



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham April 30, 2024

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

The readings for this coming Sunday focus on who God calls to leadership and ministry. More specifically, they focus on God's call to those who are far from perfect, and who others would likely not have called to leadership and ministry. In the Acts of the Apostles reading, we are reminded that Paul was a persecutor of the early Church and had a conversion experience in which he "saw the light" and became an important evangelist in the early church. In the passage from John's Gospel, we are reminded that Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, yet he was called by Jesus to lead the church, by continuing his mission and ministry of love.

These examples (Paul and Peter) are reminders to us all that God does not focus on our faith resumes when it comes to the call to discipleship. The past is the past. When we sincerely seek forgiveness for past sins, forgiveness is granted. God's focus is on who we are today and where our hearts are. What's most important is that we focus on being ambassadors of Jesus' mission of love. What's most important is that we be people of love, compassion, and acceptance.

Is something from your past keeping you from being the disciple God is calling you to be? Is something from your past keeping you from being an ambassador of Jesus' love, compassion, and acceptance? Ask God's help in letting it go, to seek forgiveness if that is needed, and to focus on spreading the good news of Jesus' lifegiving and transforming way of love.

See you Sunday!

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE MAY 4, 2025	
8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> MIKE ALFONSO</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> JOELLA CRUZ</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> JANE MANDELL SHERYL FACCHETTI</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> JUDY GOVONI & RICHIE BALANCA</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> RICH ELLIS</p> <p><u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> JESSI MERRICK & KERRI GALLAGHER</p> <p><u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</u> RICHIE BALANCA</p>

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS
CLICK HERE](#)

MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES
CLICK HERE](#)

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[!\[\]\(a870788d6ed9b8fd294b7654a8c8526b_img.jpg\) **Parish Website**](#)

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday is the first Sunday of the month and we will be celebrating with a blessing and prayer, those who are celebrating their *birthdays and anniversaries* in the month of May. Look below for more information.

2. This coming Sunday is a ***Sunday School Sunday***, which takes place during the 10am Service. Look below for more information.

3. If you have parish information to pass on to the Good Shepherd community in our weekly newsletter ("Along the Way"), please submit the information to our office manager Cathi Maurice or to Pastor Dan.

[CLICK HERE FOR PARISH CALENDAR](#)

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

Purchase Flowers in May and Help Us Feed the Hungry

Our Good Shepherd's Table Thursday meals has once again been selected to benefit from Stop & Shop's Bloomin' 4 Good Program, created to fight hunger across the communities they serve. For the month of May, a bouquet in the sleeve marked "Bloomin' 4 Good" from the Stop & Shop at Wareham will brighten a home or make someone's day while also directing a donation to Good Shepherd's Table. So, if you're looking to buy flowers in May, this is a way to help us feed the hungry as well.

The Good Shepherd Guild Spring Rummage Sale

Our Spring Rummage Sale is being held on Saturday, May 17, from 9:00am till 1:00pm in the parish hall. We are looking for clean clothes, shoes, household linens, white elephant items, books, and games. You can drop off items on Friday May 16, from 10am-5pm to the parish hall. Please no computers, TVs, microwaves, and large pictures; as we must pay to dispose of them if they don't sell. We cannot accept furniture as this also is hard for us to sell. Thank you in advance for your donations. If you would like to help Friday or Saturday contact Karen Clark at 508-763-5129.

The Next Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, May 8, beginning at 6:00pm. If you would like to submit possible agenda items for consideration, you can do so through Joella Cruz (Senior Warden) or Pastor Dan by May 1.

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

On the first Sunday of the month we recognize, with a special blessing at our Sunday Services, those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries during that month. On Sunday, May 4, we will celebrate with those who have May birthdays and anniversaries.

Pastor Dan Will Be Away

I will be on vacation from April 24-May 2. The Reverend Sue Lederhouse will be presiding at the Sunday Services on April 27. I will be back in my office on May 3. If you have a pastoral issue which cannot wait until my return, please contact Deacon Hilary. If you have some church-related business which cannot wait until my return, please contact our Senior Warden Joella Cruz. Their contact information can be found in the church picture directory. *Pastor Dan*

The Wareham Recycling Center – Volunteers Needed

The Wareham Recycling Center is seeking volunteers to help organize their Book Shed and Swap Shed. Duties would include greeting donors and receiving items for the sheds, alphabetizing books, cleaning and organizing, and interacting with the public.

The Center is open Wednesdays 1-3 and Saturdays 9-12. Volunteers could work one day or both...or it would be a perfect "job sharing" opportunity. Benefits: you get first pick of some great "stuff", and you'll work with some awesome volunteers while helping to save the planet! If interested, reach out to Amanda Cobb at warehamrecycling@gmail.com.

Good & Green Team Plastic Easter Eggs Collection

As a part of our Good & Green Team's *Reduce, Reuse and Recycle* initiatives, we will be collecting empty plastic Easter eggs (when the children are done enjoying them) so we can reuse them and re-fill them next year. We will have a collection basket in the back of the church through May 11. Thank you for caring for God's creation.

"Wareham Walks for the Homeless" Fundraiser

Please save the date of Sunday, May 18. On Sunday, May 18, the Wareham Area Clergy Association is sponsoring its 3rd annual 5-mile walk in support of Turning Point (<https://turningpointwareham.org>) and its

work to assist the homeless and near homeless of our area. The walk is called “Wareham Walks for the Homeless,” and begins at 1:00pm. The 5-mile Walk will start and end at Good Shepherd. Please consider supporting this fundraiser by becoming a walker or by donating to those who will be walking. Walker sponsor forms are available in the church and on our Good Shepherd website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org). For more information, you can reach out to Deacon Hilary, Pastor Dan, or Scooter Holcombe.

Sunday Flower Donations

Please consider donating for the purchase of altar flowers for our Sunday Services in memory of deceased loved ones or in thanksgiving of blessings in your life. More information about how this works can be found in the “Sunday Flower Donations” envelopes which are located in the back of the church, and on our “Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham” website. Please check the Sunday Flowers board in the back of the church, or call the parish office (508-295-2840), to determine which upcoming Sundays are available in 2024.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

We would like to invite every household to host coffee hour, which follows our 10am Sunday Service. You can host by yourselves or join with another household. Coffee hour hosts are asked to bring a quart size carton of half-n-half, a half-gallon carton of juice, and some snacks to feed 6-8 children and about 30 adults (for example: cake, pastry, cookies, brownies, cheese and crackers, fruit, cut up veggies, etc.). Hosts arrive at the church by 9:15 to set up for coffee hour. Judy Govoni will be there to assist you. Hosts are also asked to clean up after coffee hour. The idea is that each household would host coffee hour about every three or four months. The sign-up list can be found on the food table during coffee hour.

Mid-Week Eucharist

On Wednesdays at Noon, there is a celebration of the Eucharist in the church, which is open to all. This is an opportunity to gather for prayer and reflection; and be reminded of God’s presence between Sundays. For those on your lunch break, the celebration of the mid-week Eucharist is approximately 20 minutes. ***There will be no Mid-week Service on April 30.***

Please Stay Home When You’re Not Feeling Well

This is a reminder that if you have covid or another contagious illness, please do not come to the church. Basically, if you are not feeling well, please stay home. It is important that you stay home and rest, and it is important that we be vigilant in order not to spread viruses with one another. Remember, the 10am Sunday Service is offered on Facebook Live every Sunday, and the link to the recorded Service is sent to those on our church email list following the live Service. Stay home, rest, and participate online.

Sunday School

Sunday School is held during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. The Sunday School is located in the church meeting room, in the office area. All Sunday School volunteers have undergone CORI background checks and received training, including the Safe Church training required by the Episcopal Church for all those who work with children. Please contact Pastor Dan for more information. The registration form can be downloaded from our Good Shepherd website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org).

The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery

The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery (for children through kindergarten age) is open during our 10am Sunday Services. Children are most welcome in the church, but the nursery will be available for them as well. Children can arrive at the nursery beginning at 9:50am and the nursery will close 10 minutes after the conclusion of the 10am Service. The Sunday Nursery is located on the third floor of the church, which can be accessed at the top of the church office stairwell in the back of the church building, through the door (marked Sunday Nursery). All nursery volunteers have undergone CORI background checks and received training, including the Safe Church training required by the Episcopal Church for all those who work with children. If you have questions about the nursery or would like to volunteer, please contact the church office (508-295-2840). The registration form can be downloaded from our Good Shepherd website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org).

Prayer Request Book

In the back of the church on Sunday mornings, there is a Prayer Request Book. As you come into the church each Sunday, you are welcome to record in the Prayer Request Book the names of those who need prayers. During the prayers of the people, we pray for “all those whose names have been recorded in the Prayer Request Book.”

Sunday Coffee Hour

Every Sunday, following the 10am Sunday Service, coffee hour is held in the Church Hall. Coffee hour is an opportunity for us to further get to know one another and share our lives with one another. The wearing of a facemask is welcome, for those who choose to wear one. Like all other indoor church functions, if you are not feeling well, please do not participate at coffee hour.

Good Shepherd Table

Good Shepherd's Table serves a free in-person meal, which is open to the public, every Thursday at 4:30pm. Take-out meals are available from 4:30-4:45pm for those who choose not to eat indoors with others. Like all other indoor church functions, if you are not feeling well, please do not participate in the Good Shepherd Table indoor dining.

Pastoral Care

If you would like yourself or someone else placed on the Good Shepherd prayer list, please contact me (Pastor Dan). The Good Shepherd prayer group prays daily for those on the prayer list. If you need or would like a pastoral visit from the priest, please let me know. My contact information can be found below and is also on the back of the weekly Sunday Service Booklet. The only way I know that you need a pastoral visit is if you let me know. You might want to keep my contact information (cell # 603-953-3659 for emergencies) somewhere handy, so you know where to find it if the need arises. Pastor Dan

Contacting Pastor Dan

You can contact me by email (pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com), by calling the church number (508-295-2840) and leaving a message, or if it is an urgent matter by calling me through my cell phone (603-953-3659). Pastor Dan

Wareham Media (WM) Sunday Service Coverage

Wareham Media, the Wareham local access channel, will now be broadcasting recordings of our Sunday Services. The recorded Services will air a week later. WM can be found on Comcast channel 9 and Verizon channel 30. This is a good way to share Jesus' message of love and compassion with our Wareham community, and also let people know about our Good Shepherd community.

Please “Like” us on Facebook

Please like us on Facebook (“Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham”) so we can get the word out about what is happening in our parish community, especially about our Facebook Live Services.