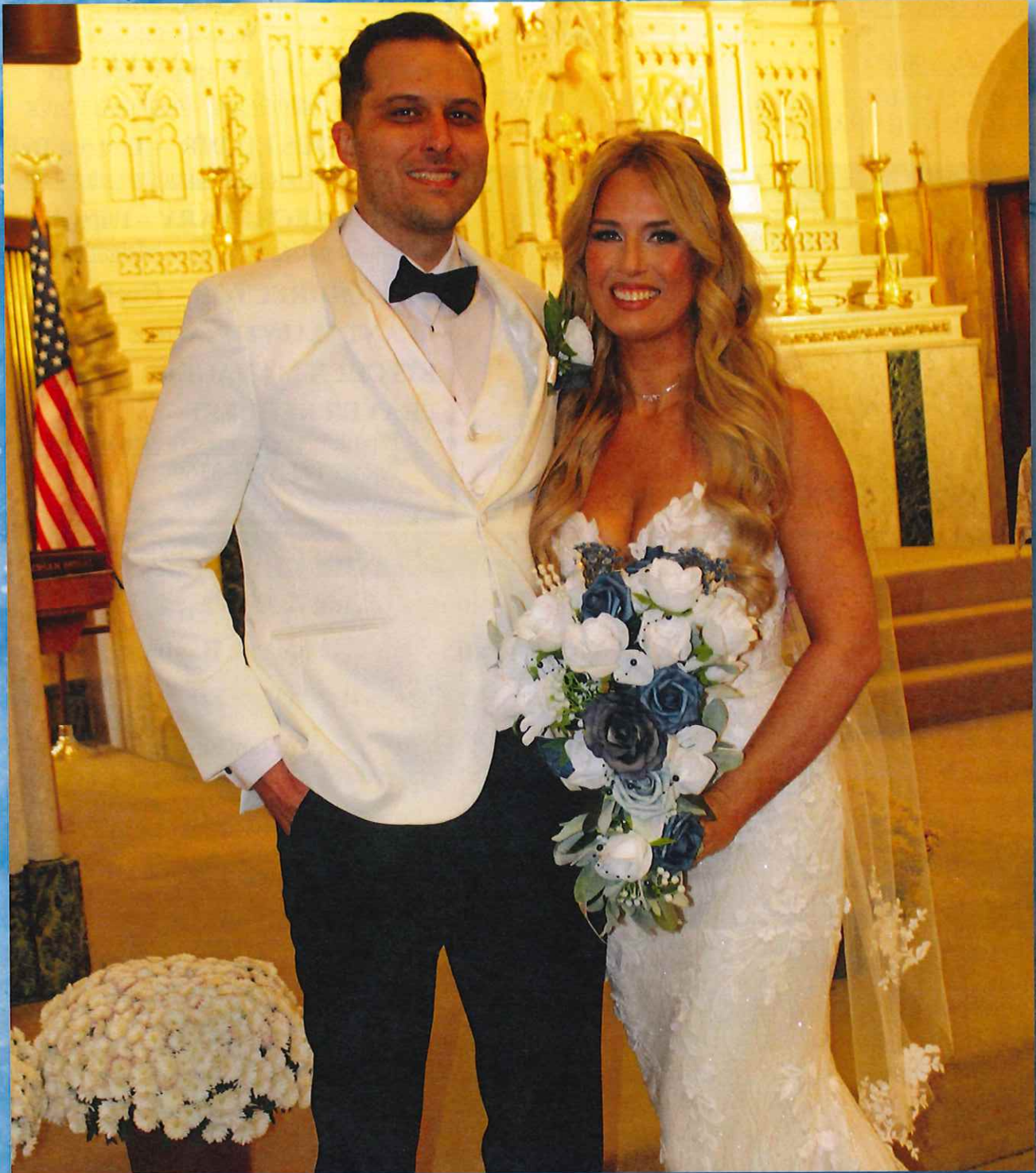


Church of the Good Shepherd



**Congratulations to Michael and Heather (Michaels) Pivarnik
who were married on
Saturday, October 26th at Our Lady of Fatima.**

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – NOVEMBER 3RD, 2024

Week of November 3rd, 2024, Calendar of Events

Rosary 1st Sunday of every month 20 minutes before 9am Mass

Monday, November 4th

Tuesday, November 5th Election Day / Sack Lunch Sale (ARS)

Wednesday, November 6th Food Pantry 9-10:30

Thursday, November 7th ARS Meeting 6pm
Women of the New Test. 10am / 5pm

Friday, November 8th

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND, THOSE ON OUR PRAYER CHAIN AND THE HOSPITALIZED

Church of the Good Shepherd

Office Phone: (724)528-3539

Office Address: 3613 Sharon Road
(PO Box 226)
West Middlesex, PA 16159

PASTOR – Fr. Glenn Whitman

Email: pastor@goodshepherdwm.org

RELIGIOUS ED DIR. – Lauren DeFelice

Email: religioused@goodshepherdwm.org

PARISH SECRETARY – Patty Babcanec

Email: parishoffice@goodshepherdwm.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR – Greg Hansley

PLANT MAINTENANCE – Gary Wojtalik

KITCHEN MANAGER – Michelle Whalen

PRAYER REQUEST

Email: prayerrequestsgswm@gmail.com

Phone: (724)977-3369

COLLECTION

10/20/24

# of Registered Families	564
# of Envelopes Used	180
Attendance at Mass	537
Attendance Online	216
Offertory Collection	\$6,845.00
Loose Offertory	\$1,252.00
World Mission	\$45.00
All Souls	\$106.00
All Saints	\$51.00

Mass Intention Date & Time	Intentions	Requested By
Monday, November 4th at 8:30am	For Our Parishioners Living & Deceased	
Tuesday, November 5th at 8:30am	Karen Mensurati	Ken & Barbara Rogers
Wednesday, November 6th 30th	NO MASS & NO COMMUNION SERVICE	
Thursday November 7th at 8:30am	Lois Fetsko	Furlan Family
Friday, November 8th at 8:30am	Bob Bleggi	Wife
Saturday, November 9th at 6:00pm	Mary Ann Van Buren	The Votino Family
Sunday, November 10th at 9:00am	Martin & Ann Gaydosh	Ron Carson Family
Sunday, November 10th at 11:30am	James David	Barbara Urban

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	USHERS (HU – Head Usher)	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS
SATURDAY November 9th 6:00pm	Donna Pavlovich John Pavlovich	David Pringle Connie Lange Michael Drda Fran Deeb	Mat Macchia – HU Jody Drda Mona Macchia	Jean Colella	Alexa Macchia Antonio Macchia
SUNDAY November 10th 9:00am	Ron Carson	Ron Adams Mike Bartolo Howard Fagan Tom Hubert	Bob Devlin – HU Patti Chupak Jeff Creveling	Amy Hubert	Abigail David Andrew David
SUNDAY November 10th 11:30am	Erin Borowicz	Erin Borowicz Ted George Judy Miller Beth Garrett	Deb Sokolak – HU Annu U’Halie Mary Killingsworth	VOLUNTEER	Olivia Gingras

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, WEST MIDDLESEX, PA



FROM OUR PASTOR

“What’s the Heart of the Matter?”

There was an old adult living room parlor game back in my teen-aged years that asked: If you knew that you were going to die tonight, what would you do today? Variations abound. If you found out you had an incurable disease, which decisions would you make now that you’ve been putting off? If you had one last chance to say or do something for the people you care about, what would it be? If the world were going to end next Thursday, how would you fill or empty this week’s calendar?

We can add: If you had the chance to shape the future of the world this week, for whom or what would you cast your ballot? Yes, it’s another Election Day on Tuesday, and as always there’s a lot for thoughtful people to consider. The main question is this: What criteria do we as Christians use in discerning and shaping our future? How do faithful people choose?

Our answer to all these questions of ultimate concern should be the same: LOVE. That’s not a hippie reply, though even some churchgoers may be tempted to bat it away with impatience as if it were. Love sounds vague and mushy but only because we live in an age when love stories have been reduced to rushed escapades of sexual attraction and indulgence. Real love stories take more time and require more investment and not a little sacrifice. It’s not a matter of boy-meets-girl, but human-need-meets-Divinely-ordained-response.

When an educated man came to Jesus with a question of ultimate concern such as those listed above – if you had to govern your life according to one Commandment, which would it be? – Jesus did not hesitate to respond with *love*. He certainly didn’t mean romance, and he intended nothing vague or mushy at all.

Jesus spelled out in great detail what he meant by love in his ministry and teachings. Care for the stranger, widow, child, and the poor. Heal human misery, rid society of its demons. Feed the hungry, give your clothes to the naked. Welcome the outsider, forgive the sinner. Befriend your enemy. Refuse to participate in the ways of violence. Stay close to God, the source of love, in prayer and obedient listening.

Do you have any doubt as to how to do that? If we’re clear that our primary allegiance is to God with heart, mind, soul and strength, then we’ll know how to live, choose, value and vote. Some religious groups will pass out preselected voting cards, but for those who attend to the Gospel, that is unnecessary. Your, our process is: pray, listen, love, choose – it’s the same procedure you’re obliged to follow in every hour of your life and in every interaction. If you would shape your future as God would have it, the only method is love.

Much blood was shed for us to be free to vote. Don’t dishonor their sacrifice by failing to exercise that right.

Fr. Glenn

THANKS to our new Hospitality Committee, to Lauren and Greg, the music ministry as well as Fathers John and Frank especially for all the effort and time that went into our celebration of the Anointing of the Sick last weekend. Almost 300 persons presented themselves for anointing and as Lauren said, “It demonstrated how much people felt a need for the sacrament.” And how about all those New Castle donuts, the coffee cakes from Hermitage Bakery, home baked cookies, biscotti, fruit salad and juices? I know, I know – next time – coffee!

From the Catholic Digest of 2020...

After months of divisive rhetoric, ugly accusations, half-truths and non-truths, it finally comes down to this Tuesday. We vote for the men and women who will guide our nation and state for the next two to four years. There's a lot at stake this election year – but in the gospel, Jesus crystallizes this election into a single issue:

“You are not far from the Kingdom of God.”

So, as we prepare to vote we consider:

How far are we from the Kingdom of God?

What remains to be done to realize God's vision of a humanity that respects and honors all?

How far are we from the Kingdom of God?

What attitudes and biases prevent us from creating a nation committed to justice, a citizenry that embraces its moral and ethical responsibility to the poor and vulnerable among us, a community that sees God even in those we vehemently disagree with?

How far are we from the Kingdom of God?

Do we hear and heed the voice of Jesus in our public discourse, in our budgets, in our relationships with other nations and peoples?

How far are we from the Kingdom of God?

Are we voting with our wallets or with our consciences? Are we voting based on what works for the good of all? Do we presume that God is exclusively on our side or on the side of every soul?

Will we be any closer to the Kingdom of God after Tuesday's election? That's the issue.

RELIGIOUS ED. CALENDAR

Class time 10:00am – 11:15am

November 3 Class grades K-9

November 3 Confirmation Class packs bags for the Good Shepherd Food Pantry

November 9 Saturday 7pm Teen Shepherd Bonfire

November 10 Class all grades Safe Environment Training.

The Teen Shepherd Bonfire is back this year. See the flyer for more information.

EDGE RETREAT

If you know a sixth, seventh, or eighth grade student ask them about the retreat.

They learned about guardian angels. They prayed and had fun activities like a treasure hunt. Ask them about the gator rides and free time too. Thanks to the Hanssen's for allowing us to use their home as the retreat center.

Becoming Catholic (RCIA /OCIA)

This year we have four candidates. What is the difference between catechumens and candidates? Catechumens are people who have **never** been baptized. They come to the Church seeking baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. Candidates have many different journeys to the sacraments. Some may have been baptized Catholic and never received Eucharist or confirmation. Some may be baptized in another Christian denomination and have decided to join the Catholic Church with the sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist. Each catechumen or candidate must choose a sponsor who is fully initiated in the Catholic Church to be their companion on the journey to the sacraments.

Attention
Grades 6-12

You're invited to a
Mass and Bonfire

Saturday November 9

6 pm mass, bonfire to follow from 7-9

@ Good Shepherd Church

Bring a chair sponsored by Teen Shepherds

Bring a friend or 2

Food
Games
Fun



CHARITY DINNER NOTE

Here are the numbers from our recent dinner: 294 dinners were served (154 Dine-In and 140 Take-out), Deposits - \$3898, Expenses - \$1484.24, Profit - \$2413.76. That means each of our non-profit organizations will receive \$804.59. These organizations again are Building of Hope, Joshua's Haven and Imagination Library of Mercer County. We had 50 Adult volunteers and 25 Teen volunteers who helped at the dinner. Without your participation this event would not have been possible. Also there were so many delicious cakes and pies brought in for the dinner! The fabulous bakers of our parish outdid themselves for which we are very grateful. Again we appreciate and are very thankful for everyone's help with this dinner so that we all can be a source of giving and charity to others. Parish Pastoral Council

HAM FOR SALE

Too much ham was ordered for our Charity Dinner, and we have them available for sale. There are 14 boneless football hams for sale at \$31 each or \$62 a case. Each case has 2 hams in them. You can purchase them individually or by the case. They have been kept refrigerated in our social hall kitchen. They would be great to have for the upcoming holidays or they could be cut in halves or quarters and frozen. Call the parish office at 724-528-3539 Ext. 5 if you are interested and to schedule a time to pick one or more up.

Parish Pastoral Council

Good Shepherd Men's Club News

The next Men's Club meeting will be held on Monday, November 18th at 6 PM. During this meeting, we will discuss and determine charitable contributions to be distributed in December 2024 and plan future fund raising activities for 2025. The Men's Club is open to all men of the parish. Please join us.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



FOOD PANTRY



3613 SHARON RD., WEST MIDDLESEX, PA

For residents living within the
West Middlesex School District and our Parish
Families that are residents of MERCER COUNTY



NEXT DISTRIBUTION:

November 6th, 9:00am-10:30am



Future Distributions: 1st Wednesday of each month

We are a supplemental food pantry, distributing food
items for West Middlesex and surrounding communities

as a partner agency of
MERCER COUNTY FOOD BANK

Mission Statement:

The Church of the Good Shepherd recognizes the growing need for food in our area and the opportunity to serve our neighbors is a gift. Our mission is to instill hope and build a strong community by providing nutritious food to those in need. WE are committed to helping our local community through monthly distributions.



Election Day Sandwich Sale



ARS will be selling MEATBALL sandwiches and HOT SAUSAGE sandwiches with peppers and onions on Election Day, November 5th, 2024. They will be packed as a "SACK LUNCH" and will include the sandwich, chips, bottle of water and a cookie. Price for the sack lunch will be \$10. Even if you don't vote at Good Shepherd, you can still come and purchase a sandwich to support our fundraising efforts.

ARS Christmas Party

The members of the Altar Rosary Society will be holding their Annual Christmas Party on December 5, 2024, beginning with Mass celebrated at 6:00 pm and dinner to follow in the Social Hall. Dinner will be pork loin, redskin potatoes and green beans. Salad and dessert included. BYOB. The price is \$12.00 per person and ALL ladies of the parish are invited to attend. Guests are welcome and need not be members of Good Shepherd. Please get your reservations and payment in NO LATER than November 24th. You may drop your reservation and payment off at the Parish Office or drop in the collection basket at one of the Masses. Please mark your envelope **ATTN: ARS**. If you have any questions, please contact:

Judy Selenchik at 724-528-9712 or
Cindy Bartolo at 330-717-6813.

Mary Garden Bricks

The Altar Rosary Society will be accepting orders this fall and winter for bricks in the Mary Garden. Please take a stroll over to the garden, visit Mary, and see what a lovely way a brick can recognize a loved one or family member, living or deceased.

Forms are available in the parish office, the gathering space, or by contacting:

Connie Titus phone: (724)699-1443

email: ctitus2@roadrunner.com



Save the Date!



It's time again for the fall Wine and Cheese event to be held on Saturday, Nov 16th, after 6:00pm Mass. Have a relaxing evening with great sounds, interesting hors d'oeuvres, libations, maybe a bit of team trivia and great fellowship! If you have a favorite wine flavor or snack, feel free to bring a taste for all to enjoy. Sponsored by the PPC.

ST. ANTHONY CHURCH

Sun., Nov. 10th
Doors Open: Noon
Bingo: 1:00pm

St. Anthony Antonium
804 Idaho St., Sharon, PA
(Sherman Ave. entrance)
Hall is handicap accessible

Cost:

\$30 - 1 pack
\$35 - 2 packs
\$40 - 3 packs

Each pack contains 20 games
of regular bingo and
5 special games

Raffle:	50/50	Delicious
1st-\$500	Raffle Baskets	Food &
2nd-\$250	Turkey Lottery Tree	Desserts
3rd-\$100		For Sale

The big winner of each of the 20 regular games wins a \$20 gift card for a turkey.

TURKEY BINGO



Our Lady of Fatima New Mass Time

Effective November 2nd, the new Mass time for Our Lady of Fatima will be **4:00 pm** on Saturdays.

A Family Perspective

In a family, children are taught to be respectful if they want to be respected, to share, if they want their fair share and to listen if they want to be heard. Family life rescues us from arrogance by teaching us to love others as we love ourselves.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SHARON PA

600 East State Street, Sharon, PA

Presented by The Presbyterian
Women Organization. Funds will help over
ten different mission projects in our community.

HOLIDAY SALE!

Saturday, November 9, 2024, 9AM-3PM

**NEW AND GENTLY USED HOLIDAY
DECOR ITEMS**

BASKETS PRE-MADE GIFT THEMES !!

- **BOOK SALE** for all ages
- **BAKED GOODS** and **JEWELRY**
- **LUNCH** 11am-2pm



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NAME _____ PHONE _____

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CHECK: New Registration Change of Address Moving out of Parish Want envelopes

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