



# GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

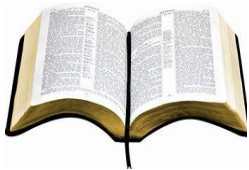
## Third Sunday of Advent December 13 & 14, 2025

### Mass Schedule:

Wednesday 9 am  
Friday 9 am  
Saturday 4 pm  
Sunday 11 am

Confession 8:15 – 8:45 am  
Confession 8:15 - 8:45 am  
Confession 3:00 – 3:45 pm

Glory & Praise Book Cycle A 789



First Reading:

Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10

Responsorial:

Psalms 146: 6-10

Second Reading:

James 5: 7-10

Gospel:

Matthew 11: 2-11

Livestream Mass on YouTube or Facebook at Good Shepherd Catholic Church McCormick

### Welcome

*We welcome all visitors and invite you to join us again for worship. Please sign our guest book and feel free to write your prayer intentions in our Community Book of Prayer. If you would like to help us with the support of our Church campus, please place an offering in the "Welcome" envelopes located on the back of the pews and drop it in the offertory basket.*

### Mission Statement

*Good Shepherd Catholic Church is passionately committed to service, in accordance with the pastoral vision of the Diocese of Charleston, to being servants of God and good stewards of the Sacred Mysteries. We strive to be a holy and God-centered community growing in joyful righteousness and living without fear by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Empowered by the Spirit, we will help inspire, educate, and support our community and work for unity among the Churches.*

**Most Rev. Jacques Fabre-Jeune,**  
**Bishop of Charleston**

**Father Jacob Joseph, CMI**

Email: [jjoseph@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:jjoseph@charlestdiocese.org)

**Deacon Jeffrey DeFrehn, Certified Spiritual Director**

Email: [jdefrehn@charlestdiocese.org](mailto:jdefrehn@charlestdiocese.org)

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**Email:** [gsmccormick1964@yahoo.com](mailto:gsmccormick1964@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [www.goodshepherdmccormick.com](http://www.goodshepherdmccormick.com)

**Parish Office Hours:** Tues-Fri 9 am-Noon

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 4 pm + Judy Korbas**  
**requested by Mary Stirtzinger**

**Sunday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 11 am + Dick & Helen**  
**Balogh requested by Ed & Kay Zeaser**

**Wednesday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 9 am + Deceased**  
**members of the Dreslinski/Popejoy**  
**Families**

**Friday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> 9 am + Deceased**  
**members of the Wartchow/Domas family**  
**and Mary Domas requested by Larry**  
**Domas**

**Saturday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 4 pm + Dick & Helen**  
**Balogh requested by Mary Stirtzinger**

**Sunday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> 11 am + Charlie**  
**Wrobel requested by the Schmidt Family**

**In the person of Jesus, God has come to heal and save us. Patiently, yet joyfully, we await the fulfillment of His advent.**

### UPCOMING EVENT

Dec 24	Christmas Eve Mass 4 pm Vigil 6 pm Sacred Heart
Dec 25	11 am Christmas Day Mass
Jan 02	First Friday
Jan 12	Joyful Journey
Jan 16	Spaghetti Dinner
Jan 25	Pancake Breakfast



### Pray for our Military Members

Sophie Augustine	Sean Avery
Brianna & Stephen Balogh	Christopher R. Balogh
Sarah Balogh	Aaron T. Bird
Andrew Brandon	Eric Brandon
Drew Chadwick	Ryan Chemelewski
Paul Cross	Nate Dreslinski
Jake Ivey	Connor Joyce
Ian Leszczynski	Michael Mathews
Cassie Newkirk	Noah Neuman
Kaylin Neuman	Stockton Obermeyer
Savanna Obermeyer	Declan Pemberton
Aspen Quam	Timothy Shively
Daniel O'Donnell	Daniel & Brandi Stricker
Jonathon Taylor	Cody Tiller
Ashley Wulforst	Thomas Wulforst



### Pray for our Sick & Home Bound

John Atwell, Don Durham, Lana Kittenbrink, Bobby Passafaro, John & Diane Scardace, Lee Stickdorn, Bud Webster, and Dave Williams.

....and those intentions written in our Community Book of Prayer. The recipient or family must clear all requests if possible.

### Collection Report

Weekend of December 6 & 7, 2025

<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$4,949.00	\$6,031.00	- \$1,082.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS.**

**You can mail your contributions to Good Shepherd Church, P. O. Box 1468, McCormick, SC 2983**

### Grandmother Ministry

The following items are needed for this ministry: fruit cups, canned or microwave spaghetti, mac & cheese, cereal, soup, regular grits, peanut butter/jelly or any non perishable items that you know kids will enjoy. Please also consider toilet paper, cleaning products, cash and/or gift cards from Food Lion or the Dollar stores. Put your items in a bag labeled "Billie" and drop them off in the Life Center. Thank you for your continued generosity and supprt. Billie Tarnosky 864 391 8640.



McCormick Food Pantry Items needed; canned tuna, salmon or chicken – 7-12 oz only. Regular sized box of cereal, crackers, mac & cheese, rice, pasta. Toilet tissue, individually wrapped, bars of soap. Please drop off your items in the parish life center.



**On December 28<sup>th</sup> there will be a second collection for the Church in Africa.**

**We have a new email address for the Church it is**

**[gsmccormick1964@yahoo.com](mailto:gsmccormick1964@yahoo.com)**



**Thank you** to all the wonderful women of Good Shepherd Church who baked for the Benevolent Bake Sale last weekend. Because of you and your generosity we made over \$2,600.00 for our charities. This could not have happened without all the bakers and volunteers. A special thanks to Bob Vose, Bob Osterman and Mike Dill for all their heavy lifting. They say, "it takes a village". I say it takes the Women's Club members of Good Shepherd Church to have a successful Bake Sale!



**Women of Good Shepherd:** Magnify 90 is a program for the catholic woman who wants to reflect on virtues to deepen her interior spiritual life, so that her exterior life magnifies the Lord. The text, "Magnify: pursuing virtue as a feminine genius" by Kaylene Brown, will take us on a 90-day journey starting each day with passages of scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church or the writings of female saints. These are followed by a guided reflection and end with things to consider. We are asked to prayerfully take up an ascetic way of life for the 90 days to give more room for silence to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. We will meet weekly, to support each other starting January 5<sup>th</sup> and going through Easter. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Judy Bowyer at 205-267-7097.



**Exodus 90**

## Trade your distractions for deeper peace.

Our culture today has no shortage of 'modern Pharaohs' that hold us back from true unity with God. If we're ruled by these Pharaohs, how can we truly be free to become the men God made us to be? Exodus 90 gives you the tools to take control of your life. **It's a way out.**

**We start January 5, 2026**

### **MEN of Good Shepherd,**

Are you looking to break out of unhealthy and unholy habits? Looking to deepen your relationship with the Lord? Exodus 90 offers a realistic way to discover greater freedom in Jesus Christ through daily prayer, sacrifice, and fraternity. For 90 days, we will read from the Books of Exodus and Jonah to focus our attention more fully on God and our families, pulling back from the distractions of technology, alcohol, and our busyness.

For more Information  
[Exodus90.com](http://Exodus90.com)

Call or Text Jeff Schmidt  
@ 846-602-5637

### Third Sunday in Advent A 2025

John was arrested and was kept in the dark of a dungeon. It is a surprise that in today's Gospel, John asks Jesus, "Are you really the One we are waiting for?" Some commentators over the years have suggested that maybe John was asking the question for the benefit of his followers. But there is no evidence for that. We rarely think of John as someone who retained his own disciples after the beginning of Jesus' ministry and many people thought that he is the Messiah (Lk. 3:15). There is no suggestion that John thought of himself as the Messiah, yet we know that twenty years after the death of Jesus there were still disciples of John – some of whom were received into the Church when they heard about the Holy Spirit for the first time (Acts 19).

In today's Gospel John is genuinely puzzled. He had spoken so powerfully in his preaching, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn. 1:29). And now John was baffled. The Hebrew prophecies about the Messiah came in many forms. Some, like Isaiah in today's first reading, spoke about the time of Messiah as the time of restoration and peace. Others saw the Messiah as a warrior, a commander, as John described last week, laying the axe to the roots of unproductive trees and cutting them down. Now John is in prison, and he does not hear anything about cleansing battles or the sound of shock and awe.

With many people of that time, John probably expected Jesus to take away the sin of the world in a clean sweep, in one huge, fierce military battle. A new world order would then come suddenly. In jail, John could see the approaching end of his own life. So, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question.

When we read the News Paper or watch TV news we may ask the same question sometimes. "Shall we look for another savior because His power seems to be weak in our world?" To us and John He gives this answer about the healing, transformation, the power of the Gospel given to the poor. The message Jesus sends to John and to us is that the power of Christ's coming is found not in the sound and fury of battle but in the changes within human heart and lives.

We see the power of Christ's coming at Christmas most vividly not in the brightness of our lights, the glitter of our decorations, the sound of the choir, the size of the tree or the number of gifts. The power of Christ's coming is shown in His entry into human lives to dwell there as a source of strength, faith and redemption. The real miracles of the Messiah occur every day within human heart. The real power of Christmas is manifested on the inside rather than on the outside. It is easy for us to mistake material prosperity for spiritual vitality, outer decoration for inner dignity and seasonal cheer for spiritual joy.

The inner change that Jesus came to bring about in the human soul is the necessary condition for any abiding change in the world. A corrupt heart will corrupt everything it touches. A healed heart can heal its environment. Sin in the humanity, pride and envy in the heart, the anger that makes people furious or in general human weakness cannot be destroyed by sword or gun. Many people and mythologies of religion tried it but could not. That is why Jesus took human form and accepted human weakness and sin and nailed it on the cross; as St. Paul says, "For our sake He (God) made Him (Jesus) to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5: 21). Those who allow Him and His grace to enter into the heart and soul will receive the power and strength to deal with human weakness.

Part of the deep joy of Advent and Christmas comes from our knowledge that the Messiah came to bring life to the dead places in our heart, to help us recover spiritual vitality in our soul to remove the desert of sin in our lives. The Messiah that John awaited did indeed come to do battle not with the Romans but with the power of sin; not in the plains of Palestine but in every human heart; not once but in every generation. The Messiah in Christ is not a miracle worker or a problem solver, but he is there in our life to help us to do miracles and to solve our problem with his help and presence.

Father Jacob Joseph

## Christmas Prayer

O child of Bethlehem, You are the light of the world, shining in the darkness of our lives. As we celebrate Your birth, we pray that Your light may illuminate our hearts, dispelling all fear and doubt. Help us to recognize you in the poor and vulnerable, and may we show them the same love and care that you showed to us. Grant us the grace to be faithful witnesses of your love in the world. Amen (Pope Benedict XVI)



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS



### In Memory of:

*Rod Wurst & Wurst/Hesseling families  
Norton/Wishall families  
Popejoy/Dreslinski families  
Steven Stempien*

*Hauver Family, Carmichael Family,  
Gilbert Family & Taylor Family  
Charles & Marion Probst,  
Norbert & Helen Deary,  
Don & Zoe Bushor,  
Gary & Pat Foerstel*

### From:

*Lois Wurst  
Jerry & Barb Wishall  
Tom & Debbie Popejoy  
Marsha Stempien  
Mark & Karen Boerner  
Dan & Janet Gilbert*

*Gary & Dae Probst*

*William & Christie Herbert*

**A heartfelt "thank you"** to all who have donated gifts and/or monetary donations for this year's Angel Tree ministry! This weekend is the final weekend the committee will be collecting donations after mass in the Narthex for the food gift cards. Your generosity in ensuring all have a wonderful Christmas meal is a blessing to these families within our community of McCormick. Please note that all wrapped gifts, with Angel tag attached, should be returned this weekend and placed in the Angel Tree box. If you have a gift and are unable to drop it off, please contact Mary Jane Woodburn at [407-399-7569](tel:407-399-7569).

If you would like to assist us in preparing the gifts and baskets, please do join us Tuesday, December 16, at 8:30 a.m. in the Life Center!





**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Friday January 16, 2026**

Good Shepherd Women's Club will be having a Sit-down Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser @ The Parish Life Center.

Tickets will be sold after mass on the weekends of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11th



Oh! what fun it was to be at the Women's Club Luncheon! Thanks to the committee for making the event festive, fun and putting everyone in the Christmas Spirit.



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