CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Cover is in separate file. This is the font for the cover (Times New Roman)

Pastoral Staff

Priests and Deacons

Rev. Kenneth M. Zach - Pastor

Rev. Rudy Pesongco - Associate Pastor

Rev. Jerry Cestare - Associate Pastor

Deacon Thomas O'Connor Deacon John C. Newhall

Rev. Msgr. Thomas Spadaro - Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Msgr. Gerard Ringenback - Pastor Emeritus

Pastoral Minister of Faith Formation

Sister Ellen Zak, C.S.F.N.

Pastoral Minister for Parish Social Ministry

Deacon John C. Newhall

Parish Business Manager

Annemarie Camporeale

Contact Information

Parish Office

(631) 588-7689 or 588-7651

(631) 588-7603 (fax)

Faith Formation Office

(631) 981-3889

Parish Social Ministry Office

(631) 585-4544

Church Website

www.goodshepherdRCchurch.org

Church Email

goodshepherdstaf@aol.com



Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00am - 3:00pm 9:00am - 3:00pm

Friday Saturday

10:00am - 1:00pm

Sunday

Summer Hours* varies

Sacramental Life

Weekend Masses

Sunday Evening 5:00 PM Sunday 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM,

12:00 Noon & 5 PM

Holy Day Masses

Evening before Holy Day 7:00 PM Holy Day 9:00 AM, 12:00 Noon & 5:00 PM

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday Saturday Morning

9:00 AM 9:00 AM

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Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Every Tuesday from 12Noon - 1:00pm

Baptisms

Baptisms are celebrated twice a month on Sundays at 2:00 PM by reservation only. Please contact the parish office at least 2 months prior to desired date to make arrangements for this sacrament.

Marriages

Please contact the parish office nine months to a year in advance of your wedding.

Anointing of the Sick

Anyone who is seriously ill, elderly, or facing an operation should be anointed with the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Contact the parish office.

Communion for the Homebound

Anyone who cannot attend Mass due to illness or age may receive Communion at home. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

Rite of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM, or by appointment.

Interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your Sacraments?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which adults are brought into the Catholic Church. If you have never been baptized, confirmed, or received First Holy Communion, or if you are a member of another Christian Church and wish to become a member of the Catholic Church, please contact the parish office.

Pray the Rosary

Please join us in the Church Monday through Saturday @ 8:30am. We will pray the Rosary aloud asking for the intercession of the Blessed Mother for the health and safety of our families, our parish community, and for peace in our troubled world!

FATHER KEN'S CORNER



Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Parish of The Good Shepherd,

We're now observing the 3rd Sunday of the Advent Season; one additional "Rose" colored candle to light on the wreath, one week closer to Christmas, one week less to do everything to make your household a "holly, jolly Christmas". How have the past two weeks been - a spiritual wasteland or a spiritual paradise?

For most, I'm guessing that the former is truer than the latter – all around us, just too much is going on. As a time of good cheer we perhaps, go to the extremes in trying to make 'your Christmases bright'. There are school plays and concerts by the children. There's probably Christmas gatherings with business associates or neighbors. And if you belong to a club or a group that meets every month, chances are very high that there will be a Christmas party and perhaps a grab bag or 'secret santa'. It's hard to avoid the hype which has now defined the Christmas holiday – stealing what was truly once a Holy Day, a religious celebration. If you're a certain age – as I am – you may tend to mourn the missing simple beauty of the celebration of the birth of the Son of God.

Yet it looks like the over-commercialization of the Christmas celebration is here to stay and despite all the discussions as to whether we greet friends and strangers with "Merry Christmas", "Blessed Christmas", or "Happy Holidays", we need to FOCUS on WHAT WE KNOW IS CENTRAL. We can fall into the trap of getting ourselves all riled up in complaining about and condemning the secularization of a religious holiday OR you and I can enter into the TRUE SPIRIT of BOTH the Advent and Christmas Seasons. Even at this late juncture – it isn't too late. Yes, trite as it might sound – "Jesus IS THE REASON for the season". He's our focus.

That true spirit of Advent and Christmastide, ironically, is to *Slow Down* when we feel that we need to go faster. That is a hard truth – we can understand the great importance of preparing ourselves to celebrate the most beautiful and blessed birth in human history while also knowing we'll get swept up in all the hoopla. If you have come this far with me, the paradox, I believe, is that in 'slowing down' our minds and our activities, we benefit far more greatly in our hearts and souls.

Back on December 8th – the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – in the first reading from the Book of Genesis we heard "the Lord God called out to the man and asked him, "Where are you?" That is what God is simply asking us all our lives, but particularly in the Advent Season, "Tom, Jane, Susan, Bert, where are you? Are you hiding from me? Are you in some way afraid of coming closer to me? Have you so immersed yourself in the busyness of the upcoming celebration that you've forgotten that YOU'RE CELEBRATING HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU?"

That's the bottom line, we're celebrating not just a special birth, but we're celebrating what that birth means; how much we are loved by the One Who Is Love. That's an amazing realization! That Our God joins creation in order to redeem creation. By becoming a part of that creation, the Word of God - Jesus who is divine – He who is Consubstantial with the Father – empties himself and gives us a DIVINE GIFT – Christmas, the Word Made Flesh. This is how Our God says, "I Love You."

That is the difference in the celebration of Christmas between adults and children. They spend the entire Advent Season looking to what they will GET on Christmas Morning and we spend the entire Advent Season looking at what we still need to do before Christmas morning. In a sense they understand better than we the meaning of a gift – something to be embraced even longed for. Their desire for gifts and games, toys and fun should inspire us to look beyond the parties and gatherings with the desire to honor and embrace the reason why we have the gatherings – to celebrate Jesus - the human manifestation of Perfect Love.

Offerings



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday December 16th Judy Martinetti 5:00 pm December 17th Sunday Mariano Ortiz-Ruiz 7:00 am 8:30 am Joseph Montemurro 10:00am Mass Guild

12:00 pm James David Evans

People of Good Shepherd 5:00 pm

Monday December 18th 9:00 am Victor Garcia Tuesday December 19th Vito L. Amruso 9:00 am Wednesday December 20th

9:00 am Nicholas Montemurro, Sr.

December 21st **Thursday**

Mary Dormer & Ginny Jablonski 9:00 am

Friday December 22nd Roberta Demetroulakos 9:00 am

Saturday December 23rd Helen Georgecink 9:00 am Jennie Maduri 5:00 pm December 24th Sunday

People of Good Shepherd 7:00 am Josephine Lovaglio 8:30 am

Mass Guild 10:00 am

Bill Reynolds, Vinnie & Frank Zaniewski 12:00 pm

Christmas Eve Masses 4:00 pm Mass Guild Priests of G S 5:30 pm

10:00 pm Deceased Priests of G S

Mass Guild Members

December 17, 2023

In Memory of:

Michael Frustaci Alexis Lamb Connie Loiacono Rizalina Aquino Presentacion Prosia Saberio Camarda Sebastian Zuppardi Thomas McGovern McFarlane & McMenamin Families

Gifts of Bread & Wine

The Gifts of Bread & Wine



In Loving Memory of: Lorraine Uhl

Donated by: Loving Husband, John Uhl

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp, which burns near the Tabernacle in the Church, is the reminder of the Lord's Presence in the Most Holy Eucharist.



In Loving Memory of:

Vito L. Amruso

Donated by:

Loving Daughter

With the number of COVID and FLU cases rising across Long Island, we ask parishioners who are not feeling well or have tested positive for COVID or FLU to please stay home until they are no longer ill. Please follow past protocols regarding masks. Daily Mass is live-streamed at 9am on weekdays and at 10am on Sunday mornings.

God Speaks...

Called to be Church

Ordinary People Connecting Life & Faith

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2023 Luke 1: 26-38

"The angel answered Mary: '...nothing is impossible with God.' Mary said, '...Let it be done to me as you say.'"

- 1. When was the last time that God surprised you?
- 2. How were you able to trust God enough to let the Lord's surprising plan unfold?

OUR PARISH VISION STATEMENT

Welcoming All...Awakening Faith.. Serving Others...

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the disciples of Jesus Christ who Worship at Good Shepherd, accept the privilege and responsibility of supporting one another in love and service, of giving witness to the Good News of salvation, thus enabling others to experience the loving presence of Our Risen Lord..

Important DRVC Information

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims of sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred and the forms to use, can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page: https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc

Good News!

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B) 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 / Romans 16:25-27 / Luke 1:26-38

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The old axiom goes: if you want to make God laugh, tell God your plans. All too often the vision God has for us takes us in quite varying directions. The stories of King David and of Mary echo such realities. David, who wanted to build a temple for the Ark of the Covenant so God would not need to live in a tent, had his plans nixed, only to be reminded that it is *God* who does the building in life and not David. And Mary, who found herself confused over how she might conceive, was asked to simply trust and place her life in the hands of God. Both said "yes."

There are always times when the unfolding path of God for us may unsettle us: the complexities of immigrants at our doorstep, the changing demographics of our cities, the need to close or merge parishes, the upheavals of our personal lives. We find ourselves asking why without receiving any answers. Each time there is no answer, consider it an invitation to trust in a power greater than ourselves.

Not all rhythms of life are necessarily caused by the hand of God, but then one can never be sure. Who is to say where and how and through whom God works? Christmas comes as a reminder that God's love and presence still unfolds in varied and new ways, always giving birth again and again to the divine made flesh in our lives. The mystery of the Incarnation points to this truth: God is present in all of life. ●

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Parish Events

Readings and Saints of the Week

Monday, 12/18 Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25

Blessed Anthony Grassi

Tuesday, 12/19 Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25 Blessed Urban V

Wednesday, 12/20 Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38

St. Dominic of Silos

Thursday, 12/21 Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45 St. Peter Canisius

Friday, 12/22 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56

Blessed Jacopone de Todi

Saturday, 12/23 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1: 57-66 St. John of Kanty

Sunday, 12/24 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Eve: Vigil—Is 62:1-5 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Mt 1: 1-25 **Night**— Is 9:1-6 Ti 2:11-14

Lk 2:1-14 Christmas Eve

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY **DECEMBER 17th** 11 am FH/ Hospitality (FF) **MONDAY DECEMBER 18th** 1:00—2 pm C/Confession

4:00 pm L/Faith Formation CC/Faith Formation 4:30 pm 6:30—8:30 pm C/ Confesssion

TUESDAY **DECEMBER 19th**

9:30 am FH/ Seniors 12:30 pm C/Adoration 4:15 pm L/Faith Formation

7:00 pm L/RCIA 7:00 pm C/Choir

WEDNESDAY **DECEMBER 20th**

4:00 pm CPC/Faith Formation L/ Faith Formation 4:30 pm 7:30 pm C/Folk Group

THÚRSDAY **DECEMBER 21st**

L/Friendship Garden 10:00 am 5:00 pm L/ Faith Formation C/Junior Choir 6:00 pm

7:00 pm C/Choir 7:30 pm FH/K of C

FRIDAY DECEMBER 22nd

6:00 pm C/Decorating

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23rd 9:30 am L/Faith Formation C/Confessions

11:00 am - 2 pm C/Confessions 4:00 pm SUNDAY **DECEMBER 24th**

Mass Schedule

7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 Noon

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

4:00 pm, 5:30 pm & 10:00 pm

Volunteers

Volunteers in the Diocese of Rockville Centre

A person wishing to volunteer in any parish or organization in the Diocese of Rockville Centre must first complete three requirements:

- 1. Attend Protecting God's Children (Virtus)
- 2. Sign the Codes of Conduct
- 3. Complete a background screening application.

(Background screening is conducted on all volunteers and employees every 5

Directions to Complete the 3 Requirements:

- 1. Sign up to attend a Protecting God's Children class: www.Virtus.org When you log on to the Virtus website, you will create a Virtus account.
 - a. If you have not attended a Virtus class, you are a first time registrant.
 - b. The first screen will ask the name of your organization-from the drop down list select Rockville Centre-Safe Environment.
 - c. Follow all directions on the next screens.
 - d. One screen will have the **Codes of Conduct**. Please acknowledge the Codes of Conduct.
 - e. Continue with the registration process and select the class you will
 - f. After selecting the class, you will be instructed to complete the background screening application.
 - 2. Background Screening Application:
 - a. Sterling Volunteers is the company providing the background screening.
 - b. Follow all the directions to complete the background screening application. DO NOT STOP ONCE YOU BEGIN THE APPLICATION! If you stop-you are locked out of the process due to security procedures.
 - c. You will need to provide your Social Security #; if you do not provide a Social Security # you will be charged a fee.
 - d. After completing the application, hit the 'Submit Button'

Congratulations! You have now:

Registered to attend a Virtus class ~ signed the Codes of Conduct ~ Completed the Background Screening.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday, December 18th

1:00pm - 2:00pm and 6:30pm - 8:30pm Saturday, December 23rd

11:00am - 2:00pm and 4:00pm - 5:00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Sunday, December 24th

4:00pm, 5:30pm and 10:00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Monday, December 25th

8:30am, 10:00am & 12Noon (No 5pm Mass)

NEW YEARS SCHEDULE

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Sunday, December 31st at 5:00pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Monday, January 1st

8:30am, 10:00am & 12Noon (No 5pm Mass)

Parish Events

A special thank you to Moloney Family Funeral Homes for the 2024 Good Shepherd Parish Calendars. Please take one for you family as you leave Mass today!





Pope Francis speaks out against his critics in the U.S. Catholic Church

Pope Francis' comments came in a meeting with fellow Jesuits in Portugal, where one of the priests remarked that he had spent a year in the United States and was shocked by the anger directed at Pope Francis and where he often witnessed criticisms of Pope Francis' leadership by American bishops.

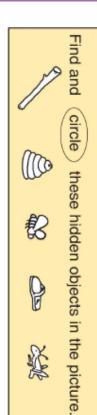
Pope Francis replied "The situation in the United States is not easy: there is a very strong reactionary attitude. It is organized and shapes the way people belong, even emotionally. Some people opt out; they go backward; they are what I call *indietristi*." When you go backwards, you form something closed, disconnected from the roots of the church and you lose the sap of revelation. If you don't change upward, you go backward, and then you take on criteria for change other than those our faith gives for growth and change. And the effects on morality are devastating."

Pope Francis concluded his remarks to the priest by saying "Those American groups you talk about, so closed, are isolating themselves. Instead of living by doctrine, by the true doctrine that always develops and bears fruit, they live by ideologies. When you abandon doctrine in life to replace it with an ideology, you have lost, you have lost as in war."

What do YOU see as the upward change the Pope is speaking about?

If you would like to share your personal response with the parish in a future bulletin, please fill out the section below and drop it in the box in front of the main office. All submissions will remain anonymous. You can also email goodshepherdstaf@aol.com with your response.

Children's Page



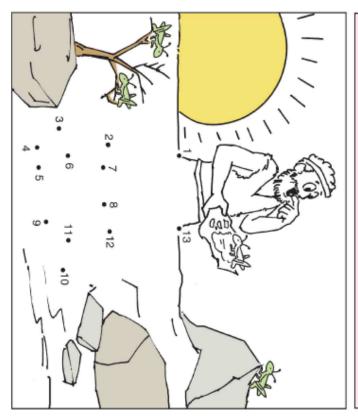
John said that Jesus would come after him.





John the Baptist was sent to tell about Jesus.

Connect the dots. 12345678910111213



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LECTIO DIVINA

- Lectio
- Meditatio
- Oratio
- Contemplatio





Join Bishop Andrzej

For Scripture Reflection Series

on St. JOSEPH - Part IV

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

at 7:30 pm - ZOOM webinar.

Bible Study Verses

JOSEPH

The Man of Loving Justice

Gospel of Matthew 1: 18-25

The Annunciation to Joseph

Registration is Required,

in order to receive the ZOOM link to each session.

Please contact the Western Vicariate office with your name, parish, email address and phone number.

Send your email to:

westernvicariate@drvc.org
or call Suzanne at 516-744-6850.



Parish Social Ministry

Our office is reaching out to you or anyone you know in our area that is in need of assistance for food, temporary financial help, counseling, advice or referrals or is sick, home bound, lonely and hurting. If in need of our services, please call our office at 585-4544. All information taken is treated privately and confidentially except where disclosure is made at your request or with your permission.

Food Pantry

Please call 585-4544 and leave a message if you need assistance.

Senior Group

If you are 55 years of age, or older, come join us on Tuesday mornings after the 9am mass in Fellowship Hall. We are men and women who help support each other and the parish through many social activities.

Friendship Ministry

Friendship Ministry is a group that meets every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until Noon in Fellowship Hall. If crocheting or knitting is not your thing, just come and socialize with us; we would love to have the chance to meet you.

The Peanut Butter & Jelly Gang

The **Peanut Butter & Jelly Gang** whose mission is to serve those in need and provide an opportunity for others to serve would like to thank the Good Shepherd Knights of Columbus Council #8607 for their very generous donation and support.

At our last meeting, with the help of our volunteers, we were able to make 610 sandwiches and 100 wash-up kits. Thank you!

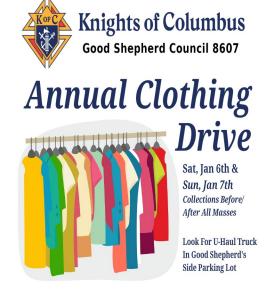
Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 13th from 8:30 to 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. In addition to your time, we need individually wrapped hard candy (no chocolate please) and sample size soap and shampoo for our washup kits.

These items can be dropped off in the library of the church; please label them- "For PB&J Gang." DO NOT drop off bread.

When you come to volunteer, if you are able to, please bring any of the above mentioned items and/or 1 loaf of white or whole wheat bread. If needed, 1 hour of community service will be given to those who attend.

Our sandwiches and wash-up kits are delivered to Lighthouse Mission located at 1543 Montauk Hwy, Bellport, NY 11713.

K of C Clothing Drive



What's In Your Closet?

Accepting Clothing/Shoes, Accessories & Household Items

PLEASE PUT ALL ITEMS IN WELL TIED TRASH BAGS.

Your donations matter... We are working with Savers, and receive a small monetary donation based upon total weight of the items collected. These funds allow us to to continue our charitable works. Additionally, your donations are used by Savers to fund Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island. And thank you to U-Haul of Holbrook for the generous truck rental donation.

Any questions, call the Grand Knight @ 631-471-1996

Brick Program

				Paid			
					Check #		
	00 a commen base er your brick j	or share a sponsorative 4" x of one of the	pecial messag 8" brick will b Stations of th der form and s	ie. e custom engr	aved and placed		
Name:					_		
Address:							
Phone:	em	ail:					
Signature:			Option	al Artwork sei	ection		
Brick 4" x 8"	Inscrip	tion 1-3 lines 1	8-20 letters/sp	aces per line			
192 R23	R22	R25	R148	R154	R155	R169	
H45 H44	R190	R188	R189	R138	R168	R137	
R185 R184	R29	R31	R161	R163	R142	R136	
X R191 P191	P129	T05	C41	Q58	R37	H164	
Contact:				Stat	ion:		

We Pray...Celebrate...Remember...

Pray for the Sick

Baby Madison Schreiber Anthony Janine Sybil Kathy Alegre & Family Amanda Algiere Arturo Bautista Joseph Benevento "BEVERLY" Scott's mom.. Alicia Calderon Dorothy Clifford Laurie Cohen Javier Dahl Debra Devine Dolores Diana E. Barbara Esposito Richard Feramisco John Fitzgerald Kathy Stephens-Fusaro Joy G Dorothy Grosso Geraldine Halderman Susan Hellstrom Anita Heuskin Bob Hustick Angela Jacobs Wayne & Nancy Johnson Mark Kutch Dámaso Larrondo Christopher Leahy Michael Loscalzo

Ana & Julio Marmol
Joe Mallon
Joseph Mandaro
Bill Mangan
Herman Mantos
Diane Massaro
Nicholas Maucelli
Daniel & Paula McGlynn
Thomas Mistretta, Jr.
James Myer
Don Neri
Mary Ann Nicholas
Rocco Porrino
Bill & Mary Rabon
Lorraine Rajkowski
Francine Richetti
Eva Roque
Susan Rothaug
Mary Rosa
Rosie
Sue Rossie
Patrick Ripp
Patrick Ripp
Patrick S.
Madison Schreiber
Marilyn Sint
Sal Spezio
Heather Spiegeliere
Phyllis Tagg
Lee Tanzillo
Laurie Tiller
Emely Uckert
Thomas Vogel
Tommy & Kim Vogel
Keith Walsh
Samantha Wixom

Please call the Main Office at 631-588-7689 if you would like to place a loved one on our sick list.

Names will be placed on the sick list for a period of 3 months. Once removed from the sick list, their names are placed in our Prayer Book and they will continue to be prayed for.

Pray for Our Military

Sgt Christopher DiSanto USAF
Pvt. Dylan Gianlanella, US Army
Major Thomas J. Burke, USMC
Capt Christine M. Cahill, US Army
MI, Mark Novellano, US Navy
Daniel Schroeder, US Army
Michael Bizzoco, US Marines
James O'Brien, USAF
Billy O'Brien, US Navy
Michael F. Bizzoco, US Navy
Frederick W. Luebke, US Navy
Sgt. Rory Allen, US Army
Capt Brian Kevin Walsh, US Army
Pvt. 1st Class Joseph Cara - Army
Pvt. 1st Class Joseph Cara - Army
VISAF Airmen 1st Class-Sean Mullins
James A Lee, Gunney Sgnt, USMC,
USS America
SSG Jeffrey Nilssen, US Army
HM1 Matthew Belmonte, US Navy
Carson Nagle - USAF
Samuel Matuszewski, US Coast Guard
Lisette Granada Marines (GSYG)
Brent Mazurkiewicz, USAF
Brian Hunter Army (GSYG)
SN Ronald Martiny
Matthew Judson Pace, USMC

PFC Thomas Hirschev, USMC

Vincent Dalessandro,E-3, US Navy A1C, Colleen M. Sweeney, USAF William F. Sweeney III, US Navy Vanessa JiJon Pvt. Kevin Arpino, US Army (GSYG) Pvt. Andrew Wright, Army (GSYG) Pvt. Andrew Brian Gallagher, US Army Pvt. Kevin Long Capt. Brian Gallagher, US Army Rocco Yannucci, USAF Gavin Alexander Samuelsen, USAF Sergeant Glenn Richards Capt. Christopher Hackett, US Army Thomas B. Cetin, US Navy Specialist Michael F. Gallina Tommy Killian, USAF Christen Wolffer, US Navy (GSYG) Austin DeRosa, 2nd LTD Army Ronald Marginy, US Navy, Seaman Eric Schreck, US Coast Guard Brian Acerno, USN Anthony Pino. US Navy



We Welcome

We welcome to our faith community those Children to be Baptized... December 2023

Jake Robert Long Amaya Lynn Marshall Samuel Joseph McDermott Avery Joleen Jewell Maris Rose Raimo Brooke Elise Appel Joanna Louise D'Onofrio

We Celebrate

We ask the family of Good Shepherd to pray for the following couple who will receive the Sacrament of Marriage in November & December 2023

Nicholas Rakiec & Kelly Carey
Adam Ciabattari & Celeste DeRosa
Richard Kohler & Denise Lombardi
George Greve & Deirdre Maynard
Nicholas Alfino & Annemarie Staluppi
Daniel Perkins & Ann Benoit
Joseph Kara & Alexandra Bergen

We Remember

May the good Lord bless all the faithful departed.

May their souls rest in peace.

Patricia Ann Arpino James W. Brandstadter Katherine Portogallo



Pictures of Parish Events In color—Inside back cover (separate file)

