladys, and for all those who mourn.

Are there others?

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, 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 shelf at the back of the church. Simply fill out the form and place it in the wooden box marked "Prayers".

Our Calendar of Events

- **Note:** *This is a list of the main events from January - March, but not all our activities. It includes neither our Sunday 8 am and 10 am worship services nor our Sunday School and Middle School Youth meetings, since these happen every week of the year. It also does not include meetings for the individual COGS ministry groups, AA, or the Boy Scouts.*
- *If in doubt about an activity, see the master calendar in the church office for these details and/or contact the ministry leader for specific ministry details. Ministry leaders responsible for their events below are in parenthesis. To contact them, see your parish directory, contact the office at admin@goodshepherdny.org, or call the office at 914-248-5631. These are a friendly group of people to get to know.*
- *Assume the events below are free and child-friendly unless otherwise noted. Fr. Hal also has discretionary funds to support everyone to participate in our community life; money will never be a barrier to participation at Good Shepherd. Contact Fr. Hal at hal@goodshepherdny.org for confidential support, if needed.*
- All are welcome! Get involved in anything and everything that interests you!
- ***Finally, know that no one does all events. We all have busy lives and a busy church. Engage those events that appeal to you; there are no expectations of attendance. Do those things that fit and enhance your lives. Enjoy!***

April 2019

- 3,10 Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal)
- 7, Sunday: Visit to the Chung Yen Buddhist temple after the 10:00 am service (open to entire parish) (Megan & Fay).
- 12, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOCS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm. (Arleen)
- 13, Saturday: High School Youth Group sleepover at church. (Fay)
- 14, Sunday: Palm/Passion Sunday (Hal)
- 14, Sunday: Easter Egg Filling in the Guild Room after the 10:00 am service (Megan).
- 18, Maundy Thursday: Mediterranean Themed Potluck (6:30 pm) & Maundy Thursday service (7:30 pm) (Chris & Diane).

- 19, Good Friday: Kid-friendly Stations of the Cross 10:00 am (Hal), then Sunday School and Middle School Youth deliver Easter baskets to PNWWRC (Megan).
- 19, Good Friday: Stations of the Cross at noon, Soup & Bread Potluck (6:30 pm) and Good Friday Liturgy (7:30 pm) (Chris & Diane).
- 20, Saturday: Pizzafest (6:30 pm) with Easter Vigil following (7:30 pm) (Fay & Youth Group)
- 21, Easter Sunday: 8 am Rite 1 Eucharist; 10 am Rite 2 Eucharist with hymns, followed by our annual Easter Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt. (Megan and Diane)
- 25, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)
- 27, Saturday: Seniors trip to Yorktown Stage “Mamma Mia” at 2:00 pm (Bruce).

May 2019

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Wednesdays: Weekly Bible study of the upcoming Gospel reading in the Guild Room, noon-1:30 pm. (Hal)
- 4, Saturday: Middle School Youth trip to St. John the Divine Cathedral in NYC. (Megan)
- 5, Sunday: Confirmation & Receptions **ONE SERVICE AT 9:00 AM** (Hal)
- 10, Friday: Women of the Church of the Good Shepherd (WOCOGS) monthly book group meeting at 7:30 pm. (Arleen)
- 10, Friday: Cheese & Beverage tasting for Sunday School parents with childcare and a movie for children (Megan).
- 12, Sunday: Mother's Day & Good Shepherd Sunday. Men's Group provides breakfast afterwards. Plant Sale fundraiser in the Parish Hall. (Hal)
- 16, Thursday: Vestry meeting 7:30-9:30 pm. (Hal)
- 18, Saturday: Middle School Youth trip to buy and stock food for CCNW (Megan).
- 18, Saturday: Senior Saturday 12:00-4:00 pm (Bruce).
- 19, Sunday: Episcopal Charities Sunday (Hal)
- 19, Sunday: Middle School Youth build owl houses after the 10 am service. (Hal, Megan)
- 30, Thursday: Ascension Day Eucharist (6:30 pm) followed by Steakfest (Hal, Chris, Rick).



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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WEEKLY SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am Rite I Eucharist, with coffee afterwards
9:45 am Sunday School & Middle School Youth
10:00 am Rite II Eucharist with hymns, followed
by our festive coffee hour
11:30 am High School Youth meets

2019 VESTRY & PARISH OFFICERS

Fr. Hal Roark, Rector
Leslie Fulton, *Warden*; Courtney Velzy, *Warden*;
Leuda Forrester, *Clerk*; Glenn Hintze, *Treasurer*
Chris Palmer, *Financial Officer*;
2019: John Kaprielian, Donna Nygard, Vito Rizzi
2020: Leuda Forrester, Kerry Irwin
2021: Carole Castle, Michael Hagen

OUR STAFF

The Reverend Hal Roark, *Rector*
Cecilia Sparacio, *Music Director*
Phillip Pinkney & Nicholas Poyser, *Sextons*
Megan Whalen, *Bookkeeper*
Chris Marmora Palmer, *Office Support*

