



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham March 31, 2021

Reflections



The Rev. Daniel Bernier
Church of the Good Shepherd
74 High Street/PO Box 719
Wareham, MA 02571
pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com
508-295-2840

Good Shepherd Friends,

It is Holy Week. I encourage you to make this week holy by slowing down and reflecting on the love of God made present in the life and ministry of Jesus. The Church gives us Holy Week Services to help us to do this. 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. 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, the recorded link will be sent following the Service for those not on Facebook)

<i>Maunder Thursday</i>	April 1	7pm
<i>Good Friday</i>	April 2	7pm
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	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

1. Holy Week Services Schedule: Maudy 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.

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

Church Reopening Plan

The process for us to gradually reopen our church to in-person worship will begin in May. Of course, our progression through the reopening process will be based on the spread of the virus in our greater Wareham area. Safety will always be a priority in our reopening process. More details concerning our reopening process will be announced in the coming weeks. We are almost there, but not quite yet. Please continue to be patient and stay vigilant in preventing the spread of the virus. Please continue to wear face masks, maintain social distancing, not gather in large numbers, and get the vaccine when you are eligible. Peace, Pastor Dan

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).

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.

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

On the first Sunday of the month we recognize, with a special blessing at our Sunday Services, those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries during that month. On Sunday, April 4, we will celebrate with those who have April birthdays and anniversaries.

Welcome Bishop Gayle Harris

On Sunday, April 18, we will welcome Bishop Gayle Harris who will be making a visit to Good Shepherd. One of our Bishops generally visits each parish in the course of about 3 years. The visit will consist of Bishop Gayle presiding over and preaching at our 10am Facebook Live Sunday Service. Following the Service (beginning at 11:15) Bishop Gayle will meet with church members for a virtual "Coffee Hour" through the Zoom online platform (all are invited and encourage to participate); at the end of the coffee

hour, Vestry members will stay on the Zoom session and meet with Bishop Gayle. The Zoom Link will be sent to you the day before the Bishop's visit (April 17). Please mark your calendars for this wonderful opportunity to be with one of our Bishops!

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.***

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 meetings 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) 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), 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.



April 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service	7 PM Good Friday Service	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Easter Sunday <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live		3-5 PM Food Pantry		4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 6 PM Vestry Meeting		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
The 2nd Sunday of Easter <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
The 3rd Sunday of Easter <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live Bishop's Visitation				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
The 4th Sunday of Easter <hr/> No Services Today				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		