



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham

June 11, 2024

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

This past Sunday, Pentecost Sunday, we all agreed that it took courage for someone to be a disciple of Jesus as he walked the earth spreading the Good News of the Kingdom of God. It took courage to leave their families and their livelihoods to follow him. It took courage to stand with him when his teachings challenged the powers of this world. It took courage to witness the love of God for all people, especially those who were deemed by society and by other religious leaders to be unworthy of love. It took courage not to conform to the ways of the world, ways that were not compatible to the Ways of God, the Way of love.

The truth is it still takes courage to be a follower of Jesus and the Way of Love. It takes courage not to conform the ways of the world. It takes courage to have the compassion of Jesus for all who suffer, and to share God's love with them. For example, having the compassion of Jesus for the poor, for migrants, for refugees, for those who are persecuted for just being who they are. It isn't easy to love as Jesus loved, yet it is a requirement for following Jesus. Those who believe that being a Christian is easy, are likely not truly following Jesus.

The suffering ones of our world, our country and our neighborhoods need the compassion of Jesus. Will they find it? They will if we choose to follow Jesus every day. They will if we live out our baptismal vows and not simply recite them.

Our Baptismal Vows:

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People: I will, with God's help.

With God's help, empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us courageously be people of compassion for those who suffer in this world, and love them as Jesus loves them

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE JUNE 15, 2025	
8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> JOELLA CRUZ</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> RICH SOUZA</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> NATECIA ALFONSO</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> SHERYL FACCHETTI S.G. PRESTON</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> TBD</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> ELAINE GRAYBILL</p> <p><u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> ELIZABETH MANDELL & ANDREA LAMONTAGNE</p> <p><u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</u> GOOD & GREEN TEAM</p>

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS
CLICK HERE](#)

MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES
CLICK HERE](#)

 [Follow us on Facebook](#)

 [Parish Website](#)

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday, June 15, there is ***Sunday School***. Look below for more information.
2. At both Services this coming Sunday ***prayers for healing*** will be available for everyone. Look below for more information.
3. This coming Sunday is ***Father's Day***. We will honor our fathers both living and deceased, and there will be a blessing for all fathers who are present.
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](#)



From the Green Deacon and Your Good & Green Team

Hello good people of Good Shepherd! Happy Summer! As a reminder, this year (April 2025- April 2026), we pledged to focus on **REDUCING and REUSING** and less of a focus on recycling due to the issues we face in the recycling process. We know it is best to stop problem before it begins, at the source, before non-sustainable items are even manufactured (plastic water bottles, bags etc.). It's actually easier to switch to more sustainable products that don't need to be recycled after one use and cut down on all that plastic clutter in your recycle bins ☺️.

This month on our bulletin boards and on our web page, we are offering **4 Tips to REDUCE and REUSE:**

- **Borrow**, don't buy
- **REFUSE** when asked if you want a bag, or plastic utensils or a straw- "Skip the Stuff!"
- **Reuse, refill and repair** items before recycling as a last option
- **"Swap" til you drop**- and remember that sharing means you have twice as much!

Visit our page to see the details: <https://goodshepherdwareham.org/green-team/>

This Sunday, June 15th is our **Good & Green Team Sunday**, so please bring in your sneakers and redeemable cans and bottles- or if you don't have any of those to help our fundraising efforts, we will have our donation jar out for your use. You also can use the parish's PayPal account to donate to our efforts:

<https://goodshepherdwareham.org/> (the Paypal button is on the lower right-hand corner of our home page.

Just put **Good & Green Team** in the "Write a Note" section at the top).

The Good and Green Team is not meeting during the summer months but we will be active caring for God's good creation. And still hosting our monthly activities, so thank you for your support!

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

The Next Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, June 12, 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 June 5.

Prayers for Healing – Sunday, June 15

As part of our Sunday Services on June 15, there will be an opportunity for you to receive prayers for healing. These prayers for healing will be available after the sermon. Along with the healing prayers, a blessing with blessed oil will be given. All are invited to come forward to receive healing prayers, since we are all in need of various kinds of healing in our lives.

Children's Sunday Service – June 22

Our final Children's Sunday Service for the school year will be held on Sunday, June 22 during our 10am Service. This Service will focus on the children of our Good Shepherd community. The prayers, music, readings, and the sermon will speak to the children. All are invited to participate in these children focused Eucharistic Services. There will be no age restriction. Everyone can benefit from these Services. Let us gather in support of our young families and their children.

Ice Cream Social on June 22

To celebrate our time together in the Sunday Nursery and Sunday School this past year, on Sunday June 22 there will be an ice cream social as part of Coffee Hour following the 10am Service. All are welcome to participate and celebrate with the Nursery and Sunday School children and volunteers.

Food Pantry Wish List

Church of the Good Shepherd is partnering with Damien's Place Food Pantry by provided needed items for those using the pantry. These items are difficult for Damien's to purchase from the Greater Boston Food Bank. Damien's is looking specifically for cereal and jars of jelly. Donations can be left in the baskets in the back of the church on Sunday mornings or dropped off at the Church Office on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am-1pm. Thank you!

Thank You for Your Continued Financial Support

Thank you to all who are financially supporting Good Shepherd this year, especially those who made pledges for 2025. Our budget operates on a week-to-week basis, so thank you for keeping your pledge payments up to date. If you are behind on your pledge payments, please work to catch them up as you are able. If you are away for an extended amount of time, please consider mailing in your pledge payments. Again, thank you all for your financial support of the mission and ministries of the Church of the Good Shepherd!

Exchanging the Sign of Peace During Sunday Services

The sign of peace is symbolic of our need to be reconciled with one another before we receive communion. The sign of peace is not meant to be a time to exchange greetings and catch up with everyone present in the church that day. We can do this at coffee hour. At the sign of peace, we turn to those seated around us (not the whole church) and symbolically exchange a sign of our desire to be at peace with them and with others. That sign of peace can be a verbal "peace be with you" with a handshake, if both persons are okay with the physical contact, or it can simply be a verbal exchange. If you are not okay with a handshake you can fold your hands in front of you and simply say "peace be with you." Please be respectful of those who, for whatever reason, do not want to shake hands with you. And please, do not use a hug as a sign of peace. This may seem strange for me to say to a community that speaks of God's love every week, but hugs can be uncomfortable and even intimidating to some, especially visitors and guests. If we choose to hug some but not others, it can have the appearance that some are more included in our community than others. And it is hard to turn down a hug when someone reaches out their arms, without possibly offending them. You are welcome to greet your friends with a hug before or after the Service, but please refrain from doing so when our community is symbolically exchanging a sign of peace.

The Good Shepherd Guild Craft Nights

Every Monday evening the Good Shepherd Guild holds “Craft Night” in the Church Hall, which begins at 6pm. The crafts are later sold at the Guild Christmas Craft Fair in December. All are welcome to join in support of this fundraiser for the church, and to enjoy one another’s company in the process. No experience is needed (really), just a willingness to help. We hope to see you there.

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.

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 final Sunday School until September will be held on June 15.*

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 final Sunday Nursery until September will be on June 15.*

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.