

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.’” (Mt 13:44)

Parable of the Hidden Treasure by Rembrandt



**Welcome to
Good Shepherd Parish
July 26, 2026**

Parish Office: (508) 650—3545

99 Main Street, Wayland, MA

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH VISION STATEMENT

Good Shepherd Parish strives to be a vibrant, welcoming community where every person can experience the Father's love. Through the Gospel proclamation, prayer, and joyous sacramental celebration, Good Shepherd Parish will inspire parishioners to discern and live out their vocations and to actively evangelize the world. As we bear witness to the Risen Christ, Our Lord and Savior, we aspire to serve our parish community. We will seek to welcome home the new, the lost, and the disheartened by using the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit..

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Roman Catholic community of Good Shepherd Parish, strive to be a living sign of Christ's love in and for the world. In response to our Baptismal call, nourished by the Eucharist and guided by the values of the Second Vatican Council, we seek to continue the mission of Jesus Christ by welcoming, supporting and guiding all through prayer, sacramental celebration, service and education.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:
Fr. Laurence "Ren" Tocci
Ext. 14
frren@goodshepherdwayland.org

Senior Priest in Residence:
Rev. Austin H. Fleming, M.A.
fraustin@goodshepherdwayland.org
Fr. Fleming's daily blog:
ConcordPastor.blogspot.com

Permanent Deacon:
Deacon Colm McGarry Ext. 22
cmcgarry@goodshepherdwayland.org

Finance & Operations Manager :
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llucas@goodshepherdwayland.org

Faith Formation Director (K-8):
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Director of My Brother's Table:
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happyhojlos@verizon.net

Communications & Sacramental Records:
Kat Holmstrom Ext. 13
kholmstrom@goodshepherdwayland.org

Administrative Assistant:
Vina Sousa Ext. 10
vsousa@goodshepherdwayland.org

Facilities Staff:
Steve McCarthy & Julio Pazmino
Ext. 18



ST. ANN CHURCH, 134 COCHITUATE RD, WAYLAND, MA



ST. ZEPHERIN CHURCH, 99 MAIN ST, WAYLAND, MA

Mass Times

Saturday, 4:00 PM St. Ann
Sunday, 8:30 AM St. Zepherin
Sunday, 10:30 AM St. Ann

Confession

Saturday, 3:00 –3:45 PM
St. Ann
(or by appointment)

Weekday Masses

Monday—Tuesday
9:00 AM St. Ann
Wednesday—Friday
9:00 AM St. Zepherin

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, JULY 25
4:00 PM
MARY ERDIS (LIVING—HEALING)

SUNDAY, JULY 26
8:30 AM
THE PEOPLE OF
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
10:30 AM
BUD BERGIN

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29
9:00 AM
MILLIE CHOINSKI
RUTH (CHOINSKI) FORNES

THURSDAY, JULY 30
9:00 AM
SPECIAL INTENTION REQUESTED

FRIDAY, JULY 31
9:00 AM
MANUEL M. COSTA

Parish Calendar

TUESDAYS OF
JULY & AUGUST
NO 9:00 AM DAILY MASS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29
7:00 PM
ROSARY GROUP
AT THE PARISH CENTER
(CALL THE OFFICE FOR DETAILS)

Parish Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday
9 AM—3 PM
Friday 9 AM—12 PM

WHEN THE PARISH OFFICE
IS OPEN,
SO IS ST. ZEPHERIN CHURCH
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO STOP IN
FOR A BIT TO PRAY!

The Honored Ambassador Before God (Part VI) . . .

There's a moment in the movie *Gravity* when the Sandra Bullock character, facing the reality of her own death, muses—half to herself and half to the George Clooney character—"Will you say a prayer for me? Or is it too late . . . ah, I mean I'd say one for myself but I've never prayed in my life. Nobody ever taught me how . . ."

As sad and forlorn as that admission is, what she doesn't realize is that the impulse to want to pray is itself a prayer. Granted, a fumbling, unconscious prayer, but a prayer all the same. The desire to lift one's voice and heart to God is the essence of prayer. It's not something that one needs to be taught, as she mistakenly thinks; it's a gift that God has placed in each person's heart. Yes, one's prayer can be formed, developed, made more explicit, but the "raw material" of prayer is simply this desire.

When we don't properly address this desire, it remains a void in our heart and an incompleteness of our self-realization, as the movie character discovered, lamenting that it might be "too late" because the vacuum has been left unfilled for so long. (As a point of clarification: it's never too late to begin to pray.) Or we try to fill that empty space with obsessions that are less than God, and therefore beneath the dignity of the human heart. "So long as man remains free he strives for nothing so incessantly and so painfully as to find someone to worship," observes Ivan Karamazov, the cynical, atheistic sibling in Fyodor Dostoevsky's novel *The Brothers Karamazov*; and because he rejected worship of the living God but instead pursued personal power, he goes insane before the end of the book.

The gift of this innate desire to pray is a gift God gives for one obvious but startling reason: He desires us. "In this is love," John says in his first letter in the New Testament; "not that we have loved God but that He loved us, and sent His Son as expiation for our sins." Many of the Church Fathers in the first few centuries of Christianity interpreted the Old-Testament Book the *Song of Solomon*—which is a lyrical love poem about a male lover and female beloved searching for each other—as being an allegory for God's relentless desire for union with us.

This is an amazing revelation to come to, and it deserves to be absorbed deeply enough to take firm hold of our heart. It will change our very understanding of God. He desires us, He ardently desires communion with us. Not just the general us—the human race as a whole; but each one of us. He desires *you*. Because the God who created you desires a personal, communal relationship with you, He placed in your heart this need for prayer. He placed it in my heart. He placed it in each person's heart. If only we paid close enough attention to it to recognize it for what it is—our desirous need for God—and name it outright.

Jesus captures this mutual need in a powerful moment just before His Passion. "If only this day you knew what makes for peace," He says in Luke's gospel, as He looks out over Jerusalem with tears in His eyes. And in Matthew's recording of the same scene the Lord muses, "how many times I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her young

under her wings, but you were unwilling." Luke emphasizes our need for communion with God, while Matthew underscores God's yearning for communion with us—but our obstinacy to entrust ourselves to Him.

Closer to our own day, Henri Nouwen observed that "It is God's passionate pursuit of us that calls us to prayer. Prayer comes from God's initiative, not ours. It might sound shocking, but it is biblical to say: God wants us more than we want God!"

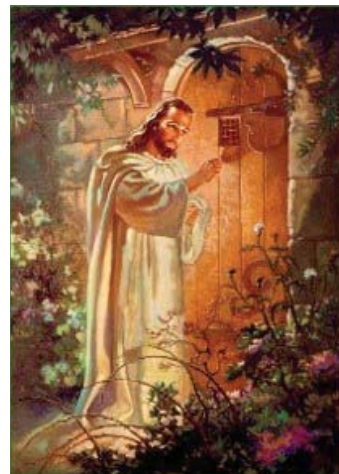
God wants us more than we want God . . . this is not only shocking, it's sad. God, who needs nothing, desires us more passionately than we—who need God so desperately—desire Him. He's there knocking at the door of our heart, and we're vegging out watching TV or absently doom scrolling.

"Life becomes an unbearable burden whenever we lose touch with the presence of a loving Savior," Nouwen writes in another place. How true is this proving itself to be in the world around us today? What makes such a life an unbearable burden is that it is lived in contradiction to reality, every bit as much so as someone trying to walk on a fractured ankle. It leaves us as lonely and hopeless, feeling as unworthy and empty, as the Sandra Bullock character in *Gravity*. If only she knew what makes for peace . . . that God still longs to gather us together like a mother hen . . . if only we knew this, too.

How radically things would change, how revolutionary our view of the world would be, if we really allowed ourselves to be convinced of this fundamental truth: that God wants us—that He actually wants us more than we want Him. That He wants us, not as a possession, but as a beloved child. How this would change our approach to prayer, our understanding of prayer, our desire to pray, and how it would change the very substance of our prayers themselves.

But what if we first changed our understanding of prayer? If we approached our prayer *as if* we were convinced that we were drawing near to the God who is passionately pursuing us? Could that change our relationship with Him? Could that lead us to discover how desirously He does want us? No, Ms. Bullock, it's not too late. The honored ambassador is always ready to stand before God for us.

~ Fr. Ren



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION 2026-2027

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
FOR 1ST-8TH GRADE FAMILIES



Rosary Group

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS
7:00 - 8:00 PM

WHERE: PARISH CENTER
99 MAIN ST., WAYLAND

Let's pray the rosary together!

Come, get acquainted,
share prayer intentions

Pray & Meditate
on the Rosary!

Call the Parish Office for details:
(508) 650-3545

Beginning July 15th - weekly!

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

(ADJUSTMENTS WHILE FR. FLEMING IS AWAY)

MONDAY 9 AM @ ST. ANN

**WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY
9 AM @ ST. ZEPHERIN**

**NO DAILY MASS ON TUESDAYS
THROUGH THE MONTHS OF JULY & AUGUST**



Coffee & Donuts!

After 8:30 AM Mass!
Presented by our
Hospitality Committee
(would you like to be a host family?)
St. Zepherin Parish Center



**NOTE
SCHEDULE
CHANGE!!**
Upcoming dates:
**AUGUST 9TH
AUGUST 30TH**

Good Shepherd Parish
All are Welcome!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Next date:
August 6, 2026**

Please contact the Parish
Office if there is someone
you would like to

recommend to receive one
of the blessed shawls!
(508) 650-3545

**Next Thursdays
or every month!**
7:00 - 3:00 PM

Where:
St. Zepherin Parish Center

All are welcome!
Coming together
to knit for others. You may
bring your own projects, also.

Contact:
Joanne Berry
(508 524-8630)
or
Regina Kennedy
(508 358-7684)



Update on the Offertory Envelopes

Our company that handles
envelope distribution is
continuing to experience delays
on their end.

We are very sorry for this
inconvenience—
we have provided extra
envelopes in the churches
for you!

MY BROTHER'S TABLE

AT GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

Please contact Laurie Hojlo at
happyhojlos@verizon.net
on how to volunteer at our food pantry
or if you are in need of services!

DONATION COOLERS ARE LOCATED AT
BOTH CHURCHES:

ST. ANN: 2ND DOOR ON YOUR LEFT AS
YOU DRIVE INTO THE PARKING LOT AND
HEAD TOWARDS THE REAR
OF THE CHURCH

ST. ZEPHERIN: AT THE DOUBLE DOOR
FACING MAIN STREET



**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR
RESPONDING TO OUR ASK!**

*We now have a full
Art & Environment Committee!
Please call us at (508) 650 - 3545
or stop by the office
if you would like to serve in one of our ministries*



**Readings
To-Go!**

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26, 2026

Scan QR code to see
this week's readings!

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Parish event coming up?

Please submit bulletin announcements to
kholmstrom@goodshepherdwayland.org

by Fridays at noon **two weeks prior**
to when you would like it advertised!

If you are creating the content,
please check with Kat first on bulletin sizing for legibility.

**PLEASE RESERVE THE TIME/SPACE ON THE
CALENDAR WITH VINA FIRST**



COFFEE & DONUTS ON THE PLAZA



READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2026

SUNDAY July 26	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46
MONDAY July 27	Jer 13:1-11/Deut 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 13:31-35
TUESDAY July 28	Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11+13/Mt 13:36-43
WEDNESDAY July 29	<i>Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus</i> Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
THURSDAY July 30	<i>Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Mt 13:47-53
FRIDAY July 31	<i>Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest</i> Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/Mt 13:54-58
SATURDAY Aug 1	<i>Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 14:1-12
SUNDAY Aug 2	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

Pilot Bulletins



OUR GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY WELCOMES YOU WITH GREAT JOY!

EMERSON MAE HILLS
HARRISON FRANCIS MCGOWAN

Baptism

THE TABERNACLE CANDLES

BURN
IN LOVING
MEMORY OF

MANUEL M. COSTA

(JULY 31 - AUGUST 6, 2026)

"I am the Light of the world."
John 8:12



GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH LIBRARY

located at St. Ann Church
across from the confessional

Please feel free to come
visit our bookshelves and
check out a book!

For your convenience, the library
will be accessible

Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays
from 9:30 AM - 3 PM

Saturdays from 10 AM - MASS time

Prayer Requests



+St. Martin
de Porres,
pray for us!+



GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
PRAYER LINE:

GSPPRAYERS@GMAIL.COM

OR CALL THE NEW LINE
TO LEAVE A MESSAGE :
(508) 650 - 3545 EXT. 11



Saints Joachim and Anne

1ST CENTURY
FEAST DAY: JULY 26

Not mentioned in the Bible, Joachim and Anne are first named as the parents of Mary in the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James, which may date from the second century. In this story, they are old and childless, like the Old Testament Hannah, mother of Samuel, when angels deliver the news that Anne will conceive a child. Anne was an especially popular saint in medieval England, and her feast was celebrated in the West by 1350; Joachim's feast was authorized or suppressed by various popes, but was joined with Anne's in 1969. They are the patrons of married couples; Anne is also the patron of childless women, expectant mothers, and miners.



“Mary grew up in the home of Joachim and Anne; she was surrounded by their love and faith: in their home she learned to listen to the Lord and to follow his will. Saints Joachim and Anne were part of a long chain of people who had transmitted their faith and love for God, expressed in the warmth and love of family life, down to Mary, who received the Son of God in her womb and who gave him to the world, to us. How precious is the family as the privileged place for transmitting the faith!”

—Pope Francis, Angelus, July 26, 2013



Catholic
Current

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*"The Lord your God is in your midst,
He will be silent in His love"*

~ Zephaniah 3:17



AUGUST 13TH
@ ST. ZEPHERIN CHURCH
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00—8:00 PM
COME SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS!

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

CALENDAR YR2026: HOLY DAY OR SPECIAL/SECOND COLLECTIONS

Sept. 19/20	CLERGY HEALTH & RETIREMENT TRUST (RCAB Collection)
Oct. 3/4	HOLY FATHER & MISSIONARY EFFORTS (RCAB Collection)
Oct. 17/18	WORLD MISSION SUNDAY (Propagation of Faith)
Nov. 21/22	RETIREMENT FUND FOR WOMEN RELIGIOUS (RCAB collection)
Tue. Dec. 8	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - HOLY DAY (GSP collection)
Dec. 24/25	CHRISTMAS COLLECTION (RCAB - only one collection at Christmas Masses)



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
OF OUR PARISH MISSION!**

INAUGURATION PRAYER

We all know that the inauguration of a president includes prayer, poetry and a solemn oath to carry out one's constitutional duties "so help me God". Today's first reading (1 Kings 3:5, 7-12) has been taken from the installation of Solomon to succeed David as King of Israel. Not a smooth transition. Factions from within David's family and that of Saul, the ruler David displaced, fought to secure the throne. Solomon has blood on his hands in the fight. He also pulled off a diplomatic coups by marrying Pharaoh's daughter (1 Kgs 3:1). So quite a bit has happened before this dream-vision exchange between the new king and God.

Anyone who reads folklore will recognize that when a god or genie turns up and extends that "*ask something of me and I will give it you*" promise, there's a trap involved. Choosing the ordinary passions of power will result in disaster. Solomon avoids doing so by acknowledging that God's loyalty to his father, David, has given him the throne. He lacks what will be most important in ruling God's people: "*...an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong,*" (v. 9).

As folktale requires, Solomon's request for the wisdom a king requires is granted. But so too is the catalogue of items that powerful rulers typically expect from the nation's gods: *long life for yourself, riches and honor, there will not be any king like you* (vv. 10, 13). Though one item in the typical royal ask, "*the life of your enemies*", God does not promise. And another, "*long life for yourself*" is contingent upon Solomon remaining faithful to God's statutes and commandments. Israel's kings will repeatedly fall short of these ideals. In Hebrew an "understanding heart" is one that listens. Often, we speak of getting "a hearing" before X when justice is at stake. But like ancient Israelites or the crowds listening to Jesus speak about the Kingdom of God, we rarely credit judges with Solomon's wisdom.

Pheme Perkins, PH.D.
Joseph Professor Emerita
of Catholic Spirituality
Boston College



Glo-ry! Glo-ry to God in the high-est. Glo-ry!

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri-fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry,

Lord God, heav-en - ly King, O God, al - might - y

Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a -

way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us; you take a -

way the sins of the world, re-ceive our prayer; you are seat-ed at the right

hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo-ry!

Glo-ry to God in the high-est. Glo-ry! Glo-ry to God in the

high-est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will. A - men.

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Ed Bolduc
Music © 2011, WLP

Reminder: Our Livestreamed Masses may be accessed via our website: goodshepherdwayland.org and our YouTube channel: [Good Shepherd Wayland](#)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ALLELUIA

Mass of Renewal
Curtis Stephan

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010

Music: Mass of Saint Ann, Ed Bolduc, © 2011, World Library Publications, a division of GIA Publications, Inc.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION B

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,

we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un-til you come a -

gain, un - til you come a - gain.

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AMEN



“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.”

Matthew 13:45-46

LAMB OF GOD



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“I was sick and you visited me . . .”



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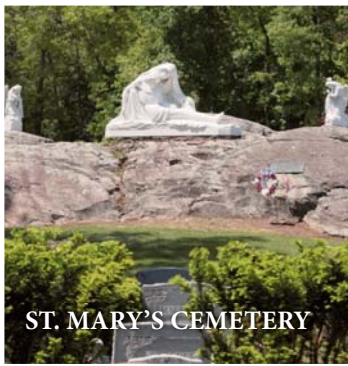
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For information, call the cemetery staff at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Church at **781-235-1841**.
St. Mary's Cemetery | 1 Wellesley Avenue,
Needham, MA 02494



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"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26

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"He has risen." Matt 28:6

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