



# Along The Way

## The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham June 17, 2026



Good Shepherd Friends,

This coming Sunday we will read the following passage from the Gospel according to Matthew:

*"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me."*

This isn't exactly the best sales pitch to prospective disciples. It is challenging and demands full commitment. Being a disciple of Jesus isn't something we do on the side, not a hobby if you will. Discipleship must be the greatest priority of our lives. Everything else in our lives needs to come second.

So, what does it mean to be a fully committed disciple? Does it mean that we must turn away from those we love, as the passage suggests? I don't think that is the point Jesus is trying to make. He is saying that we must put the Way of Love before all other people in our lives. Loving is difficult and not always accepted in our society, especially when we love those who are considered to be the "undesirable ones." Sometimes this will set us apart from those around us, even our family members. In these cases, we must hold firm to the Way of Love. Our priority needs to be Love, even over family. Yes, this can be quite difficult, and I think that is what Jesus means by taking up the cross to follow him.

And when we choose Jesus and the Way of Love, we don't do so alone. We have one another and we have the Holy Spirit empowering us and leading us. That is why our Good Shepherd community is important, and that God has brought us together. Here we learn from Jesus about the Way of Love, and we support one another as we go forth to witness the Way of Love in our world.

Peace,

**Pastor Dan**

# LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

June 21, 2026

8 AM	10 AM
<p><b>READERS:</b> KAREN CLARK</p> <p><b>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</b> RICH SOUZA</p> <p><b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</b> NATECIA ALFONSO</p>	<p><b>READERS:</b> RICH ELLIS BECKY RYDER</p> <p><b>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</b> PAT PROBERT &amp; RICHIE BALANCA</p> <p><b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</b> ELAINE GRAYBILL</p> <p><b>NURSERY MINISTERS:</b> NO NURSERY</p> <p><b>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</b> THE GOOD AND GREEN TEAM</p> <p><b>SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS</b> NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>

## WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS  
CLICK HERE](#)

## MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES  
CLICK HERE](#)

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[!\[\]\(3211b5d1d968fc1665909b34f9f16010\_img.jpg\) arish Website](#)

## A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday, June 21, there will be a prayer and a blessing at both our 8am & 10am Services for *Father's Day*.
2. This coming Sunday there will be *prayers for healing* at both our 8am & 10am Services. Look below for more information.
3. This coming Saturday, June 20, there will be a short *Peace Walk* along main street in Wareham. The Peace Walk begins at the parking lot next to the fire station at 2pm. Please join me and others as we witness our call to promote peace in our world. Look below for more information.
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 your Good & Green Team, June 2026.**

This Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> is **Good & Green Team Sunday**- thank you for bringing in your sneakers, cans and bottles for our fundraising efforts- and enjoy our coffee hour goodies after the 10 AM service!

Now that the air conditioning season has arrived, our theme for June is **Energy Efficiency**. Massachusetts has a great organization called **Mass Save**. **Mass Save** represents the programs, services, offers and resources provided by *Berkshire Gas, Cape Light Compact, Eversource, Liberty, National Grid and Unitil* with the goal of equitably saving Massachusetts residents, businesses and communities energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. They offer free energy assessments and audits and their web site is full of helpful tips and articles on ways to save money and reduce your carbon footprint. **Mass Save** also offers income eligible discounts and rebates for homeowners and renters. Visit their web site: <https://www.masssave.com/en>

More to come this month, please keep on eye on our bulletin boards downstairs, our web page on the Good Shepherd web site and our Good & Green Team Facebook page. Thank you for your support and care for God's good world.



# Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

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## **Prayers for Healing – Sunday, June 21**

As part of our Sunday Services on June 21, 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.

## **Good Shepherd's Guild Rummage Sale**

Good Shepherd Guild is looking for clean clothes, shoes, household linens, white elephant items, books, and games for our spring rummage sale on June 27th, 9-1pm. You can drop off items on Friday June 26th, from 10-5 pm at the parish hall. Please no computers, tv or microwaves and large pictures as these we must pay for if they do not sell. We cannot accept furniture as this is also hard for us to sell. Thank you in advance as we appreciate your donations. If you would like to help on Friday or Saturday with set-up, sales, or clean-up, text Scooter Holcombe at 774-361-9517.

## **Mid-Year Financial Appeal**

The Vestry is asking each of us to consider making a mid-year financial gift to help support our church's budget and reduce our budget deficit. A mid-year financial appeal letter and donation envelope will be distributed at the Sunday Services on June 21. The letter will also be found on our Good Shepherd Wareham website. You can make a contribution by mailing it to the church, or by placing it in the offertory box on Sundays through the end of July. The Vestry appreciates your ongoing financial support of our Good Shepherd Community. We also appreciate any additional financial gift you can make and understand if you are not able to do so. Thank you!

## **Wareham Peace Walk on Saturday June 20**

This coming Saturday, June 20, there will be a Peace Walk along main street in Wareham. The Peace Walk begins at the parking lot next to the fire station at 2pm. The walk will proceed down main street to Cumberland Farm, will cross the street at the crosswalk, and continue back towards the Fire station, crossing the street at the Sawyer Street crosswalk. Please join me and others as we witness our call to promote God's peace in our world. This is not a protest rally. It is an opportunity to speak out for peace. Political signs are not appropriate or welcomed. Please use only signs the express peace and unity. This Walk is being organized by "Wareham Faith in Action". **Pastor Dan**

## **We Need Some Gardening Help at the Church**

We are looking for volunteers to do some weeding around the church grounds. Would you be willing to give one hour a month to help us keep our gardens beautiful? If so, please contact Rich Ellis (508-295-5318) or Pastor Dan. Thank you!

## **Become a Recycling Ambassador at the Wareham Gatemen Games**

Recycling Ambassadors attend Wareham Gatemen games (Wareham's Cape Cod League baseball team), set up/take down recycling bins and flags, station around recycling bins throughout the game to assist fans to properly recycle, engage the crowd with recycling quizzes and kid's activity sheets, and take pictures/video to share on social media! Volunteers receive a Recycling Ambassador cap, as well as a \$10 voucher to the concessions stand per game. High School and College students are encouraged to sign up as part of any community service and school credit requirements. Also, our Good and Green Team will collect the redeemable bottles and cans to help raise funds for our sustainable initiatives! Sign up here (the Wareham Gatemen games are at the bottom of the list of other CCBL/Care for the Cape & Islands games): [Wareham Gatemen Recycling Ambassador Sign-up](#)

## **Turning Point Wareham Looking for Volunteers**

Turning Point Wareham is seeking volunteers to contribute their time and talent in support of our Wareham neighbors in need. It is a not-for-profit, community-based organization serving as a day resource and referral center for those facing housing instability. We provide collaborative, respectful, and supportive services and are committed to empowering individuals who are ready to help themselves.

**Intake Volunteer** – reporting to the Executive Director, interacts with clients seeking assistance, guidance, and

support for a variety of life challenges. Training provided. Minimum three-hour commitment each week.

**Public Relations Volunteer** – reporting to the WACH President, the PR volunteer will be responsible for framings one or two press releases each month relating to Turning Point activities and programs. The PR volunteer will contribute to the quarterly Turning Point Newsletter and will provide input to other communication pieces for Turning Point use. Commitment is a minimum of five hours each month.

**Social Media Volunteer** – reporting to the WACH President, volunteer will have experience with website management, Facebook postings, and FB oversight. Volunteers may also have experience with other social media platforms that may benefit Turning Point. Commitment is a minimum of five hours each month.

**Direct inquiries to [cwmccullough@comcast.net](mailto:cwmccullough@comcast.net)** (WACH President) **or**  
**[ssantos@turningpointwareham.org](mailto:ssantos@turningpointwareham.org)** (Turning Point Executive Director)

### **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.

### **The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery**

The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery, for children through kindergarten age, is closed for the summer. It will reopen on Sunday, September 6.

### **Sunday School**

Our Good Shepherd Sunday School, which is held during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service (usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month), is on summer break. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 6.

### **Are You Receiving Our Weekly Newsletter?**

Good Shepherd now publishes a weekly electronic newsletter called "Along The Way". The newsletter is published mid-week. If you would like to receive a copy of the electronic newsletter, please email the parish office with your name and email address ([goodshepherdwareham@gmail.com](mailto:goodshepherdwareham@gmail.com)), or you can go to our church website ([www.goodshepherdwareham.org](http://www.goodshepherdwareham.org)) and subscribe to our email list which is on the home page.

### **Discretionary Fund Donations**

Good Shepherd has a Pastor's Discretionary Fund. It is from the Discretionary Fund that Pastor Dan is able to assist those in need. There are envelopes at the entrances of the church for you to use to make donations to the Discretionary Fund. Place your donations in one of these envelopes and place the envelope in one of the offertory boxes in the church, or you can mail the donation to the church office with a note that the donation is for the Discretionary Fund. Thank you to those who have contributed to the Discretionary Fund over the years. Those who have benefited from your donations are always very grateful.

### **Donations From Our Online Community**

Thank you to those from our online Sunday worship community who have made regular donations to support the ministries of Good Shepherd. It is very much appreciated. If you have never donated or have not donated recently, please consider doing so as you are able. Your donations help us to continue our mission to spread the good news of God's Love and compassion. Thank you!

### **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 2025.

### **Prayer Blanket Ministry**

As a way of reaching out to those who are ill or struggling in some way, parishioners have knitted blankets to be given to those who can benefit from receiving these gifts of warmth and comfort. Pastor Dan blesses each blanket before it is given. He prays that “this mantle be a safe haven...a sacred place of security and well-being... sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.” Please contact Judy Ellis (Prayer Blanket Ministry Coordinator) or Pastor Dan if you would like a prayer blanket for yourself or someone else. *If you would like to be a part of this ministry, and join our knitting team, please be in touch with Judy Ellis (508-295-5318).* There is a very basic pattern that makes beautiful prayer blankets. All patterns, of course, are welcomed. If needed, yarn will be provided. If you would like to support the prayer shawl ministry but do not knit or crochet, ask Judy about a way you can help.

### **Coffee Hour Hosts Needed**

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. Every household is invited 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 and more information can be found on the wall behind the coffee hour food table.

### **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, jars of jelly, and juice. 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!

### **Please Help Good Shepherd's Table Serve Our Neighbors**

Every Thursday for the past 25 years, Good Shepherd's Table has served a community meal (4:30pm). We need help with the tasks needed to make this happen and so we have created a monthly sign-up sheet for the tasks each week. No job takes longer than 45 minutes and you can help set up, plate food, serve food, or clean the dining room after the meal. We especially need help cleaning the dining room after the meal. For more details and to sign up, please reach out to Deacon Hilary. You can choose any week you are available. Thank you in advance for your help!

### **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 2026. 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!

### **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.”

### **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](mailto: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, broadcasts recordings of our Sunday Services. The recorded Services 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.



[Good & Green Team Facebook page](#)



[Good & Green Team web page](#)