



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham April 9, 2024

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday, which begins Holy Week. Holy Week is the most sacred week for those of us who are Christians. During Holy Week we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday), when people spread their cloaks and palm branches on the road before Jesus and hailed him to be their savior. During Holy Week we remember Jesus and his disciples gathered in the upper room for what would be his last supper (Maundy Thursday), and his commandment to "love one another as I have loved you." During Holy Week we remember Jesus' ultimate sacrifice (Good Friday), that he gave his all that we might know just how much God loves us. During Holy Week we remember the empty tomb (Easter Sunday), that Christ is Risen, that his death would not be the final chapter to his life!

I invite each of you to observe a prayerful Holy Week, and to come to the Holy Week Services. Come and be present in the crowd as Jesus rides into Jerusalem as our Lord and Savior. Come and be present in the upper room as Jesus commands us to love as he has loved and then feeds us with his very presence in the Eucharist. Come and be present at the foot of the cross and give thanks for the gift of a love so great. Come and be present at the empty tomb and be reminded that God's love cannot be silenced, as we celebrate the new life we have in the Risen Christ.

I hope to see you on Sunday, as our journey through Holy Week begins!

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE APRIL 13, 2025	
8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> JANET DRUM</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> RICH SOUZA</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> JOELLA CRUZ</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> RICH ELLIS JEAN NYMAN</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> GINGER BARRETT & BILL WILBURN</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> ELAINE GRAYBILL</p> <p><u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> NO NURSERY</p> <p><u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</u> MICHELLE & SCOTT SCHULTZ</p>

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS
CLICK HERE](#)

MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES
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A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday, April 13, is ***Palm Sunday***, which begins Holy Week. Look below for more information about the Holy Week Schedule.
2. On Sunday, ***Easter flower decoration donations and Easter egg donations*** need to be dropped off at the church.
3. On Sunday, there will be a sign-up list for participation in the ***Passion Reading on Good Friday***.
4. 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](#)



Reduce and Reuse Tips for April, “Earth Month”

From Good & Green Team member Kathy Doyle:

When you are tempted to purchase and resist it, write down the cost of the item. At the end of the month, bank what 'you saved'. This can create a very good habit!

Related to that idea, here's more from the *New York Times* article by Jancee Dunn “Stop Buying Stuff You Don't Need”:

Try a ‘purchase pause.’

Over a month, notice every time you're tempted to buy something nonessential. Then, instead of giving into the urge, log the item in the Notes app on your phone or in a notebook. At the end of the month, look at the list and ask yourself if you still want these things. Often, the answer is no. I did this for a week, and my list contained eight items, among them a swan-shaped lemon squeezer and overpriced neck cream. By the time I returned to my list, I had forgotten about most of the items on it that seemed vital to my happiness at the time. During these “purchase pauses,” she also recorded what kind of mood she was in when she wanted to buy things. Often, she found, she was stressed, sad or bored. Also, try to recognize any patterns in your purchasing, such as buying things off a TikTok shop while scrolling late at night.

Reduce your use of dryer sheets: **FriendSheep** dryer balls and dog toys and more:

<https://www.friendsheepwool.com/>

Reduce your use of paper towels: **Grove Collaborative** <https://www.grove.co/products/paperless-towels?variant=49444704878904>

Bambooe <https://bambooe.com/products/bambooe>

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

“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.

Discretionary Fund Donations

Please consider donating to the Good Shepherd Discretionary Fund. It is from the discretionary fund that Pastor Dan assists those in need. You may make contributions to the discretionary fund at any time during the month by placing them in the offering box at the entrance to the church in an envelope marked discretionary

fund (there are some in the back of the church) or by mailing them to the parish office. Checks should be made out to “Church of the Good Shepherd – Clergy Discretionary Fund.” Thank you to those who have made contributions in the past!

Holy Week Services

You are invited to come and journey with Jesus during Holy Week this year. Come just as you are and allow God to give you the new life God has in store for you. Come, be fed by Jesus at the table of the last supper and satisfy the hunger of your spirit. Come, experience the power of God’s love and renew your commitment to follow Jesus. Come and renew your life, your faith, and your spirit.

Palm Sunday (4/13): 8am & 10am Palm Sunday Services

Maundy Thursday (4/17): 7pm Eucharistic Service

Good Friday (4/18): 7pm Passion Service with Communion

Easter Sunday (4/20): 8am & 10am Easter Services (music at both Services)

Palm Sunday Focus

Palm Sunday is on April 13. As is our custom at Good Shepherd, on Palm Sunday we focus our attention on the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and we do not read the Passion Story. The Passion Story will be read in parts on Good Friday.

Passion Story Readers Needed

The Passion Story will be read in parts on Good Friday, April 18. If you would like to participate in the reading of the Passion Story, there will be a sign-up list on Palm Sunday, April 13.

Invite Someone to Church for Easter

Please consider inviting, and even bringing, someone to church for one of our Easter Services. There are many family members, friends, and neighbors who will not be worshiping in a church on Easter. For some, their absence from church is not by decision, but because they have no church to go to, and they will not be asked to participate in an Easter Service. Please reach out to the people you know and invite them to participate in one of our Easter Services, even offer to pick them up or meet them at the door of the church. Let’s make sure no one who wants to come to church to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus is home alone on Easter Sunday!

Easter Flower and Decoration Donations

Donations to the Easter Flower and Decoration Fund can be made in memory of a deceased loved one or in thanksgiving for blessings in your life. Donation envelopes/forms are available in the back of the church sanctuary and on our church [website](#). Your donations will help us to decorate the church for the celebration Easter. The names of those in whose name donations are made will appear in the Easter Service Booklets.

Please return the form and your donation by Palm Sunday (April 13). Thank you!

Easter Offering

Please consider giving an Easter financial gift to The Church of the Good Shepherd by way of an extra financial contribution. It is a way for us to give thanks for the gift of Good Shepherd and all its ministries. You can do this by placing a contribution in your Easter envelope (or another envelope marked “Easter Offering”) and placing it in the church offertory box on Easter Sunday or the Sunday before or after Easter, or by mailing it to the parish office. Thank you!

Good Friday Offering

At the Good Friday Services, there will be collection baskets at the entrances of the church in support of the ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. This is especially important at this time because the Episcopal churches in the Middle East also serve those who are suffering the effects of war and violence. Please consider supporting these ministries. If you wish to support these ministries by check, please make out the check to “Church of the Good Shepherd” with a notation that it is for the Good Friday Offering. One check will then be sent in the name of the parish. Thank you!

Donations For Our Good Shepherd Easter Egg Hunt

In a few short weeks, we will be celebrating Easter. Many of us likely remember the joyful day as children because we got to have an Easter Egg Hunt. If you would like to help us make that possible for our children, please consider filling a dozen plastic Easter eggs with individually wrapped candy or stickers. The plastic easter eggs can be found in the back of the church in zip-lock bags, please return them to the church in the zip-lock bags so we can reuse the bags next year. There is a bin at the Church's back entrance to collect the eggs. **We need to have them by Palm Sunday, April 13.** The Easter egg hunt will begin after the 10:00 Service on Easter Sunday. Thanking you in advance for any assistance in helping make the Easter Egg Hunt a success!

Easter Egg Hunt

There will be an Easter egg hunt following the 10am Service on Easter Sunday, April 20, on the Church's front lawn. Children should bring their own basket or pail for collecting eggs. We will begin with a hunt for children ages 1-5 and follow with a hunt for the older children. If the weather does not permit us to be outside, fear not, we will have an Easter egg hunt inside.

Good & Green Parish Pledge form

Please pick up and fill out the Good & Green Parish Pledge form and if you are interested in joining in some community activities over the next year, please fill out the back page and return to Deacon Hilary by putting in the Good & Green Pledge box in the back of the church or in her mailbox in the church office. Thank you for caring for God's beautiful creation! *Deacon Hilary*

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 16 & 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). ***There will not be Sunday School on Easter Sunday.***

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). *The Sunday Nursery will not be open on April 13 & 20, due to the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Services.*

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

WCTV Sunday Service Coverage

WCTV, the Wareham local access channel, will now be broadcasting recordings of our Sunday Services. The recorded Services will air a week later. WCTV 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.