Living Lights

It is God who is at work within YOU...shine like stars in the world. *Philippians 2:13, 15*

SHINE LIKE STARS!

in ministry

Ministry Guide 2026

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Dear parishioners,

This Ministry Guide is designed to offer you opportunities to let your spirit fly! By engaging fully in ministry life, you encounter Jesus, accompany others, participate in community and transform the world as missionary disciples.

Ministry is an expression of your gratitude to God for your unique and priceless gifts and talents.

Please explore these pages and consider what resonates with you. The parish has organized its ministries into six key ministry "alliances" which allow you to easily identify the "pull" on your heart… that curious calling to be all that God calls you to be.

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2. **Faith Formation**: *Do you possess a desire to help others grow in faith formation?* (page 10)
3. **Liturgy**: *Do liturgical ministries inspire you to elevate worship for all?* (page 19)
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6. **Parish support**: *Do you have special talents that can facilitate excellent parish operations?* (page 41)

There is something for everyone. We invite you to encourage yourself and each other and make a difference through ministry.

In love of Christ,

Rev. Michael Vaughan, Pastor

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Spirituality Ministries

Divine Mercy Charismatic Group: The Divine Mercy Prayer Group (Charismatic Group) is a group of Catholic Christian families dedicated to bringing Christ to families and families to Christ by invoking the charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit as given at Pentecost. Prayer includes open expressions of praise and singing. Our goals are to create a loving-family type of environment for people (young and old), where everyone is encouraged to grow as a servant of God; to follow JESUS, as model, in living and sharing our gift (talent and time) to our family, church, friends and neighbors. The Divine Mercy Bible Study group helps us to gain a better understanding of who God is and his role in our lives. Deacon Al Llenos is our Bible study instructor/facilitator.

The Divine Mercy Charismatic Group is open to all adult members (and their families) in good standing with the Church.

The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 2:30 p.m.

Contact: Susan Gonzales, Ministry Lead, at divinemercygroupgscc@gmail.com.

Legion of Mary: Members of the Legion of Mary emphasize devotion to Mary and the Trinity through prayer, the sacraments and service in a family atmosphere.

The Legion of Mary ministry is open to all adult members in good standing with the Church.

The group meets every Thursday at 9:45 am.

Contact: Hazel Salvana-Chen, Ministry Lead, at hsalvana.chen@yahoo.com.

Our Lady of Fatima Prayer Group: The mission of this group is to propagate and spread devotion to Our Lady of Fatima through prayers. Our Lady of Fatima is the title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary in connection with her apparitions to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. Our Lady of Fatima told the shepherd children to pray the rosary daily for the end of the war (World War I). She asked them to pray for the conversion of Russia, to do penance and told them that God wanted the world to have a devotion to Her Immaculate Heart. Her requests at Fatima were for everyone to consecrate themselves to Her Immaculate Heart, to pray the Rosary daily, do penance and wear her Brown Scapular. Every 13th of the month, parishioners and Marian devotees pray together the Holy Rosary. We work to foster love and peace with friends and neighbors, especially the children, and to encourage active participation in the church's many activities and various ministries.

Everyone is welcome and invited to join our 13th of the month group prayer usually after the 8:30 am weekday Mass or the 1:00 pm Sunday Mass.

The monthly Our Lady of Fatima prayers usually take about 45

minutes. Also, we celebrate Her Feast Day on May 13th of every year as well as participate in the annual October Rosary Rally. Both occasions will start with the Holy Mass then Procession and recitation of the Holy Rosary.

Contact: Carmen Cua, Ministry Lead, at gingcurso@yahoo.com.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional Group: Our mission is to promote devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help; to openly welcome those who are new to our church; to collaborate with other ministries; to be an example of being joyful in doing ministerial work; to listen to the needs of the members of our parishioners with open minds and bring attention to their concerns. Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help includes praying the Novena every Wednesday after the morning Mass. Prayer focuses on "comfort[ing] the sick and the dying, giv[ing] hope to the poor and unemployed, heal[ing] the broken hearted, lighten[ing] the burden of the oppressed, teach[ing] justice to the oppressors, bring[ing] back to God all those who have offended Him" and sanctity of marriage and family unity. June 27 is the feast day of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional Group is open to all parishioners; both women and men.

Time commitment involves weekly Rosary prayer after morning Mass on Wednesdays and monthly meeting on first Wednesday of the month after the Novena.

Contact: Ninfa Campomanes, Ministry Lead, at ninfa.campomanes@gmail.com.

Santo Nino Prayer Group: To propagate and spread devotion to the Holy Infant Jesus and Our Blessed Virgin Mary through novenas and prayers. We work to foster love and peace within the family, with Good Shepherd Church, with friends and neighbors, and to encourage active participation in the church's many activities and various ministries.

As the group reaches out to the families we visit, we encourage those who are not yet registered parishioners to register with Good Shepherd. We teach and guide families to encourage prayer, especially the Rosary. We encourage couples who are only civilly married to convalidate their marriage in the Church. Those whose children go to public schools, we encourage them to enroll and join the CFF program. And for those who go to church 'whenever'...we encourage them to go at least every Sunday.

We invite families to welcome the Divine Infant Jesus and Blessed Mother Mary into their homes.

This ministry is open to all.

Sto. Nino home visit is usually a 7- or 9-day novena depending on the host availabilities. We celebrate the Feast Day of Santo Nino every January with novena prayers after the daily Holy Mass. The Feast Day celebration starts with Holy Mass, blessings of the Santo Nino statues, and procession.

All interested parties please contact Tony Cua at tonycua09@yahoo.com to sign up and provide your available date and time so that we can check our Sto. Nino schedule of visits to families.

Soldiers of St. Michael the Archangel: The Soldiers of Saint Michael the Archangel (SSMA) are a Catholic men's Brotherhood. We are men who seek to know God, strive to do His will, and live our faith to the fullest. The SSMA is made up of a diverse group of spiritual warriors, men of all ages and backgrounds coming together to lift one another up in Christ, aspiring together to daily conversion and missionary discipleship.

We are the fathers seeking to lead our families as prophets, priests, and kings. We are the husbands striving to love our brides as our Lord loves His Church. We are the young men leading the next generation, the future of the Church, strong in our faith, emboldened, fervent and righteous.

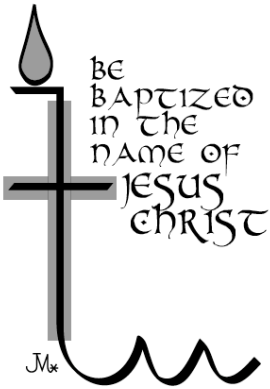
Brothers of our Order are called to observe a lifestyle which will lead them closer to God, our Heavenly Father, and to his Son, Jesus Christ, our Brother in arms who stands with us amidst the chaos of spiritual combat. May we be found fit soldiers for the army of God.

Prospective members must be Catholic men over 18 who have completed the Exodus90 spiritual exercise with our Brotherhood.

The group meets once per week for 1 hour on Monday nights. There is also one event per month, generally on a weekend, service or fellowship oriented.

Contact: Michael Patrick at soldiersofsaintmichael@gmail.com.

Faith Formation Ministries



Baptism: Baptism Ministry members help families preparing for the Sacrament of Baptism by presenting our monthly baptism preparation class. Additionally, ministers assist in setting up for the celebration of the Sacrament and acting as a host or hostess on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of every month (except during Lent) at 10:00 am when the Sacrament is celebrated. This is a very rewarding experience for a married couple.

The Baptism Ministry is open to adult members in good standing of Good Shepherd Catholic Church who have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Baptism Ministers should be willing to volunteer in rotation for the Saturday baptisms (approximately 5 times a year). It takes approximately one hour for set up and clean up, in addition to the actual Sacrament.

Contact the parish office for more information at parishoffice@gscceg.org.

Children's Faith Formation: Good Shepherd recognizes that parents are the primary catechists of their children. We help parents honor their commitment and offer an ongoing Catholic faith formation to their children or help older children "catch up" who are behind in their sacraments. Our curriculum offers a progressive faith formation in order to better prepare them for life and to join our Confirmation Program. We also want to take this opportunity to remind you that for children who just received their Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, this is not the end of their faith journey. Our curriculum is stacked fittingly by grade level with age-appropriate language until they are ready to enter the Confirmation Program. Weekly classes are held for our parish children in grades 1-12, which includes classes to prepare children for the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Good Shepherd Church Children's Faith Formation program welcomes all baptized children/youth to participate in the CFF Program. Our program is staffed completely by volunteers (Catechists) who donate their time and talents. All classes are taught on site and all teaching materials are provided.

A Catechist is anyone called by God who has the desire to share her/his faith to others in catechesis. There is no age limit, just an ability to teach and a commitment to the ministry. A Catechist must be a practicing Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. If married, the Catechist must be married in the Catholic Church. The Catechist must also have the basic knowledge of our faith and must be open to continuing his/her own faith formation by obtaining a basic catechist certificate. All volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete an Online Safe Environment Curriculum as required by the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

CFF has a whole calendar year of activities. Weekly classes take place generally from September to May and require approximately an

hour and a half in teaching time plus one to two hours per week in preparation time. The Catechist should be open to attending meetings and workshops for spiritual development and training. You cannot share what you don't have, so the Office of Religious Education provides retreats/workshops and other learning opportunities.

Contact: Menchie Cabrera, Coordinator of Religious Education, at ore@gscceg.org.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: This wonderful ministry is designed to introduce children in 1st through 4th grade to the Word of God in age-appropriate language. Children are processed out of church for the length of the homily (35-40 minutes) to learn about the gospel at their level of understanding. At the end of the homily and before consecration of the Eucharist, the children rejoin their parents in the church.

Catechists for the Children's Liturgy of the Word are parents who are fully initiated members of the Church who have received Baptism,

Eucharist and Confirmation. All volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete an Online Safe Environment Curriculum as required by the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

There is a teaching commitment of one Sunday Mass every 4-8 weeks. Lesson plans and training are provided.

Contact: Chris Kusuma, Maureen Smith or Ellyn Gonzales, Children's Liturgy of the Word Coordinators, at clow@gscceg.org.

FIAT – Young Adult Ministry: is a ministry for Catholic young adults (ages 18-39) that seeks to inspire personal holiness through authentic friendships, intentional discipleship, vocational discernment, & a deeper encounter with Christ.

Open to all young adults 18-39 years old.

Fiat meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the youth room, after adoration and confession in the church.

Contact: Theresa Maalouf at fiat.ya.eg@gmail.com. For more events and updates, follow us on Instagram @fiat_ya, or find us on Facebook by searching Fiat Catholic Young Adults.

The Grove Youth Ministry: Our mission at The Grove is to accompany young people on their journey to becoming missionary disciples. At The Grove we have created a space where young people can encounter Jesus, make Christ-centered friendships, and get involved in the

Church's mission for social justice. We want young people to know they are loved by God and are the "Now" of God.

The Grove Youth Ministry is a community of middle and high School youth from Good Shepherd, St. Joseph, and St. Maria Goretti Catholic Churches. Our youth program provides Christian fellowship, community, and prayer for any and all middle & high school youth.

We have a core team of adults and young adults (anyone at least 18 years old and graduated from high school) who help lead retreats, events, small groups, and more. With our mission in mind, each Core member is trained in youth ministry skills, including facilitating small groups, public speaking, and leading prayer sessions. Above all, they are committed to forming relationships with the youth and being strong witnesses of the Catholic faith. All volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete an Online Safe Environment Curriculum as required by the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

Time commitment fluctuates based on scheduled events but the group generally helps with youth events most Friday & Sunday evenings.

Contact: Antony Ta, Director of Youth Ministry, at groveyouthministry@gmail.com. You can also check our website for more information on the ministry and our upcoming events: https://gscceg.org/ministries/grove-youth-ministry.

Kinderchurch: Kinderchurch is a parent participation ministry where children 2 years old through Kindergarten learn about our Catholic faith with age-appropriate stories, songs, crafts, and lessons while their

parents attend Mass. Kinderchurch classes run from September through May and are provided during the 11:00 am Mass. This program is the beginning of your child's faith formation and prepares them to enter CFF (Children's Faith Formation). Kinderchurch also offers several social opportunities for our Kinderchurch families to develop friendship and fellowship with other parishioners at GSCC.

Catechist positions are open to any practicing Catholics who are dedicated to the faith formation of our youngest parishioners. We encourage parents, single adults, college students, and high school seniors to join our staff of teachers and assistant teachers. All volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete an Online Safe Environment Curriculum as required by the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

Teachers and Assistant Teachers are scheduled on a 4-6 week rotation depending on the number of catechists volunteering for each class.

Contact: Marie Bunag, Ministry Lead, at kinderchurch@gmail.com.

One Eight (1:8) Confirmation Preparation: The Good Shepherd Confirmation Preparation program, led by the Holy Spirit, the guidance of the Bishop, and our pastor, provides formation to the middle school & high school youth of our parish to prepare them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Good Shepherd Confirmation Preparation program is a 2-year program that cultivates within each candidate a sense of belonging in the parish, fuller participation in the liturgical life of the Church, a relationship with God through prayer and

the sacraments, and a desire to live as a true witness of Christ in the world.

Core Team Members are catechists called by God to share their faith through a period of accompaniment. Teens do not connect to programs; they connect to people. The most effective way to influence teens is through relationships. Our goal is to develop leaders who will walk the journey to Christ with teens. The Core Team is open to adults, high school, and college students who have already received the Sacrament of Confirmation and wish to journey with teens towards the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. All volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete an Online Safe Environment Curriculum as required by the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

ONE EIGHT Confirmation Preparation has a calendar of monthly classes and events that take place during the catechetical year (generally September through May) with training happening in the late summer and throughout the year. Classes are once a month from 6:00 – 9:00 pm (this includes setup, receiving and dismissing of the candidates, and cleanup). Events are scheduled throughout the year with Core Team Members sharing the responsibility for assisting with these events. Core Team Members should be open to attending meetings and workshops for spiritual development and training (you cannot share what you don't have, so the Office of Religious Education provides some input and opportunities).

Contact: Elizabeth Pott, Confirmation Preparation Coordinator, at confirmationcoordinator@gscceg.org.

OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA): OCIA prepares adults for Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. We welcome those already baptized in the Catholic Church and other Christian denominations. Catechists (teachers) work as a team to present topics based on the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, using a variety of resources to provide engaging and inspiring lessons, reflections, and liturgical opportunities to participants.

To serve as a catechist, you must be a practicing Catholic, in full communion with the Church. Teaching experience is helpful but not required. You must have a strong willingness to share your faith, be willing to give of your time, be willing to obtain your basic catechist certificate, and model a Christ-centered life.

Catechists attend periodic meetings and participate in classes with their assigned candidates. Class time begins after the 9:00 am Sunday Mass, and lasts for 90 minutes. OCIA meets August through May or June.

Contact: Rich & Sharon Dorricott, Coordinators of OCIA, at sdorricott@frontier.com.

Wedding Ministry: The Wedding Ministry Team is dedicated to making your wedding a beautiful and prayerful experience. We journey with newly engaged couples through their marriage preparation beginning at least 6 months prior to their wedding date. We also help civilly married couples remedy a marriage which has been impeded by some canonical defect. For occasions celebrating anniversaries (i.e., 10, 25, 50 years), we are happy to help you celebrate your milestone anniversary with a special Mass.

To become a wedding coordinator, you must be a practicing Catholic in full communion with the Church (if married, must be married in the Catholic Church).

Required to meet with the engaged couple to discuss the logistics of their church wedding. Must be present at the wedding rehearsal (typically a Friday evening) and wedding (Friday afternoons or Saturdays) to guide the wedding party to ensure a prayerful, smooth, and respectful church decorum. On the day of the wedding, will assist with Mass coordination.

Contact: Menchie Cabrera, Parish Advocate at ore@gscceg.org.

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers: Altar servers play an important role in the celebration of Holy Mass and are a valuable asset to the priests and the parish community. In committing to altar server duties, servers truly participate in the Eucharist. They learn the order of the Mass, the aspects of the sanctuary, and the various altar vessels used in the Mass. Servers contribute to the Body of Christ present in our parish. They learn that each area of ministry in the Mass is vital, from the ushers to the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. They see their role as essential and learn the importance of commitment and of service to others. Through altar serving, altar servers have frequent interactions with our priests and deacons in a positive environment. If they are called to a religious vocation, altar serving will surely be a fundamental step in their journey. If they are called to family life, their experience as servers will help them to foster a love of our faith in their own children.

Altar servers must have received the sacrament of First Eucharist, be 10 or older (or in 4th grade or above) and must be enrolled in parochial school or the religious education program. We also invite adults to altar serve, especially at Sunday 7:00 am and 1:00 pm Masses and at special Masses.

Altar servers are generally scheduled to serve 1-2 times per month and are required to attend an introductory training session and annual refresher training sessions.

Contact: Julie Dominguez-Jones or John Huggard, Altar Server Coordinators, at altarservers@gscceg.org.

Art and Environment: The Art and Environment Committee works to enhance the theme of the liturgical season. This is accomplished by changing the environment in the church using color, texture, images, symbols, pictures, flowers, plants, banners, candles, and more.

The Art and Environment Committee is open to all ages and all members of Good Shepherd.

Members of the Art and Environment Committee meet for 2-4 hours on Saturday mornings when the worship space environment is changed. In addition, meetings are held every 2-3 months to discuss and plan the environment.

Contact the parish office for information at parishoffice@gscceg.org.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Extraordinary Ministers are Eucharistic people who possess a deep love for the Eucharist. The Bishop must give permission for men and women to minister the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass. The pastor approves applicants for the ministry and submits the names to the Bishop. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion receive sufficient spiritual, theological, and practical preparation to fulfill their role with knowledge and reverence. Their demeanor and the manner in which they handle the Body and

Blood of Christ should reflect a genuine Eucharistic reverence. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion function only when there are not enough ordinary ministers (bishops, priests and deacons) present.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are fully initiated members of the Church who have received Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and are in good standing. They are regularly receiving the Sacraments of the Church and are high school age or older.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are generally scheduled to serve 1-3 times per month and are required to attend an introductory training session and any refresher training sessions.

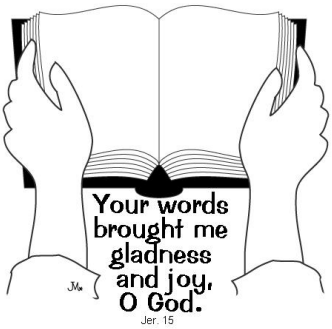
Contact: Elizabeth Edralin, EMHC Coordinator at emhc@gscceg.org.

Homebound Ministry: The members of the Homebound Ministry are Extraordinary Ministers who visit the homebound/sick and bring the Eucharist to them. The Extraordinary Ministers take the Eucharist to the sick in their home, to local assisted living facilities, to local hospitals and/or to the incarcerated at Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center (RCCC). These Extraordinary Ministers bring the prayers and good wishes of the entire church community.

Members of the Homebound Ministry must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Members must also first be approved as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Members who take the Eucharist to the homebound generally do so after the Mass they attend. Volunteers who take the Eucharist to local assisted living facilities are generally scheduled once per month. Before being scheduled as a homebound minister, members must attend training as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and any refresher training sessions.

Contact: Elizabeth Siregar or Lanie Kirby, Homebound Ministry Coordinators, at homeboundministry@gscceg.org.



Lectors: Lectors participate in the liturgical celebrations of our faith community by proclaiming the Word of God. Lectors serve the faith community in concert with other liturgical ministers so as to conduct vibrant celebrations that enhance the faith journey of all members of the community. Lectors proclaim the Word of God at Mass and read the gathering statement at the beginning of Mass. Lectors spend time practicing and reflecting in order to properly prepare for assignments. They use a delivery style that is audible and use good diction with a controlled pace that connects with the congregation.

Members of the Lector Ministry must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and are in good

standing with the Church.

Members are generally scheduled once a month and must attend an introductory training, one yearly refresher training session and additional training for special services. We generally ask for a two-year commitment to the Lector Ministry.

Contact: Chris Faull, Lector Coordinator, at lectors@gscceg.org.

Martha Ministry: The manner in which we treat sacred things fosters and expresses our openness to the graces God gives to his Church in every celebration of the Eucharist. Thus, by the diligent care of altar linens, the Church expresses her joy at the inestimable gifts she receives from Christ's altar. Taking diligent care of altar linens along with keeping God's house in proper order, the Martha Ministry members follow in the footsteps of St. Martha who lovingly responded to the need to welcome Jesus in a reverential, hospitable, and caring way. Members of the Martha Ministry care for the altar linens and vestments used at all liturgical celebrations. In keeping with their calling to care for God's house, members gather as needed to clean the sanctuary area, mindful of "who is to come," when we celebrate the Liturgy.

The Martha Ministry is open to all adult members in good standing of Good Shepherd Catholic Church.

Time commitment is flexible. Current members are scheduled to pick up soiled linens every 4-6 weeks. At 4 hours of washing time, this equates to about 40 hours a year. Doesn't the Lord deserve 40 hours of your time? That leaves 8,720 hours to sit at the Lord's feet with Mary.

More members mean less hours of commitment during the year.

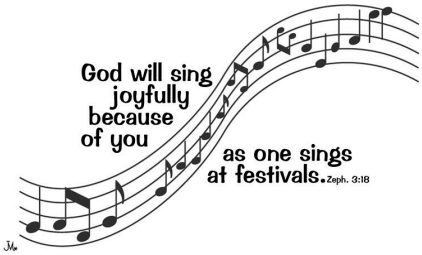
Contact Martha Ministry Coordinator Joyce Joves, at jjov@comcast.net.

Mass Coordinators: Mass Coordinators are responsible for the smooth flow of the liturgy. The Mass Coordinator ensures the church is ready for the liturgy, ensures the presence of all scheduled participants such as lectors, extraordinary ministers, and altar servers. Mass Coordinators assist the lead usher in his or her duties and respond to the needs of the priest or deacon before, during, and after the Mass. Mass Coordinators can also be called on to handle problems and assist the congregation with special needs during the service, and to coordinate with the lead usher to transition the church to the next Mass. Mass Coordinators receive the ultimate reward-- thanks given later in Heaven. Mass Coordinators are an unsung ministry and are vitally important to the flow of the Mass. They operate quietly and efficiently behind the scenes so the parish can have a quality Mass experience.

The Mass Coordinator Ministry is open to all adult members in good standing of Good Shepherd Catholic Church.

Members are generally scheduled as a Mass Coordinator 1-2 times per month and must attend an introductory training and any refresher training sessions. Mass Coordinators are requested to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the Mass at which they are serving.

Contact: Jim Spano, Coordinator, at gsccmasscoordinator@gmail.com.



Music Ministry (Adult & Youth): Do you have musical talent? Are you being called to serve the Church through music? Good Shepherd presently has five choirs which lead the music at Mass. All choirs have a leader in charge of their respective group. Each group practices weekly or every other week, depending on its needs. Our music ministry also includes singers and musicians who are available for funerals. We especially encourage teens to join the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass choir.

The Music Ministry is open to all members in good standing of Good Shepherd Catholic Church.

Each group practices weekly or every other week, depending upon need.

Contact: Mike Pott, Ministry Lead, at music@gscceg.org.

Sacred Silence Adoration Ministry: *"Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life." (CCC:1324)* This Ministry believes and promotes the awareness of the true presence of Jesus in the Holy Mass, Eucharist, adoration & benediction. We plan, attend and grow opportunities for our community to participate in Adoration and Eucharistic devotions. *"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my*

flesh." John 6:51

The Sacred Silence Adoration Ministry is open to members in good standing of Good Shepherd Catholic Church.

Time commitment is flexible. Members attend periodic planning meetings in addition to routine attendance at Adoration events.

Contact: Leela Mattathil at lmattathil@yahoo.com or Rose Marcelino at rose_aban@yahoo.com.

Ushers: The members of the Usher Ministry are ministers of hospitality. They help with the flow of the Mass by welcoming the faithful, assisting with seating and taking the collection. The Ushers and the Mass Coordinator are the facilitators of the Mass and see that the Mass flows without undue delay. Ushers also provide other assistance as needed to the Mass Coordinator to ensure that the Mass runs smoothly.

The Usher Ministry is open to all parishioners who are at least 16 years old and in good standing with the Church.

Lead ushers are typically assigned 1-2 Masses per month and are requested to arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the start of their assigned Mass. Additional ushers are recruited at each Mass to assist. Members must attend an introductory training session and any refresher training sessions.

Contact: Ed Serafica, Usher Ministry Coordinator, at ushers@gscceg.org.

Outreach / Parish Life Ministries

Elizabeth Ministry: The Elizabeth Ministry provides prayer, support and encouragement to women of our parish and their families when someone is experiencing either a joy or crisis related to the childbearing years. If you have experienced the joy of welcoming a child to your family through birth or adoption, the sorrow of infertility, the grief of infant/child loss or the rollercoaster of the adoption process, you can help someone else going through those same experiences by ministering to them.

A secondary activity of our group is bringing meals to families during those times in their lives.

The Elizabeth Ministry is open to all.

Elizabeth Ministers attend a 2-hour orientation session at the start of their ministry. Thereafter, Elizabeth Ministers spend approximately 2-3 hours of time (spaced over the course of a month or so) once or twice a year to minister to a particular family in need. Members of the Meals Team spend 4-5 hours of time (over the course of one day) to prepare and deliver meals to a family once every couple of months. Volunteers can be a minister and/or on the Meals Team.

Contact the parish office for more information.

Evangelization Outreach Ministry: The Evangelization Outreach Ministry shares the mission of the New Evangelization given to us by Pope John Paul II, which supports and serves our larger community. We foster faith formation through special event speakers, live theater productions, Advent and Lenten special events, and summer book clubs. We reach out and share the joy of Christ to all within our parish geographic region. Our goal is to deepen relationships to Christ and nourish lives of holiness that transform society and culture.

The Evangelization Outreach Ministry is open to all members in good standing with the Church who believe in all of the Church's teachings and are always willing to evangelize their faith. Minors are welcome with parent participation.

Attend quarterly meetings. May meet more often when coordinating an event.

Contact: Donna Gutierrez at donnag1660@gmail.com.

Greeter Ministry: The Greeter Ministry works to create a friendly environment and welcome people as they arrive at the church. They also help direct people and answer questions at our welcome center in the narthex. Greeters are familiar with general parish information and will be able to assist parishioners with questions.

The Greeter Ministry is open to all members in good standing that are at least 15 years old who are warm, friendly and welcoming.

Time commitment includes 20-30 minutes before Mass and about 15 minutes after Mass. Ideally, the ministry will have enough members so that each person will only need to serve at 1-2 Masses per month.

Contact: Vicky Moore at vmoore919@yahoo.com.

Hearts of Compassion: This outreach ministry provides support to individuals and their family and friends who are experiencing the loss of a loved one. Hearts of Compassion offers weekly group sessions which will help in understanding the stages of grief, surviving stress and loneliness, and will offer a session on how memories can become tools for starting a new life.

The ministry is open to all.

Time commitment is minimal to moderate when grief sessions are scheduled.

Contact: Monica Small at hoc@gscceg.org.

Lazarus Ministry: The Lazarus Ministry works with grieving families to guide them in planning the funeral Mass for their deceased loved one. Typically, they will meet with the family in person to discuss readings and other parts of the liturgy. Lazarus Ministers must be

compassionate and patient as they accompany families through a very difficult time.

This ministry is open to all members of Good Shepherd.

The Lazarus Ministry assists as needed with funerals to ensure a prayerful, smooth, and respectful church decorum. Must be present at the funeral Mass to assist the family, mortuary staff and clergy with Mass coordination.

Contact: Liz Ponce, Ministry Coordinator, at tializponce@gmail.com.

Parish Life Activities: Parish Life Activities Ministry (PLA) is a service ministry which assures Good Shepherd has year-round scheduled events and activities for the parish community to build and foster relationships and to bring us together as one flock, one family. When requested, members of this ministry may support other ministry's needs through their own acts of service to the parish at large. This ministry may be responsible to plan and implement occasional fundraisers such as the crab feed and various receptions/potlucks as needed. PLA sets guidelines and oversees the parish kitchen to assure ministries restore it to cleanliness, use it safely, and return all equipment and goods to their proper storage. PLA provides central purchasing of general kitchen and service supplies using parish general funds. Event specific purchasing is the responsibility of the ministry hosting the event.

The ministry is open to all adults and students 14 and up. All adult volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete an Online Safe Environment Curriculum as required by the Catholic Diocese of

Sacramento.

PLA has general meetings on the first Monday of every month. Other time commitments include planning, preparing, and serving at parish events and functions.

Contact: Contact Krista Delizo at parishlifeactivities.gscc@gmail.com.

Respect Life: The Respect Life Ministry seeks to make Good Shepherd Parish a center for life, a place where parishioners understand the issues and the importance of meeting the needs of those who are most vulnerable – particularly mothers and their unborn children, the seriously ill, and their families. The ministry seeks to increase awareness concerning the value of life in all of its stages, from conception to natural death. Planned activities include the annual West Coast "Walk for Life" in San Francisco, the 40 Days for Life prayer vigils, rosaries for pro-life, sharing the teachings of the Catholic Church on topics like stem cell research, infertility and its treatments, end of life issues, and fetal development.

The Respect Life Ministry includes **LifeRunners,** a group that

runs/walks in the neighborhood or at organized events wearing the Life Runners jersey.

The ministry is open to all adults and minors with parent participation.

The time commitment is minimal.

Contact: Gary Hickman at greenhope28@yahoo.com, or for more information on LifeRunners, contact Juanita Baier at juanitabaier@comcast.net.

Sharing and Caring Seniors: The Sharing and Caring Senior group is a social group for seniors.

Sharing and Caring Seniors is open to all seniors (married or single).

The group meets every other month on the second or third Saturday.

Contact: Joy Magnino at magnino8@aol.com.

St. Dymphna Mental Health and Wellness Ministry: is a grace-filled ministry dedicated to lessening the stigma associated with persons directly affected by, or caring for those facing mental health challenges through accompaniment, education and advocacy. This ministry will

offer workshops and listening sessions with the goal of increasing awareness and fostering a welcoming parish culture where no one feels alone in their journey. We focus on connecting people with community resources to provide support and necessary services.

The ministry welcomes volunteers who are compassionate and are willing to be trained. Anyone experiencing mental health difficulties, whether for a family member or themselves, can reach out for support.

Time commitment varies.

Contact: Gary Watson at coordinatorparishops@gscceg.org.

St. Josephine Bakhita Black Catholic Ministry: The Mission of the Saint Josephine Bakhita Ministry is to honor and promote Black Catholic history and culture, including youth culture, and liturgy, while deepening relationships through fellowship and familial support. We seek to serve as leaders and educators in our parish, sharing our manifold God-given gifts in ways that benefit all.

The ministry is open to all.

Time commitment involves a monthly meeting. Additional time varies based on planned events.

Contact: Valerie Ramos at valerie.ramos@comcast.net.

Vocations Ministry: Good Shepherd's Vocations Ministry collaborates with the pastor and parish council to develop and implement an integrated pastoral plan to include the fostering of vocations to the priesthood, consecrated/religious life, marriage, single life, and lay ministries. We work closely with Faith Formation and Spirituality ministries to create a culture of vocation for all age groups. We support and encourage seminarians, and collaborate with CFF, SEAS, The Grove Youth Ministry, and Fiat Young Adult Ministry to assist in planning and implementing a vocation culture and to assure vocation discernment is included in their regular curriculum.

The Vocations Ministry is open to members of Good Shepherd who are school age (with parent participation) and above.

The time commitment includes attending quarterly meetings, periodic optional attendance at a Holy Hour for vocations, attendance at the yearly Diocesan Vocation Ministry Retreat, and support of activities in ministries promoting vocations.

Contact RaeAnn Salvador at vocationsgscceg@gmail.com.

Works of Mercy Ministry: Works of Mercy Homeless Outreach (WOM) is an integrated, collaborative parish ministry. We allow God to guide us to express works of mercy to homeless within our reach by providing basic human survival needs including encouragement, hope, guidance, food, clothing, and personal care supplies. We are driven by the Holy Spirit to put the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Matthew 25:31-46) into action to relieve suffering in the lives of homeless people through the expression of corporal and spiritual works of mercy. We spread the Word of God primarily through actions and use words when the Spirit

leads us to guide, comfort, and provide hope to others. This year-round ministry is composed of volunteers 18 and older and students (with adult chaperones) who strive to show Christ-like compassion to our brothers and sisters in need. Volunteers prepare and distribute healthy bag lunches weekly with the support of SEAS students, St. Vincent de Paul, and donations from individuals who desire to come to the aid of the needy. WOM collaborates with all GSCC ministries as well as local community outreach programs. Details about the ministry can be found in our charter at gscceg.org/ministries/outreachparish-life.

Works of Mercy is open to adults and youth 12 years and older with direct parental supervision.

Time commitment varies based on volunteer availability. Meets Monday's in GSCC kitchen, 9am - 3pm to prepare meals and distribute (by vehicle county wide) to homeless on the streets. Daily organization of food, clothing and supplies. Regular participation in: Food Rescue pickup and delivery, delivery of excess supplies and food to other homeless charities. Purchasing of consumables, special events such as drives for necessities, annual service projects with GSCC youth or adult ministries, community interfaith homeless support and clean-up efforts, city/county Overnight Warming Locations (OWL) and cooling centers, Annual Point in Time Count, etc.

For additional information, to make a donation of supplies or cash, or to participate in this ministry, please contact WOM Ministry lead Betty May at bettymay8@gmail.com.

Independent Organizations & Developing Ministries

Come & See Ethnic Masses: This grouping includes members of the parish that plan and facilitate our monthly ethnic Masses: Tagalog, Spanish and Gospel Masses.

Comité Guadalupano: This ministry provides the Hispanic community of Good Shepherd the opportunity to experience Sunday Mass in Spanish. We also organize the yearly Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe held the closest Sunday to December 12th, and posadas during the Advent season. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patron Saint of the Americas as well as the Co-patron Saint of the Diocese of Sacramento.

Open to anyone interested in helping to develop Latino Catholic traditions in our parish.

This group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm.

Contact: Juanita Baier at juanitabaier@comcast.net or Monica Alvarez at alvarezmoni@comcast.net.

Filipino Community Leadership Committee: This group is dedicated to celebrating the Filipino culture and sharing their gifts as a community together. We aim to unite voices, share celebrations and strengthen the faith of our Filipinos and non-Filipino brethren through the various activities of Good Shepherd ministries and devotional groups.

All Filipino parishioners who desire to take part in the mission of this group and of Good Shepherd are invited to join.

The group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Contact: Frances Harville/Ninfa Campomanes at frances.harville@gmail.com or ninfa.campomanes@gmail.com. For information regarding the Simbang Gabi Novena, please email gsccfilipinoleadershipgroup@gmail.com.

Couples For Christ: Couples For Christ (CFC) is a Catholic movement intended for the renewal and strengthening of Christian family life. CFC couples have committed themselves to the Lord and to one another so that they may grow in maturity as men and women of God and fulfill their primary vocation of raising families grounded in Christian values, in the service and love of God. If you want to grow your faith serving the Lord as husband and wife and raising families with God as the center of your family life, please consider CFC. We have programs, teachings and approaches to Christian renewal within the context of family relationships. Other family ministries within the CFC community: Kids for Christ, Youth for Christ, Singles for Christ, Handmaids of the Lord, and Servants of the Lord. With our vision of "Families in the Holy Spirit renewing the face of the earth," each ministry's goal is to strengthen relationships with God and with family members.

Open to all denominations but specifically aligned with Catholic teachings. There are groups for ages four and up.

Small groups meet twice monthly at their agreed upon time and

place. The larger Chapter group meets once a month at St. Joseph Parish.

Contact: Ernesto Sahagun at esahagun1234@yahoo.com or visit the CFC website https://couplesforchristusa.org.

Cursillo: Cursillo is designated a "Lay Movement" of the Catholic Church that begins with a person attending a three-day weekend retreat. After the weekend, the Cursillista (someone who has made a Cursillo Weekend), has the opportunity to continue their Cursillo journey (if they want to) through many different venues such as renewal retreats, spiritual gatherings, small prayer groups (called "4th Day Groups"), social gatherings, and working on retreat weekends. The emphasis of the Cursillo Movement is to have people experience God's love via a beautiful weekend and then develop a closer personal relationship with HIM while personally trying to make a positive difference in themselves and the world. The weekend is intended for those who (1) wish to deepen their relationship with Christ, (2) desire to live their faith daily, (3) want to share their faith with confidence, and (4) yearn for a faithful community of supporters.

Cursillo is open to practicing Catholics 18 years of age or older who have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Time commitment includes a three-day weekend, 4th Day Groups and various activities scheduled throughout the year.

Contact: Monica Small at cursillo@gscceg.org.

Ecumenical/Inter-Religious Affairs: Serves to help connect people and foster open dialogue between faiths. The focus is on catechesis and education.

The committee is open to all.

Time commitment varies.

Contact: Deacon Rommel Declines, Committee Chair, at dcn.rommeldeclines@gmail.com.

Knights of Columbus: The Knights of Columbus, formed in 1882, by the venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, is a fraternal organization that takes care of its members through their own insurance program. It is the largest lay Catholic organization in the world. From that small group that first formed in 1882, to present day, there are over 1.8 million Catholic men who still carry on the basic principle of our order: charity.

The Knights of Columbus have been advocates and defenders of religious and civil rights for all. The Knights of Columbus have also donated billions of dollars and millions of hours of volunteer services to charity.

Members of the Knights of Columbus must be male and 18 older. Members aspire to live in accord with the precepts of the Church, and must be in good standing with the Catholic Church. The Knights of Columbus are always looking for active members.

We have two meetings a month (an officers' meeting and a general meeting) that last approximately an hour and half each.

Visit https://www.lagunaknights.com for more information.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: The Mission of St. Vincent de Paul is to help our less fortunate brothers and sisters ease their poverty. To that end, we provide food and gently used clothing weekly and also assist with utility bills. Furniture and other help is provided on a case by case basis. Ministry members must adhere to the Principles and Premise of SVdP Founder, Blessed Frederick Ozanam, realizing that SVdP Ministry is the "Gospel in Action" and making it a practice to judge persons and things in the most favorable light at all times and under all circumstances.

Anyone can be a member. All volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete an Online Safe Environment Curriculum as required by the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento.

Volunteer hours are adjustable.

Contact: St. Vincent de Paul at 916-647-1243.

Parish Support

Garden Ministry: Members of the Garden Ministry care for the Mary Garden and the Ten Commandments Garden. This includes ongoing maintenance as well as special projects such as an annual clean up, pruning or re-setting plant bulbs.

The ministry is open to all experienced gardeners or anyone with a willingness to learn how to care for our garden areas.

Time commitment of 6-10 hours quarterly for general pruning and 10-15 hours for fall leaf cleaning and annual rose pruning.

Contact: Ruth DeFrates at ruth.defrates@gmail.com.

St. Isidore/AV Tech Ministry: The AV Tech Ministry provides services to the parish such as live streaming of Mass, configuration and setup of sound systems, projection systems, etc. for Mass and other special events and guidance for other technology related projects.

The ministry is open to all.

Time commitment varies based on number of ministry members.

Contact: Matt Marcotte at gsccstisisdore@gmail.com.

Parish Councils

Finance Council: The Parish Finance Council functions as a consultative body to the pastor. It consists of selected professionals to advise the pastor with the annual operating budget, financial planning and annual financial reports.

The Council ensures that internal controls are in place to guide the parish in managing financial resources and temporal goods in accordance with the Parish Financial Management Handbook.

For information, contact John Baier at degen23@comcast.net.

Parish Pastoral Council: The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body, pastoral in nature, that strives to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit among God's people in the parish. Specifically, the purpose is to enhance the process of pastoral planning, improving pastoral services and evaluating effectiveness of various programs.

For information, contact the parish office at goodshepherdchurch@gscceg.org.

Interested parties should apply with Pastor for appointment to either council.

Both councils have regular monthly meetings.

25 YEARS 1999-2024
FAITH • FAMILY • KNOWLEDGE • SERVICE

SAINT ELIZABETH
ANN SETON CATHOLIC SCHOOL EST. 1999

Founded in 1999, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School exists to serve students in Preschool thru 8th Grade, and their families. An educational ministry of the faith communities of St. Joseph, Good Shepherd, and St. Maria Goretti parishes, we form saintly scholars who devote time, treasure, and talent to better their communities and the Church. Recognizing that learning begins at home with parents, we actively support their efforts to build a spiritual and academic community that instills students with the values and traditions of the Catholic Church.

Our Preschool program is infused with love from caring instructors who honor the importance of early development. They create a safe environment where children can practice language skills, critical thinking, and social awareness through exploration, play, and group activities. We offer three programmatic tracks for children ages 3-5. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Preschool has been recognized as a high-quality learning center that excels in the following areas: child development, child health, teacher preparedness, teacher-child interaction, class size, learning environment, and director qualifications.

Scholarship in grades K-8 includes religion, English, math, science and social studies, and is supplemented by classes in music, physical education, and technology. Middle school students can participate in a range of electives from leadership and yearbook to Latin. Extracurricular sports involvement is open to students beginning in the first grade. We

are blessed to have an active Parent Booster Club and strong parent involvement.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School is fully accredited by the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

Contact: For more information regarding St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School contact Marci Greene, School Principal at 684-7903 or email mgreene@stelizabetheg.org.

The effects of meaningful ministry …

- *Prompts meaningful encounters with Christ as you become Christ to others*

- *Allows you to accompany others and be accompanied yourself as you journey forward in faith*

- *Fosters true hospitality and stewardship in outreach to all facets of our community*

- *Sends you out into the world in response to your baptismal call, building up the Kingdom of God*

January, 2026