



CHURCH OF THE

# Good Shepherd

One Flock, One Family, Living and  
Sharing the Love of Christ

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[www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

[www.facebook.com/goodshepherdpittsburg](https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdpittsburg)



## TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 18, 2020

I have called you  
by your name,  
giving you a title,  
though you knew me not.

I am  
*the Lord*  
and there  
is no other,

there is no God besides me.

Isaiah 45:4-5

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The Parish Office is operating virtually during the pandemic. We will answer your phone calls and emails as soon as possible. Our telephone system is now up and running! Thank you for your patience.

## NEW MASS SCHEDULE

### Monday - Friday

7:30am

### Saturday

8:00am; 5:30pm Vigil – Livestream

### Sunday

8:00am (in the garden) - Livestream

10:00am (in the garden) - Livestream

12pm - Livestream

3pm (Spanish) - Livestream

### Communion

Drive through communion after each Mass in front of the church.

### Adoration

Fridays 8am – 9am

### Confession

Fridays 8am-9am

Saturdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm

or by appointment



They asked Jesus: "*Is it lawful to pay tax to the Romans or not?*" If Jesus said No, the Romans would come and arrest him for being rebellious. If he said Yes, the Jews and Pharisees would accuse him of insulting God, for they are called to worship the One and the Only God. Whichever way out, Jesus would be accused of something. Knowing the trap, Jesus came up with a smart answer: "*Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God.*"

This statement, short as it is, spells out a guiding principle for all of us. We cannot deny the fact that we are still in this world. At the same time, we also should not forget that we do not belong to this world. In other words, we are in the world but not of the world. While we are in this world, we have duties and obligations as members of society; loyalty to our country, paying taxes, obedient to the laws, etc. We have done it well. We "*Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar.*"

But when it comes to "*Give to God what belongs to Him,*" we seem to have a little problem. There is a common tendency to claim the ownership of things we have. We pledge the allegiance of one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. When God hears us say this, he may laugh at us, for we, our nation is using God's name in vain. We say one nation under God. But where is God's place in this nation? Why are all religious symbols being removed from public areas? Why are prayers banned in schools? God said, "Thou shall not kill." Why does our nation legalize abortion? Is it truly a nation under God while running against his law?

We should consider how ungrateful we are when we are exploiting God's creatures. We come to God's vineyard, exploiting his soil, his properties, using his name to make profit for ourselves, and returning nothing to him. This gospel reminds us of our dual citizenship. Our duty to the country as well as to God. When this gets conflicted, then our duty to God takes priority, for heaven is our true home, it is worth a penny to invest and to sacrifice for. Amen!

Blessings, Fr. Thi

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

**Faith Formation for children and young people needing First Holy Communion and Confirmation begins online this week!**

There is still time to sign up by contacting  
**Dina (dina@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org)** or  
**Aylin (aylin@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org)**

**Also, any adults wishing to become Catholic or needing to complete their Sacraments of Initiation should also contact the parish office.**



**It is bitter-sweet that we say farewell to**

***FR. CHRIS***

**Fr. Chris will celebrate all of the masses the weekend of November 7/8 to say farewell to Good Shepherd.**

**He will be heading back to the Philippines to continue his priestly ministry in his own diocese, which is sad for us, but he will be returning to be with his own family, which is wonderful for him!**

**LET US PRAY FOR FR. CHRIS FOR SAFE TRAVELS AND IN HIS CONTINUED MINISTRY TO OTHERS!**



*Look around and see God's beauty!*

### **POPE FRANCIS' NEW ENCYCLICAL *FRATELLI TUTTI***

Pope Francis introduced a new encyclical on Sunday about our world going backwards and how we can reverse that course.

We encourage everyone to read this very important document by going to:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-10/pope-francis-fratelli-tutti-introduce-angelus-fraternity-friend.html>



Le preguntaron a Jesús: "¿Es lícito pagar impuestos a los Romanos o no?" Si Jesús decía que no, los Romanos vendrían y lo arrestarían por rebelde. Si dijera que sí, los Judíos y los Fariseos lo acusarían de insultar a Dios, porque están llamados a adorar al único Dios. Cualquiera sea la salida, Jesús sería acusado de algo. Conociendo la trampa, Jesús dio una respuesta inteligente: "*Paga al César lo que es del César y a Dios lo que es de Dios*".

Esta declaración, por breve que sea, enuncia un principio recto para todos nosotros. No podemos negar el hecho de que todavía estamos en este mundo. Al mismo tiempo, tampoco debemos olvidar que no pertenecemos a este mundo. En otras palabras, estamos en el mundo pero no somos del mundo. Mientras estemos en este mundo, tenemos deberes y obligaciones como miembros de la sociedad: leales a nuestro país, pagando impuestos, obedientes a las leyes, etc. Lo hemos hecho bien. "*Pagamos al César lo que es del César*".

Pero cuando se trata de "*Dale a Dios lo que le pertenece*", parece que tenemos un pequeño problema. Existe una tendencia común a reclamar la propiedad de las cosas que tenemos. Prometemos la lealtad de una nación, bajo Dios, indivisible, con libertad y justicia para todos. Cuando Dios nos oiga decir esto, puede que se ría de nosotros, porque nosotros, nuestra nación, está usando el nombre de Dios en vano. Decimos una nación bajo Dios. Pero, ¿dónde está el lugar de Dios en esta nación? ¿Por qué se están eliminando todos los símbolos religiosos de las áreas públicas? ¿Por qué las oraciones están prohibidas en las escuelas? Dios dijo: No matarás, ¿por qué nuestra nación legaliza el aborto? ¿Es realmente una nación bajo Dios mientras va en contra de su ley?

Algo que deberíamos considerar, los ingratos que somos cuando estamos explotando a la criatura de Dios. Venimos a la viña de Dios, explotamos su suelo, sus propiedades, usamos su nombre para lucrarnos y no le devolvemos nada. Este evangelio nos recuerda nuestra doble ciudadanía. Nuestro deber con el país y con Dios. Cuando esto entra en conflicto, entonces nuestro deber hacia Dios tiene prioridad, porque el cielo es nuestro verdadero hogar, vale la pena invertir un centavo y sacrificarse por él. ¡Amén!

Bendiciones.

Padre Thi

## Información de Catecismo

**Clases de para niños y jóvenes que necesitan primera comunión y confirmación comienzan por línea esta semana. Todavía hay tiempo de inscribirse. Contacten a**

**Dina ([dina@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](mailto:dina@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org)) o  
Aylin ([aylin@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org](mailto:aylin@goodshepherdpittsburgh.org))**

**Además, cualquier adulto que desee convertirse en católico o que necesite cualquier sacramento de iniciación (bautizo, primera comunión, confirmación) también puede comunicarse con la oficina parroquial.**



Les invitamos a vivir un retiro espiritual: “**Encontrándome con Cristo**” que es un proceso de 5 semanas de formación espiritual intensa de personas que quieran ser discípulos de Cristo para dar un mayor servicio dentro de su parroquia, a su familia y a la iglesia universal.

Fecha: jueves de 7 a 9 PM. Del 1 al 29 de octubre, 2020

[Este es el Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/93485729759](https://zoom.us/j/93485729759)

Meeting ID: 934 8572 9759

Los esperamos, por favor comparta esta información con la comunidad.

**ANNOUNCING THE OPENING OF  
THE 2021 MASS BOOK!**

We will be opening the 2021 Mass Book this Thursday, October 1st. Due to the pandemic, we will take mass intention requests this year via email or in written form beginning Thursday and prioritize them in the order we receive them. No phone calls please so that we can maintain a written, prioritized list as the requests come in. We ask that you make sure your email address or telephone number are included in your request so that we may contact you if there are conflicts with the date requests.

Donation request remains \$10 per mass intention. In accordance with Diocesan policy, only the Saturday morning 8 am mass may be double-booked for intentions. Initially we are limiting the number of requests per family to 12 maximum so that everyone has a fair opportunity for one mass intention per month.

Mass intentions are available for Monday through Friday masses at 7:30 am, Saturday morning masses at 8 am, our weekend schedule of Saturday at 5:30 pm, Sunday at 8 am, 10 am , 12 noon and 3 pm in Spanish.

We also have mass intentions available on the 1st Friday of the month at 7 pm, the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10 am at Diamond Ridge, 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10 am at Stoneman Village and the 3rd Friday of each month at 7 pm in Spanish if you'd like to request any of those.

Please feel free to use the form provided. You can email this form, mail this form, put it in any collection basket or place it in the mail slot in the parish office door.

**2021 Mass Intention Request Form**

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_

Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Time      Intention (Living or Deceased)**

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount owed \$      Amount paid \$

**Please print legibly!**

**GARDEN BRICKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE! USE THIS FORM****CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
*SPIRITUAL GARDEN***

The *Good Shepherd Spiritual Garden* was the brain-child of our Pastor, Fr. Helmut Richter, so that the people of our community would have a place to pray, celebrate, socialize and play. We are truly blessed that we have it as a place to worship during this time of pandemic. Many of you have asked about placing a memorial brick in the garden now that you have seen its beauty and have spent time there.

If you wish to commission a brick for the garden in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend, you may do so for just \$55 for one or \$100 for two bricks..

Please fill out the portion below and return it along with your payment to the parish office or email it to [yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

Name of person ordering tile _____	Date _____
Address: _____	
Phone: _____	Payment Amount: _____
Send Acknowledgement to: _____	
Address: _____	

Please fill in only one (1) character per space.


There are three (3) lines of fourteen (14) characters each. Punctuation counts as a space.

## Mass Intentions

October 19-25

# Mass Intentions For The Week

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Mon	7:30 am	Mary Nguyen † *
Tue	7:30 am	Flora Abad † #
Wed	7:30 am	Antonio Caradang † *
Thu	7:30 am	Clorinda G. de Mosca †
Fri	7:30 am	Mike Giambona † *
Sat	8:00 am	Auza Family Thanksgiving Francisco Del Rosario † #
Sat	5:30 pm	Juanita & Primitivo Arellano † #
Sun	8:00 am	Rafael Jiminez † *
	10 am	Angelyn Flosi † #
	12 pm	Frances Ferrante Thomas † #
	3 pm	For the People of the Parish*

\*=Fr. Thi, #=Fr. Christopher

## Parish Staff

**Fr. Thi Van Hoang, Parochial Administrator**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 11  
frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Fr. Christopher Villa, Priest in Residence**  
925-752-6357- sem.doctope@gmail.com

**Deacon Gustavo Escruceria**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 23  
Deacon.gustavo@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Grace Yvette Ripoli, Business Manager**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 12  
yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Carmen Esquivel, Parish Secretary**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 19  
carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Dina Russell, Religious Education Coordinator**  
432-6404 Ext 21  
dina@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**Aylin Gonzalez, Faith Formation (Spanish Speaking)**  
925-432-6404 Ext. 20  
aylin@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

**WEEKLY COLLECTION:** Please help contribute to the smooth operation and services of our parish, especially during this most difficult time. You can give your donations to any staff member or place in the mail slot in the ministry building door. We appreciate your generosity and for making Good Shepherd a part of your family. Fr. Thi

## Prayer for a Pandemic

*May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.*

*May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.*

*May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.*

*May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.*

*May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.*

*May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.*

*May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.*

*As fear grips our country, let us choose love.*

*During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.*

*Amen.*

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

**EXODUS 22:20-26.  
THESSALONIANS 1:5c-10,  
MATTHEW 22:34-40**

## NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

**BISHOP'S APPEAL**



## BAPTISMS & BIRTHDAYS!

### REOPENING OF OUR PARISH CHURCH

The county has determined that we can now open the church with limited capacity of 100 people for indoor services. We ask that you comply with the following procedures as we move indoors.

- ◆ Attendance at all masses requires a reservation through our website at [www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org)
- ◆ Our mass schedule will be as follows:
  - ⇒ Daily Mass at 7:30 am in the Church-100
  - ⇒ Saturday Mass 8 am in the Church-100
  - ⇒ Saturday Mass 5:30 pm in the Church-100
  - ⇒ Sunday Mass at 8 am and 10 am in the Spiritual Garden-Unlimited with social distancing
  - ⇒ Sunday Mass at 12 pm in the Church-100
  - ⇒ Sunday Mass at 3 pm in the Church-100
  - ⇒ ALL WEEKEND MASSES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED
- ◆ Please take the following measures when attending Mass
  - ⇒ Prior to coming to mass please take your temperature and ask yourself the following questions:
  - 1. *Have you or anyone in your household traveled domestically or internationally by air or cruise ship in the last 14 days?*
  - 2. *Do you or anyone in your household have the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, temperature over 100 degrees, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of taste or smell?*
  - 3. *Have you or anyone in your household been notified of being exposed to someone with Covid 19 or respiratory illness in the last 14 days?*
  - 4. *Are you or anyone in your household currently under quarantine?*

If you answer "yes" to any of these questions PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND MASS.

- ⇒ Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth
- ⇒ Come to Mass 15 minutes early to check in
- ⇒ Sanitizer will be available as you enter but we recommend that you bring your own
- ⇒ Follow the ushers instructions for seating-Families may sit together but maintain social distancing from all others
- ⇒ No worship aids will be provided but you may follow the Mass with your own book or on your mobile phone as long it is on silent mode.
- ⇒ Follow the ushers direction to receive Holy Communion-Please receive in the hand.
- ⇒ Follow directions when leaving the church.
- ⇒ Please, only one person at a time in the restroom.

## Fall Fundraiser

Have you received your raffle tickets in the mail yet? Would you like to sell some on behalf of the church or purchase more for a better chance to win? Please contact Yvette in the parish office by emailing [yvette@goodshephrdpittsburg.org](mailto:yvette@goodshephrdpittsburg.org) or calling 432-6404 ext 12 and she will help you out. We look forward to having lots of support and happy winners! 1st prize \$1,000, 2nd prize \$500 and 3rd prize \$250. Tickets are \$5 each or a book of 6 for \$25.