



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Address: 867 Gray's Woods Boulevard
Port Matilda, PA 16870

Phone: Church Office: 814-238-2110
Pastor: 814-238-6114
Faith Formation Office: 814-238-0649
Fax: 814-238-3484

Parish Website: goodshepherd-sc.org
Parish Office Email: goodshepherd@dioceseaj.org

PARISH OFFICE STAFF:

Pastor: Father Jozef Kovacik	Email: jkovacik@dioceseaj.org
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Facility Rental Coordinator: Marcella Fickes	Email: mfickes@dioceseaj.org

PARISH COUNCILS:

Pastoral Council Chairperson: Bob Hendrickson
Finance Council Chairperson: Brandon Zlupko

EASTER SUNDAY	Vol. 38 No. 13	March 31, 2024
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John 20:1-9

***We have not invented the words
to explain the resurrection.
It is the last, great deed of love.
The heart alone understands.***

Question of the Week *The question of the week invites the parish community to share faith by reflecting on and discussing Sunday's throughout the week.*

Adults: What change could the hope of the resurrection of Christ inspire you to make?

Kids: What bad habit would you like to "clear out" during the hopeful time of this Easter season?

Mass Intentions for March 30th – April 7th

Easter Vigil-----8:00 p.m. – For all Catechumens & Candidates,
-----especially José Soto
Easter Sunday ----- 8:30 a.m. – Jozef Kovacik & Peter Kovacik †
Easter Sunday-----10:30 a.m. – For the Parish Family by Fr. Jozef
Monday -----(Celebration Villa)-----10:30 a.m. – Jozef Kovacik & Peter Kovacik †
Tuesday-----8:30 a.m. – Donna Varricchione †
Wednesday -----8:30 a.m. – Linda Rosenhahn †
Thursday-----8:30 a.m. – For the Parish Family
Friday-----12:00 p.m. – Intentions of Karen Kearney
Saturday-----5:00 p.m. – Bridget Esposito †
Sunday ----- 8:30 a.m. – For the Parish Family by Fr. Jozef
Sunday-----10:30 a.m. – Rich Solner †

✠ **Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays, or by appointment.** ✠
Location: The Word of God Chapel

If you would like to have MASS celebrated for special intentions or for the deceased members of your family or friends please stop by or call the parish office.

**Attention Hospitality Ministers: the HM schedule is tentative.
Vince will be in touch with you with a confirmed schedule. Thank you.**

Liturgical Minister Schedule April 6th & 7th, 2024						
Mass Name & Date	Altar Server	Cross Bearer	Eucharistic Minister-Bread	Eucharistic Minister-Cup	Hospitality Minister	Reader
Celebration Sat 5:00 on Sat 04/06/2024	Flickinger, Chase	Fura, Daniel	Fura, Barbara	Gatto, Patricia	Fura Family,	Woodring, Virginia
	Swistock, Grayson		Jankowski, Ellen	Switalski, Crystal		Markowski, Patricia
			Jankowski, Dave	Bloom, Thomas		Veltri, Ben
				Pouliot, Caroline		
Sun 08:30 AM on Sun	Combs, Christian	Lopinsky, Anthony	Seyler, Gretchen	Combs, Christina	Miller Family	Dudas, Danielle
	Dudas, Charlotte		Fralick, Desiree	Confer, Sandy	Salvato, Maureen	Lopinsky, Joanne
				Hoover, Ronald		Fralick, Jason
				Moorman, Gary		
Sun 10:30 AM on Sun	Mahle, Trevor	Siggins, Kim	Sowash, Lori	Mahle, Jennifer	Maurer Family,	Esposito, Jackie
	Mahle, Nathaniel		Bojan, Vince	Butterworth, Carol	Moscone, Sheila	Shoemaker, Robert
				Richardson, Traci		Goulet, Rick
				Stout, Dee		

The Pastor Page



I, Deacon Jack and the entire parish staff at the Church of the Good Shepherd sincerely invite you to every mass, but especially weekend, as we gather for the celebration of the Eucharist to grow in our relationship with the Lord and one another.



FROM SADNESS TO JOY, FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT!"

"... go and tell his disciples ..." Mark 16:7

The young man dressed in white inside the tomb of Jesus told the women who brought spices to anoint Jesus to go and tell. They did that and more. Encountering the resurrected Jesus changed everything for them. Easter changes everything for us as well. Capturing the meaning of Easter is the foundation of our faith life and vital for our spiritual growth. The early followers of Christ grasped the meaning of Easter and lived resurrected lives and because they did, they changed the world around them. What should resurrected lives look like today in our homes, work places, schools, churches and neighborhoods?

HAPPY EASTER!

May the abundant blessings of the Easter Season strengthen you in faith, hope, and love and help you witness THE GIFT OF NEW AND EVERLASTING LIFE given to us by our good and gracious God. May the power and light of Jesus' resurrection always guide all your steps on your journey of life.

Father Jozef, Deacon Jack, & Parish Staff

FOOD FOR THOUGHT AND ACTION

When we read God's word and discern God's actions in our lives, we realize that faith is truly and awesome gift and adventure.

Good Shepherd's Stewardship Report

For the Week Ending March 24th	
Non-BF Receipts:	
RR - Sunday Offerings (envelopes)	\$4,896
RR - Autodraft/Online Donations	\$2,823
RR - Easter	\$670
Rent/Facility Use	\$813
FF - Vacation Bible School Registration	\$40
FR - Lenten Dinner (less est. food exp.- \$1,200)	\$3,410
FR - Quilt Raffle	\$220
FR - Northern Deanery Raffle (amt. = 50% Profit)	\$505
Non-Building Fund Receipts-Total	<u>\$13,377</u>
Non-Building Fund Receipts-Goal	<u>\$17,000</u>
Over/(Under) Goal	<u>(\$3,623)</u>
Building Fund Receipts:	
BF Receipts-Total	<u>\$5,162</u>
BF Receipts-Goal	<u>\$6,478</u>
Over/(Under) Goal	<u>(\$1,316)</u>
Other Receipts (not retained by Parish):	
Diocesan Collections	\$105
CRS Rice Bowl	<u>\$75</u>
Other Receipts-Total	<u>\$180</u>

Note: RR = Regular Receipts
BF = Building Fund
FR = Fund Raisers (shown net of related expenses)
FF = Faith Formation

Summary of Non-BF Receipts & BF Receipts as of 3/24/24 (Week 39)		
Total All Receipts (Non-BF & Building Fund):		
	Week	YTD
Received	<u>\$18,539</u>	<u>\$814,592</u>
Goal	<u>\$23,478</u>	<u>\$915,642</u>
Over/(Under) Goal	<u>(\$4,939)</u>	<u>(\$101,050)</u>
Non-Building Fund Receipts:		
	Week	YTD
Received	<u>\$13,377</u>	<u>\$518,548</u>
Goal	<u>\$17,000</u>	<u>\$663,000</u>
Over/(Under) Goal	<u>(\$3,623)</u>	<u>(\$144,452)</u>
Building Fund Receipts:		
	Week	YTD
Received	<u>\$5,162</u>	<u>\$296,044</u>
Goal	<u>\$6,478</u>	<u>\$252,642</u>
Over/(Under) Goal	<u>(\$1,316)</u>	<u>\$43,402</u>

Catholic Ministries Drive 2024:		
Goal	\$44,045	
70% of Goal	\$30,832	
<i>(New Incentive for 2024: Good Shepherd will receive \$1,000 upon attainment of 70% of goal. Donation envelopes were recently mailed to registered households. Additional info./envelopes available in Gathering Space.</i>		

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY!

Please remember that one can have a lot of money but still live a really poor life and one can have no money at all and live a really rich life, that's because what makes a person truly rich is not how much they have but how much they give. **We can give without loving, but we cannot love without giving.**

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP AS A WAY OF LIFE – EASTER SUNDAY

“Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.” – Colossians 3:2

On this day we thank God for His Son, Jesus, who died, rose, and opened the gates of heaven for us. We celebrate and sing “Alleluia”. Let’s try to keep the joy of this Easter season in our hearts throughout the year! Pray daily and listen for how God is calling each of us to joyfully use our gifts to fulfill His salvation plan.

Parish Events

THANK YOU FROM THE ALPHA KITCHEN

We would like to take a moment to thank everyone in the Alpha Program for their unwavering support, kind words, gifts, and for giving us the opportunity to help the program get started. We are thankful for the smiles, laughter, and good times we shared - it was an amazing blessing. God bless and all the best to each of you. *Joanie, Carol, & Patty*

PILGRIMAGE JOURNEYS OF PAUL IN GREECE MAY 12-19, 2025

Join Fr. Jozef Kovacik and Deacon Jack Orlandi and follow in the footsteps of St. Paul and Silas to Amphipolis and explore the ruins of the many Christian basilicas there. Discover Thessalonika, Berea, Delphi, Corinth, where St. Paul met Aquila and Priscilla. Enjoy the rich architectural splendor of the ancient city of Athens. Visit the Acropolis, the Parthenon. Mass will be celebrated every day. Starting at \$3,848 from Philadelphia, your all-inclusive trip includes basic tour and guided sightseeing, round trip international airfare, administration fees, entrance fees, hotel gratuities and program fees. Enjoy daily breakfast and dinner (included), deluxe motor coaches, first class hotels and much, much, more. A round-trip bus will be provided from Good Shepherd Catholic Church to the Philadelphia airport.

Sign up for an information session on the Good Shepherd Website:

<https://www.goodshepherd-sc.org/>

For more information contact Deacon Jack Orlandi at jorlandi@dioceseaj.org

CRS SPOTLIGHT

In Indonesia, cyclones and other severe weather (which is becoming more frequent and devastating due to climate change) make accessing food difficult. Strong rains and wind from these storms, combined with long periods without rain, make it difficult for people like Evita Tiro Wada to grow food. Evita and her family live on Flores Island, where she keeps a home garden for food and income.

To help her family and community become more resilient against natural disasters and have more reliable access to food, Evita participated in a Catholic Relief Services' program, through which she joined a disaster preparedness group. The group helps their community stay safe during emergencies like

cyclones and earthquakes. They created a system to warn people to evacuate and identified evacuation routes, assembly points and resources they can use during a crisis. The group also maintains a community garden; they use a drip irrigation system that conserves water so the vegetables can grow even during a drought. Visit www.crs.org for more information and to see how you can help!

If you are interested in supporting CRS's advocacy and humanitarian efforts, contact Linda Gall (linda.j.gall@gmail.com) to learn more about the work of our State College CRS Chapter.

PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact the following parishioners with any prayer intentions:

Ellen Jankowski – 814-231-0213; or Mary Petersen – 814-238-2209; or Marge Carline – 814-574-2983.

HAPPY EASTER!

As our CRS Rice Bowl journey comes to an end, may the Eucharist continue to transform our lives and help us respond to God's call to serve our global family. Let us commit to sharing the joy of the Resurrection with people in our local community and around the world. Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl in the basket in the Gathering space as soon as possible or donate online at www.goodshepherd-sc.org (click on the 'Online Giving' green tab at the top of the page).



SPECIAL PRAYERS NEEDED

As a family of believers, we pray for all who are suffering, but especially our sick & homebound family members and friends:

Tydan Campell, Don Cook, Danielle Fantasky, Jan & Frank Henson, Marie James, Susan Johnson, Tom Kearney, Eli Keim, Gail Kelley, Clair Kester, Richard Kustin, Doug Laplante, Betty Ann Marroni, Robert Martin, Richard & Marie Mollo, Deacon Mike Ondik, Deacon Jack Orlandi, Selena Ortiz, Annmarie Rodriguez, Mary Ann Sabolsice, Greg Salokangas, John Steimer, Naomi Tavera, Connie Trybus, Donna Williams, Mary Ziobro.

♦ *Please let us know if you'd like a name added or removed from the list.*

NORTHERN DEANERY RAFFLE

Two tickets are being mailed to each household in the Parish. We hope you will support this fund raising effort. Tickets are \$10/each - \$5 goes to the Deanery and the parishes that put in the upfront money for prizes, and \$5 stays at Church of the Good Shepherd. *We will not be selling tickets after Masses until April.* People wanting to buy them before then can stop by the office during business hours. There is a poster in the Gathering Space describing the prizes.

FAMILY CORNER

Our congratulations to the following couples celebrating their wedding anniversary this week:

Steven Atanasio & Kathleen Schaefer	Apr 01
Luis Morales & Mary Walsh	Apr 01
Daniel & Laura Miller	Apr 05
Rick & Catherine Tillotson	Apr 06
Andrew & Elaine Romanczyk	Apr 06



PRAYER SHAWLS

To request a Prayer Shawl or for more information, please contact Lynne DeLuca at 814-234-4654. The weekly Prayer Shawl Meeting takes place in the Gathering Space from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays.

PRAYERS AND SQUARES MINISTRY

To request a Prayer Quilt or for more information please contact either Karen Kearney at kearneyt1@comcast.net, 814-883-4588 or Michelle Spiering at mms36@psu.edu, 814-235-1282.

COMMUNION AND VISITS OUTSIDE MASS

If you know anyone in the hospital, an assisted care facility, or a nursing home who is not receiving Communion but would like to receive, please notify the church office at 814-238-2110. Arrangements can be made with the Homebound Committee for Communion or for a visit. Remember, HIPPA laws and facility policies hinder them in contacting the parish office. Notification and request is best made to the church office by a family member or a friend.

HOSPITALITY MINISTERS AND DONUT PICKUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hospitality Ministers greet Mass attendees, facilitate the Presentation of the Gifts, serve refreshments after the Sunday Masses, and assist the congregation with miscellaneous needs such as seating, logistics, and rest-room location. The goal of the ministry is to create a warm, welcoming atmosphere that facilitates both worship and fellowship. This ministry is a wonderful way to involve children in an important dimension of parish life, and you do not have to be Catholic to be a Hospitality Minister. All Masses are in need of additional volunteers, and you do not have to perform all duties to be a part of the ministry. We are happy to provide opportunities within your comfort zone, so introverts are most welcome! Rest assured that there is plenty to do behind the scenes.

The Hospitality Ministry is also trying to assemble a group of volunteers that are willing to pick up donuts from the North Atherton Giant on either Saturday afternoon, or before 8:30 Mass on Sunday. You do not have to be a Hospitality Minister to support this endeavor.

If you would like more information about being a Hospitality Minister, or a donut pickup volunteer, please contact Vince Bojan at 814-380-4619, or vjb2@psu.edu.



*The Parish Staff thanks you for gifts of flowers, delicious sweets, and support! May the joy and hope this season fill your hearts ~
Happy Easter!*

Faith Formation News

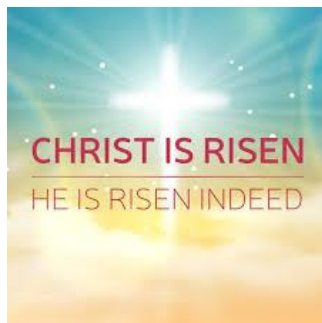


EASTER EGG HUNT ~ MARCH 30TH @ 10:00 A.M.

**EASTER FOOD BASKET BLESSING ~ SATURDAY,
MARCH 30TH @ 12:00 P.M.**



NO FF CLASSES EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST ~ HAPPY EASTER!!



Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! Easter is the high point of our liturgical year, as the resurrection is the pinnacle of our Christian identity. The exclamation “He is risen!” is a traditional Easter greeting. The traditional response is “He is risen, indeed!” In the Orthodox and Catholic churches, the greeting is called the “Paschal Greeting” and is a very old custom. Use this greeting all week!

The greeting is ultimately based on Luke 24:34. Translations throughout church history translated this verse nearly identically: “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” The New American Bible differs slightly: “The Lord has truly been raised and

has appeared to Simon!” We’re not sure how the saying became the standard Easter greeting in the Christian community.

Easter Dinner Prayer - (a grace prayer before a meals during the Easter season)

Youngest Present: Christ is Risen, Alleluia.

All: He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Oldest (or other leaders): Lord, as we gather together as family and friends we invite you once again into our lives.

May the hope of your resurrection color our days.

May the promise of your spirit working in us light up our lives.

May the love you revealed to us shape our giving.

May the truth in your word guide our journeys,

And may the joy of your kingdom fill our homes.

As we gather together beneath the banner of your life,

We thank you for all the wonderful food that we can now enjoy, and for all the blessings that come from you.

May this feast remind us of the abundant love you show for us.

All: Thank you Lord. Amen.

Adapted from: www.living-prayers.com/events/easter_prayers.html#ixzz4e3lr42ka



VBS 2024 PLANNING MEETING - TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH
VIA ZOOM ~ CONTACT AMY TIMAN FOR ZOOM LINK.

ALL CLASS MASS: SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH, 10:30 AM
*** OUR LAST FF MASS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR ***



LAMBS' LITURGY - UPCOMING DATES ARE:
APRIL 21ST, AND MAY 19TH AT THE 10:30 A.M. MASS

Vacation Bible School

**June 17th thru
June 21st, 2024**

at

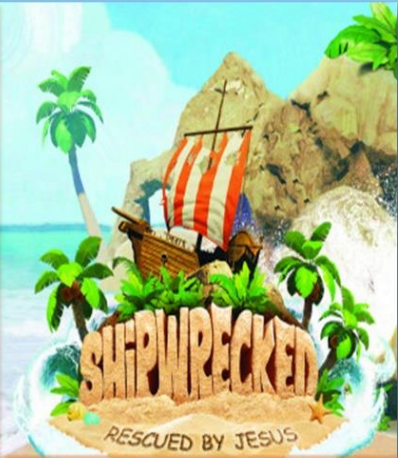
Good Shepherd Catholic Church
867 Grays Woods Blvd.
Port Matilda

For children Pre-K to 5th grade
(in the fall) -

Children of ALL Faiths Welcome!

Registration forms can be found in the Gathering
Space at Good Shepherd or on the Good Shepherd
Catholic Church website

www.goodshepherd-sc.org



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We are in need of both ADULT and
TEEN (9th-12th grade) volunteers for the week.

Volunteer forms can be found in the gathering space or online. Contact
the office at 814-238-2110 for more information.

Area Events

CATHOLIC SINGLES UNITED – A new group for single Catholics, from all walks of life in our area ages 35-55, who will gather at least one time each month for social outings. We will dine together, attend theatre events, religious events, sports events, outdoor events, and more! Register on the home page of website www.ourladyofvictory.com and you will be contacted about the next group event. We hope to see you soon!

PRISON MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – PCGG (Prison Christian Growth Group) is seeking volunteers interested in ministering to inmates at Benner and Rockview prisons. Twice a month, PCGG members visit Rockview and once a month, Benner. A fulfilling and inspiring ministry, members are answering Jesus' call to visit the prisoners. Anyone interested in more information may contact Teresa Jeffries at 814-381-1317 or jeffriesteresa2@gmail.com.

Diocesan Events

BUS TRIP TO FRANCISCAN MONASTERY, WASHINGTON, DC - Spend a beautiful spring day with the Franciscan Friars, TOR at [Franciscan Monastery](#) in Washington, DC on Wednesday, April 24th! The trip will include Mass, tours of the upper and lower church, and beautiful outdoor garden. Part of the tour includes replicas of the Holy Lands that are throughout the campus. The cost is \$120 and includes lunch, dinner, a donation to the DC Monastery and all tips. The bus departs from St. Bernardine Monastery, Hollidaysburg at 7:00 AM and returns at approximately 8:00 PM. For questions or to register, call 814-695-3802 or Franciscan Friars, TOR, PO Box 139, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. Registration deadline is April 14th!

General Information

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday
Office Phone: (814) 238-2110 -- Office of Faith Formation: (814) 238-0649

Visits to the Sick and Homebound:

If you, your family member or a friend who is a parishioner of Good Shepherd Church is admitted to Mount Nittany Medical Center and wishes to be visited by Father Jozef or Deacon Jack and receive the Sacrament of the Anointing, Reconciliation, or Eucharist, please contact the Parish Office to let us know. Due to personal privacy laws the hospital does not contact us.

Those who are homebound and would like to receive communion at home should also call the Parish Office. Social visits, either at the hospital or in your home, can also be arranged through our Visitation Committee.

Baptism:

Parents may prepare for the baptism of their new baby before he or she is born by attending our Baptism Preparation Session. For more information or to register for this program, please call the Parish Office.

Reconciliation:

Confessions are scheduled on Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Reconciliation Room in the Chapel or by appointment.

Marriage:

Call the Parish Office at least 9 months in advance of your scheduled wedding date.

Funerals:

The parish is here to support the family in a time of loss. Please call the Parish Office.

Papal Blessings:

Fr. Jozef will present a Papal Blessing to those celebrating a special wedding anniversary or birthday. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

Bulletin:

Bulletin articles are due in the Parish Office by Thursday at noon, unless otherwise noted. Most articles may run for up to three consecutive weeks. Inserts are limited.

Moving or changing your phone number or e-mail?

Please remember to inform the Parish Office of the changes to your contact information.

Parish Registration:

We would like to meet you! You may drop by or call the Parish Office to begin the registration process. Even if your stay in State College will be relatively short, you should register as a member of one of the two local parishes or with the Penn State Catholic Center. Parish membership has a special importance for Baptism and Marriage.

Hearing Impaired?

Pocket-sized units (with earphones) offering a direct link to the sound system in the church are available for your use. The units can be picked up in the sacristy before mass.



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Please support these businesses as they help support the parish.

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Dr. Christine Zlupko

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