



# Along The Way

## The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham March 24, 2021



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Good Shepherd Friends,

This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday, which begins Holy Week. During Holy Week we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday), Jesus gathering with his disciples for the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday), Jesus' ultimate sacrificial love for us (Good Friday), and finally Jesus' victory over the powers of death and darkness in his resurrection (Easter Sunday). I invite you to make this coming week holy by slowing down a little, being more aware of the loving presence of God in your life, and by participating in the Holy Week Services. You can find the Holy Week Schedule below.

The Holy Week Service are an opportunity for you to make a retreat with Jesus. Each Service teaches us something about the life and ministry of Jesus, of who he was and is for us, and how we are called to live and love as he lived and loved. A lot of prayer, time and energy is going into preparing these Holy Week Services, to create a space for you to encounter the presence of God and God's son Jesus. The readings, prayers, music, and sermon for each Service is coordinated to fit the theme of each Holy Week Service. In many ways, the Holy Week Services are a summary of the life and ministry of Jesus and our call to follow him in his Way of Love. I encourage you to participate in the Holy Week Services and allow Jesus to minister to you and guide you along the path which leads to the fullness of life.

**Holy Week Services** (held on Facebook Live on the "Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham" Facebook page)

Palm Sunday	March 28	10am
Maundy Thursday	April 1	7pm
Good Friday	April 2	7pm
Easter Sunday	April 4	10am

Peace,

**Pastor Dan**

## A Lenten Prayer for a United Family of God

Dear God,

In our efforts to dismantle all that divides us from one another, we understand that we struggle not merely against flesh and blood but against powers and principalities – those institutions and systems that perpetuate the lie that some members of the human family are inferior and others superior.

Create in us a new mind and a new heart that will enable us to see brothers and sisters in the faces of those divided by racial, ethnic, economic, religious, and sexual categories.

Give us the grace and strength to rid ourselves of the stereotypes that oppress some of us while providing entitlements to others.

Help us to create a church and a nation that embraces the hopes and fears of oppressed people where we live, as well as those around the world.

Heal your family God, and make us one with you, in union with our brother Jesus, and empowered by your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

### A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

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**1. Holy Week Services Schedule:** Maundy Thursday 7pm (April 1), Good Friday 7pm (April 2). The Holy Week Services will be held on Facebook Live, and the recorded Services will be sent to those on our church email list.

**2.** 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.

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## Current Happenings

### WEEKLY UPDATE

#### **Vestry Meeting**

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, April 8, beginning at 6:00PM. Anyone who would like to submit possible agenda items for consideration can do so through Pastor Dan or through our Senior Warden Chuck McCullough by April 1 (one week before the meeting).

#### **Palm Sunday Service – March 28**

As is our custom at Good Shepherd, on Palm Sunday (March 28) we will focus our attention on the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and we will not read the Passion Story. The Passion Story will be read on Good Friday. Our Palm Sunday Service will be held on Facebook Live beginning at 10am. The recorded Service will be emailed to those on our parish email distribution list by 11am.

#### **Maundy Thursday 7pm Service**

On Maundy Thursday (April 1) we remember and celebrate Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples,

which has become our Sunday Eucharist. Jesus paused from the meal and began to wash the feet of His disciples. He then commanded them to follow His example of humble service. Our Maundy Thursday Service will be held on Facebook Live beginning at 7pm. The recorded Service will be emailed to those on our parish email distribution list by 8pm.

### **Good Friday 7pm Service**

On Good Friday (April 2) we call to mind Jesus' love for us, and his willingness to die in obedience to that love. We are reminded of our call to follow Jesus in humble Service and ministry, that the Cross is a symbol of the ultimate love of our God, and of our call to continue Jesus' mission of love. Our Good Friday Service will be held on Facebook Live beginning at 7pm. The recorded Service will be emailed to those on our parish email distribution list by 8pm.

### **Good Friday Offering**

On Good Friday it is customary for the churches of the Episcopal Church to take up an offering in support of the ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. 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. Please mail donations to the church office (PO Box 719, Wareham, MA 02571). One Church check will then be sent in the name of our Good Shepherd community. Thank you!

### **Invite Someone to Attend Our Easter Service**

Please consider inviting people you know to participate in our Easter Sunday Service. There are many family, friends, and neighbors who will not be participating in a church Service on Easter. Some may not currently belong to a church, but perhaps would like to know of a welcoming and love-centered community such as our Good Shepherd community. Let's make sure that everyone who wants to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus has a chance to participate in an Easter Service. Our Easter Sunday Service will be held on Facebook Live beginning at 10am. The recorded Service will be emailed to those on our parish email distribution list around 11am. Perhaps you could also forward the link I will send you.

### **Good Shepherd Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry is open on the first Tuesday of the month from 3-5 pm. The Food Pantry will next be open on April 6. Food donation to the Food Pantry can be dropped off on Thursday afternoons from 2:00-4:00. ***We are looking specifically for cereal and for toilet paper, bars of soap (full size), toothpaste, and dishwashing liquid.***

### **Good Shepherd's Table and Food Pantry Fundraiser**

Good Shepherd's Table and Food Pantry has been selected to be a part of the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program, created to help fight the hunger crisis across the communities we serve. From **February 26<sup>th</sup> through the month of March**, each time a \$9.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with a red circle sticker is purchased at the Stop & Shop located in Wareham, \$1 will be donated to Good Shepherd's Table and Food Pantry. This is a way for Stop & Shop to raise awareness in the local community, fight hunger and raise donations for our Food ministries. Supporters can buy flower

bouquets throughout the month. The more bouquets sold, the more donations raised and the more people in need we can feed! Please help spread the news to your friends and family. Call, send emails, and post on social media. Again, the dates in which Good Shepherd's Table and Food Pantry benefit are from February 26<sup>th</sup> through the month of March. To learn more about this program, please visit [stopandshop.bloomin4good.com](http://stopandshop.bloomin4good.com).

### **Pledges and Other Contributions**

Thank you to those who have been mailing in pledge payments and donations to the church. It is very much needed and appreciated, as our bills still need to be paid. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are missing some of our past sources of revenue.

### **Good Shepherd's Table**

We are continuing our ministry to feed the hungry through Shepherd's Table by providing takeout meals from 3:30-4:30pm on Thursdays.

### **No Meetings in the Church Building**

Until further notice there are no meeting being held in the church building. This includes support group meetings as well as church meetings.

### **Parish Office**

The parish office is not open for drop-in parish business. If you need to contact the church (or Cathi Maurice our church office manager), please either call (508-295-2840) or email ([goodshepherdwareham@gmail.com](mailto:goodshepherdwareham@gmail.com)) the church.

### **Contacting Pastor Dan**

Though I am at the church a few times during the week, I am working mostly from home. 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 texting or calling me through my cell phone (603-953-3659).

### **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.



# March 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2 3-5 PM Food Pantry 6:30 PM Lenten Spiritual Renewal Session	3	4 4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 6:30 PM Liberating Ourselves From Racism Session	5	6
7 <u>The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</u> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live	8	9 6:30 PM Lenten Spiritual Renewal Session	10	11 4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 6:30 PM Liberating Ourselves From Racism Session	12	13
14 <u>The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</u> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live	15	16 6:30 PM Lenten Spiritual Renewal Session	17	18 4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 6 PM Vestry Meeting	19	20
21 <u>The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</u> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live	22	23 6:30 PM Lenten Spiritual Renewal Session	24	25 4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals	26	27
28 <u>Palm Sunday</u> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live	29	30	31			