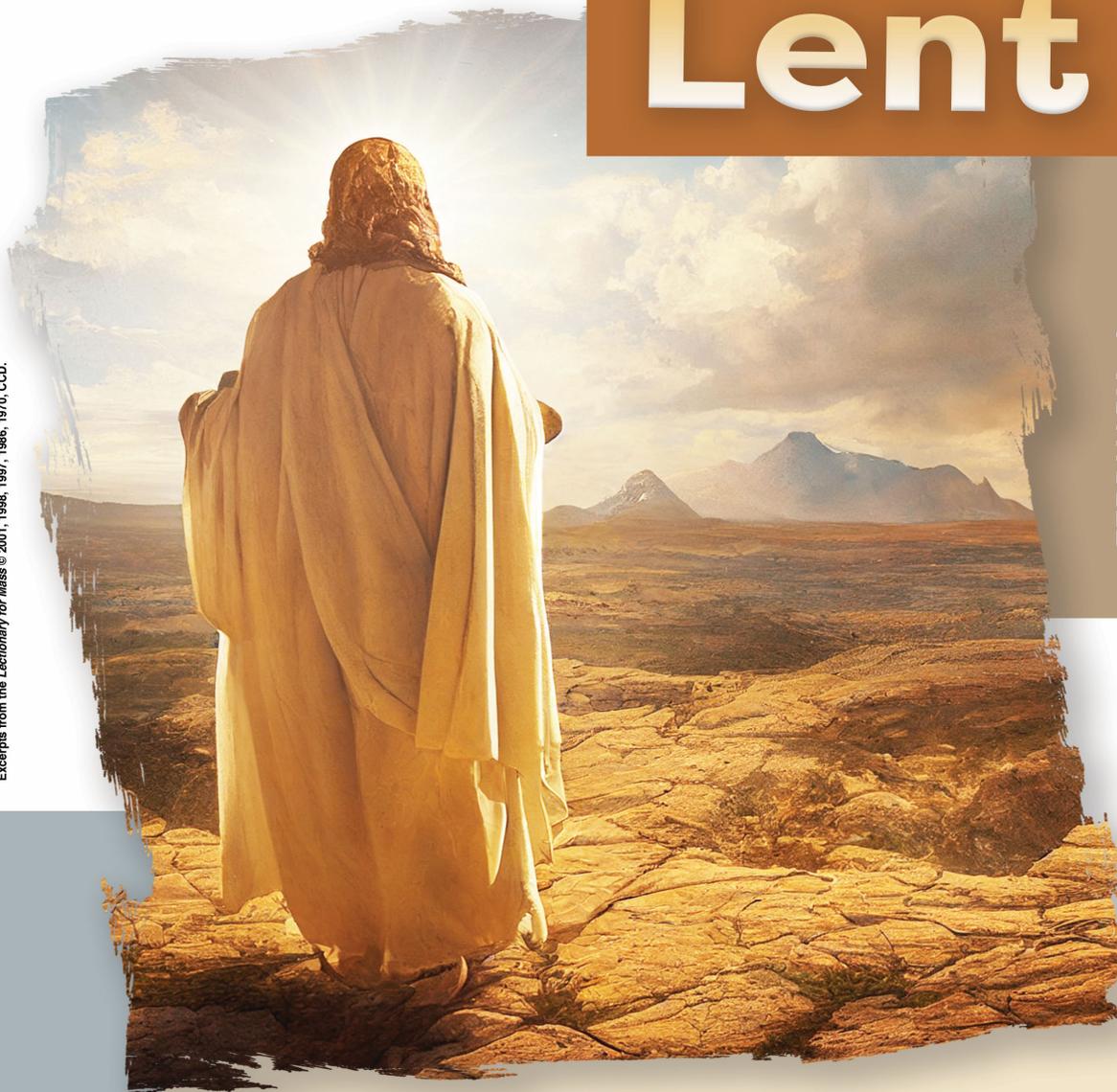


Church of the Good Shepherd

FIRST SUNDAY OF
Lent

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

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At that time Jesus was
led by the Spirit into the desert
to be tempted by the devil.

Matthew 4:1

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

gsbh.org

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Rev. Colm O’Ryan, *Pastor Emeritus*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO FLOWERS

During the season of Lent, please **do not place flowers at the shrines or statues** within or outside the church building.

PAPAERLESS BULLETINS

As of March 5th, the Sunday Bulletins will no longer be printed by J.S. Palulch.

Until further notice, the Bulletin will be available only on our website.

Please visit www.gsbh.org



Mass Intentions for the Week

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Monday,	February 27 Special Intentions
Tuesday,	February 28 Special Intentions
Wednesday,	March 1 Sr. Virginia Stehley
Thursday,	March 2 Nicole Huntsman
Friday,	March 3 Lupe Frausto

DID YOU KNOW?

Know how to report abuse in California.

It is important to take immediate action if someone discloses abuse to you, or if you suspect abuse or neglect is happening. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles offers a detailed list of resources with information about what to do if you suspect a child, vulnerable or elderly adult is being abused. All employees and volunteers within the Archdiocese of Los Angeles are expected to report suspected abuse to the appropriate civil authorities and to Victims Assistance Ministry.

For more information, visit lacatholics.org/reporting-child-abuse. For more information about support for victim-survivors and abuse prevention and protection efforts of the Archdiocese, visit lacatholics.org/protect.



OUR LENTEN JOURNEY



Daily Weekday Masses -12:05 p.m.
Wednesdays - 6:30 p.m.



Stations of the Cross

Friday Evenings
6:30 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesdays 7-8 p.m.
Fridays 11:40 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Saturdays 3-4 p.m.

Meditation

Sacred Heart Chapel, Parish Center
Tuesdays 7 p.m., Thursdays 11 a.m.



Wednesday Adoration

6:30 p.m. Mass
Adoration follows 7-8 p.m.

*Due to an RCIA event on Wednesday, March 1st,
our regular Wednesday evening masses will resume on March 8.*

SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

There will be a special meeting on **Thursday, March 2nd, 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center. All persons interested in planning social events for the Parish as well as helping invigorate the Sunday morning Coffee Hour from **11 a.m. - 2 p.m.** Come with your creative, happy thoughts!

CANTRIBUTION WEEKEND



Next weekend, **March 4th - 5th** is Cantribution Weekend. Please remember to bring your bags of canned food, vegetables, fruit, beans, rice, breakfast food, snacks they can use for children's lunches,

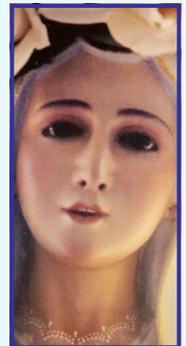
peanut butter, jam, etc. Help is needed to serve all the people who are struggling. God bless you for each and every effort of love you've given.

HEART OF MARY MINISTRY

The first Saturday devotion Mass to the Blessed Virgin Mary will be

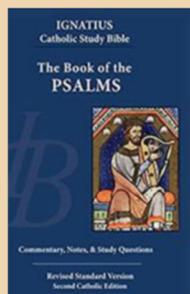
Saturday, March 4, 2023
at **12 Noon**, followed by the
Rosary and Novena.

Everyone is welcome to join us to honor Our Blessed Mother Mary who loves us all.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Adult Bible Study will be **Saturday, March 4th** from **10 - 11:30 a.m.** in person and on **Monday March 6, 7 - 8:30 p.m.** on Zoom. For more information please call the Parish Office at **310-285 5425** or **(213) 308-9481**



YOUNG AT HEART

The next Young At Heart Senior group is scheduled for **Saturday, March 11th** from **12:30 - 2:30 p.m.** at the Parish Center, Good Shepherd Room **Donation of \$10 which includes lunch.**



SYNOD REPORT: Church of the Good Shepherd, Beverly Hills, California

Speaking and Listening

- Conflicting views on ease of attending online masses during COVID shutdown. Some like the ability to attend masses at different parishes and this enriched their understanding of the mass in different ways. Missed the community of being in person. •Lack of catechesis and on-going education about the meanings of "liturgy" and content of the mass.
 - Lay led ministries thrive, but when the initiator leaves often the ministry is not continued. •Need for the core long-time parishioners to reach out and invite others in, even on an ad hoc basis. Some do this, but others not so much. Greater humility in the hierarchy. We are a progressive parish and worry about those that are too hyper conservative and want to return to a too romanticized past idea of the Church
 - Lack of reverence, dress code in Church, talking of things other than spirituality in Church which is a place of prayer
 - Some are concerned about over-secularization, autocratization or corporatization of the Church
- Focus on basic truths-disagreement as to what those basic truths are.

Celebrating

- Prayer of the Faithful during the mass is a way for parishioners to feel part of the Parish. •Some feel intimidated by the altar setting.
 - Some feel uneasy at the Sign of Peace as they are shy and not outgoing, or uneasy with strangers. •Greater use of the bulletins to focus on the Sunday Gospels; questions and answers to help catechize. Focus on the joy of the Mass, not just on the priest-use of familiar hymns.
- Need to welcome all by getting to know fellow parishioners; not ostracize anyone, including race, gender, sexual orientation.

Have the cantor return to the altar area; others felt need to encourage use of the missals, instead.

Going on Mission

- Those who worship in a solitary manner. •Parish is OUR home. •Common goal of helping each other "get to heaven."
- During COVID online masses, people like the intimacy with the concelebrants seated at the altar rather than standing. Great for elderly priests. A real "table of worship."

We are a flowering garden of difference

We can learn much from exposure to other religions that teach us so much about our own. Nostra Aetate and Unitatis Reintegration are so important. Order is the first order of God. It seems we lost this cardinal rule. Review and promote our mission statement.

Increase outreach to other parishes and have increased dialogue with the hierarchy, not just a top down approach.

Possibility of having a "Tell Me More" session on a monthly basis. Plan activities that focus on Sundays.

- We are pretty much in sync at our parish. We are a progressive parish. Unrealistic barriers to receiving sacraments.
- Virtus training is not easily accessible, yet required by the LA Archdiocese.

Dialoguing

- Parishioners at different places on journey. •Mass and Church is self-expression of love. •Difficulty if parishioners speak different languages or attend language specific services other than English. •There is a cultural necessity of language-specific services for some. Filipinos in our church usually do not reach out to non-Filipinos as they are a tight community in Los Angeles. Women not heard for the most part.

More church operations transparency.

- Some feel they are not listened to or are ignored. Often parishioners self-segregate. •Many are not familiar with all the ministries our church offers, so we need a ministry fair more than once or twice a year. Our parish has a revolving door aspect where parishioners change because of the enormous size of Los Angeles and surrounding areas like Beverly Hills and Santa Monica. We need to remember that women are half the Church, but do 85% of the work in North America, at least and for sure globally! Culture wars

Leading and Deciding

- The church might consider installing a suggestion box in the Parish Hall. •We need unity, not uniformity, or unity in diversity.
- Revitalization of the 16 documents of Vatican II and what they teach that has not been recognized, used or discerned.
- Vatican II documents need to be a mandatory curriculum in all seminaries, globally. Need for married and women priests and women deacons.

Parishioners still angry about the child abuse scandals and lack of accountability by clergy. Admit the guilt and ask forgiveness of lay people of God.

Growing in Synodality

- Lay and women need more of a voice and decision-making at the Parish Council. •Our church was energized by this Synodal gathering and discerning should become a regular part of Parish church life. •Reconnect into a deeper spirituality that has been lost in secularity.
 - Focus on the Good news love, mercy, forgiveness instead of the moral questions by the clergy, i.e, not the you're going to hell. Focus on God's love rather for us rather than dark, dreary, punitive sinfulness, yet discipline of accountability and responsibility as God's people.
- Growing in mature ideas of faith, not stuck on simple grace, but ideas that reflect our "real" life situations.

Parishioners at different places on their faith journey, so how do we create Synodality in this way?

Basic need for catechesis on tools of Spiritual Direction would help.

Comments Not Categorized into Themes:

Do 2nd session after these results for all parishes and organizations. All archdioceses should publish their assessment.

We would have better results if materials were available earlier-appears bishops at many parishes are dragging their feet & not engaging in this Synodal process. Many parishes we know are not even doing this process.

Additional Context About the Listening Sessions:

We are a very vibrant and participatory parish that is empowered by our pastors--we are very lucky and grateful!

21 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 12 Female and 9 Male / **AGES OF PARTICIPANTS** 40-55 = 9, 56-74 = 9, 75+ = 3

ETHNICITY: Asian = 1, Black or African = 2, Caucasian = 15, Hispanic or Latino = 1, Filipino = 2

ACTIVEW CATHOLIC Since Birth: 15, **Catholic Convert:** 2, **Returned Catholic:** 4

MASS ATTENDANCE: Almost every = 21

Number of Participants in Ecumenical Session(s): 0 / **Date(s)/Time(s)/Duration(s) of Listening Sessions:** March 26, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

Languages of Listening Sessions: English - **Format of Listening Sessions:** ADLA Format 1-Day Session

Submitted by: Janice L. Poss / Email: dbozarts@gmail.com / Phone: 213 - 308-9481

Additional Recipient: Margaret Kame/Senior Minister / Email: mhalegalmk@yahoo.com



SYNOD-MARCH 2022

The responding groups were eclectic for age, race, sex; Missing were young adults and children.

Problems/Issues: How are we journeying together or not? What needs to change in order to better journey together?

What does "journeying together" mean to you? Are we journeying together or not? If not, how could we improve our journey?

A. Journeying together is difficult due to: Parishioners not knowing each other. People are in different places on their journey.

Anger at the prop/pries due to the scandals-child abuse/financial. Cultural wars Difficulty in receiving sacraments-especially baptism when there are marriage issues Not strong in catechism. Perceived differences between hierarchy and faithful.

B. Solutions/Steps to take: Focus on spirituality. Keep it simple-basic truths. Emphasize Eucharist.

Use bulletins to increase spirituality with commentary on Sunday Gospels.

To whom does our Church community need to listen to, to make it an inclusive Church for all, including the young, the marginalized, women, families? **To whom does our Church community need to listen to, to make it a more inclusive Church?**

Who else might or does feel excluded? How can we make our Church more inclusive? (for the young, marginalized, women, family)

A. Excluded: Women: lack of power, unwanted pregnancies, **LGBT:** feel unwelcome.

B. Solutions/Steps to take: ORDINATION-not using talents God gave, increase numbers in hierarchy, prevention-revamp position on birth control. Acknowledge and bless all unions-not just men and women. Secularization should be discriminatory-not too much or too little. Focus on the mystery of faith. Church is not a democracy but try not to be restrictive, i.e., the "thou shall not" mentality.

How do we promote a free and authentic style of communication and manage to say what is important to us within the Church community and its organizations? **How do we communicate and manage to say what is important to us within the Church community and its organizations? Can we do better? If so, how?**

A. Lack of communication from hierarchy down to parish and within parish. B. Solutions/Steps to take:

Encourage in home-starts herein. Education on the various hierarchy branches. Encourage reestablishment of Parish Council.

Use of a Suggestion Box: Monthly "Tell Me More" discussion-may be about issue, new liturgy, church events.

Use of appropriate language regarding the marginalized.

How do we promote active participation of all in the liturgy, especially to those who are beginning the faith or questioning entering the faith? **How do we promote active participation of all in the liturgy?**

What does participation in liturgy mean to you? Are you a new Catholic or a cradle Catholic?

A. Churchgoers who do not participate. B. Solutions/Steps to take: Not just focus on Priest-focus on the joy of Mass. Promote ministries more. Make sure they know all are welcome to serve. Be approachable and humble of heart. Encourage cantor up front-encourage use of missals. Music increased use of familiar hymns. Involve children-encourage outside activities such as Passover meal. Plan activities focus on Sundays. Have priest hold up the money when bringing up gifts.

In discerning mission choices, who and how are these choices discerned and should this method change?

What is our mission at Good Shepherd? Does our mission need an update? Or do we need a new one?

A. Do we know and understand our mission? B. Solutions/Steps to take: Promote mission statement on bulletin and website.

Increase outreach

In all areas, how can we promote participation in decision making in hierarchically structured communities?

What areas or where can we promote participation in decision making in our hierarchically structured communities and the Church as a whole?

A. How can we have contact with hierarchy? B. Solutions/Steps to take: Develop parish council.

Education regarding hierarchy itself.

How can we promote a healthy dialogue in the Church to allow for divergences of vision and conflict while encouraging collaboration?

How do we promote open dialogue when opinions diverge or when faith stories and beliefs conflict?

A. Is there healthy dialogue in our parish? B. Solutions/Steps to take: Keep politics out of discussions. Be open and listen.

In order to be a participatory and co-responsible Church, what practices of teamwork and co-responsibility should we use to identify goals, the way to achieve them and the steps to be taken? **8a. What is your idea and definition of teamwork? How do we develop a parish-wide consensus on a definition? Is this tied together with our mission? What are the qualities of effective teamwork as applied in our parish?**

A. Is there effective teamwork in our parish?

B. Solutions/Steps to take. Promotion of programs-Children-bible stores, helpful pamphlets and coloring books. Pot luck meals, not just hospitality or parties, but also group activities such as dances-find out about. Be open and listen.

How do we help people be more capable of journeying together through listening and hearing one another, dialoguing and educating?

Are we practicing active listening? Are we ready to dialogue on the tough questions? When someone throws out a new idea that we do not agree with, do we ever stop and say: "Tell me more... "?

A. Are we engaging in helpful practices. B. Solutions/Steps to take. Preach the Good news instead of preaching at someone.

Be open and listen. Ask if anything bothering them.

Do you have friends and relatives that profess different religions? How do you interact with them? **When we have friends or relatives that profess a different religion, how do we interact with them?**

A, Do we react properly with other religions? B. Solutions/Steps to take. Try to learn more about their religion. Know facts about your religion so you can explain, fight back, education-need tools to do so. Present a united front. Increase communication beyond helping with Feed My Poor and encourage participation by reaching more groups. Prayers for Holy Spirit intervention

Other items brought up: Focus on the Good news love, mercy, forgiveness instead of the moral questions by the clergy, i.e, not the you're going to hell. Need for married priests.



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If you are interested in any of these ministries, please contact the leader of the ministry.