

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

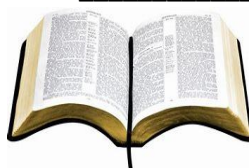
July 25 & 26, 2026

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday	9 am	Confession at 8:30 am
Friday	9 am	Confession at 8:30 am
Saturday	4 pm	Confession at 3:30 pm
Sunday	11 am	

Glory & Praise Book Cycle A Number 901



<u>First Reading:</u>	1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
<u>Responsorial:</u>	Psalms 119: 57, 72, 76, 77, 127 - 130
<u>Second Reading:</u>	Romans 8: 28-30
<u>Gospel:</u>	Matthew 13: 44-52

Livestream Mass on YouTube 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: joseph@charlestdiocese.org

Deacon Jeffrey DeFrehn, Certified Spiritual Director

Email: jdefrehn@charlestdiocese.org

Office Telephone: (864) 852-4722

(Emergencies Only) (843) 329-3030

Address: P. O. Box 1468, McCormick, SC 29835

Email: gsmccormick1964@yahoo.com

Website: www.goodshepherdmccormick.com

Parish Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9 am-Noon

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 25th 4 pm + Phil Stirtzinger
requested by Stirtzinger Family

Sunday, July 26th 11 am + Skip Tortorella
requested by Pat Tortorella and + Jeff Stickdorn
requested by Lee & Pat Stickdorn

Wednesday, July 29th 9 am NO MASS

Friday July 31st 9 am + Al & Dolores Schmidt
requested by Kathy & Jeff Schmidt.

Saturday, August 1st 4 pm + Tom Morgan and
special intention for Kyle Morgan requested by
Joan Morgan.

Sunday, August 2nd 11 am + Dorothy Ficocelli
requested by Vince Ficocelli and + deceased
members of the GS Men's Club

The person with true wisdom, like Solomon will
seek the reign of God and treasure it above all
else. It is more precious than gold and silver.
Thus one becomes conformed to the image of
Christ, the Son.

UPCOMING EVENT

Aug 07 First Friday with Adoration and
Benediction
Aug 10 Joyful Journey 3pm

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
Tyler Clark	Paul Cross
Nate Dreslinski	Jake Ivey
Connor Joyce	Ian Leszczynski
Michael Mathews	Cassie Newkirk
Noah Neuman	Kaylin Neuman
Declan Pemberton	Aspen Quam
Timothy Shively	Daniel O'Donnell
Daniel & Brandi Stricker	Jonathon Taylor
Cody Tiller	Ashley Wulforst
Thomas Wulforst	Glory Mathews



Pray for our Sick & Home Bound

John Atwell, Erlinda Baloy, Ron Beech, Don Durham,
Mary James, Jenny Kiely, Lana Kritenbrink,
Ann Martin, Linda Murphy, Dick Obermeyer, Bobby
Passafaro, John Scardace and Mike Thompson.

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

Collection Report

Weekend of July 18 & 19, 2026

<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
\$5724.65	\$5,358.00	+ 366.65

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS.
You can mail your contributions to Good Shepherd
Church, P. O. Box 1468, McCormick, SC 29835

Next weeks readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-3
Second Reading: Romans 8: 35,37-39
Gospel: Matthew 14: 13-21

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 support. 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.

Catholic Appeal Update

Good Shepherd parishioners continue to show their support for the Catholic Appeal of South Carolina, whose numbers continue to grow. This week's report shows \$23,778 in donations and pledges from 71 donors, or \$2,800 ahead of our parish goal. Half of the amount over goal will be returned to us for parish needs. You can still donate by mail, in the envelope that came from the Diocese, or place the envelope in an offertory basket at Mass. Credit card and donations by bank draft are accepted at www.charlestdiocese.org/capital-appeal. Thanks for your generosity.

Dave Lorenzatti, Catholic Appeal Coordinator



Rosary intentions

<i>July 18 & 19</i>	<i>That children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope</i>
<i>July 25 & 26</i>	<i>Individual intentions placed in the Rosary Box</i>
<i>Aug 1 & 2</i>	<i>For all our students returning to school to have a safe environment for learning and growth.</i>
<i>Aug 8 & 9</i>	<i>For those contemplating suicide, that they find God and choose life.</i>



A big thank you to everyone who prepared food, helped set up the room, decorated the tables, served, and cleaned up the kitchen and reception room for Billy Cone's funeral reception. Without all of you none of this would be possible. We want you to know that your work and generosity are appreciated. The food was delicious and we think the family was pleased. Please keep Donna and her family in your prayers.



There will be a second collection on **August 8 & 9** Disaster Assistance. The funds raised will be used to ease the burdens in our communities and parishes that experience damage from storms and other natural disasters.

Saint Francis Prayer

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord. You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall. You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries. In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.
(Pope Leo XIV)

The Holy Spirit is Doing “Something New” at Good Shepherd this Fall!



Small Groups Ministry is now forming. Good Shepherd's Small Groups are intentional gatherings of 4 to 12 people who meet regularly in homes or another location with the purpose of growing their relationship with God and others through listening and faith sharing. Each session is centered on the gospel reading from the previous week.

This is not bible study, theology class, or a DVD lecture series. Small groups are a welcoming place where you will find like-minded individuals who share your faith and also want to grow their faith. When we see how Christ is working within others, and they see how He works within you, everyone grows together. "That you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." - Romans 1:12

How will our Small Groups form? All of us have come to recognize that it can be difficult when you move here to find your place. Maybe you want to develop new and more meaningful relationships, or you are being called to get involved at Good Shepherd. Once you sign up to participate, the small groups will be formed accordingly.

Small Group Facilitators are Needed!! No experience necessary. All are welcome.

Our small faith sharing groups are only successful if we have dedicated people who are willing to help facilitate the gatherings and act as a point of contact.

We need facilitators who are willing to share responsibility, lead others according to the format, and be a good listener to allow everyone to grow and share when comfortable. Must be willing to attend a training session and experience a small group session hosted by Deacon Jeff and Maureen DeFrehn.

If you are interested or would like to ease into becoming a Small Group Facilitator, please contact Deacon Jeff at: jedefrehn@charlestandioocese.org.

***O Lord, make me sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit
and quick to respond to Your guidance.***

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Cycle A 2026

If Aladdin loaned his lamp to you and you just got one wish, what would you ask for? You have ten seconds to make up your mind... Okay time's up. What do you ask for? Winning the lottery? Promotion to CEO of a big business? According to some modern philosophers whatever you picked up was based on one of the most basic human hungers – for money, or pleasure, or power. These, they say, are what make the world go round. May be your choice fit their description, may not be. One man who broke the mold is found in today's first reading. God tells king Solomon, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you." What does he ask for? Wisdom, "Give (me) an understanding heart – so I can distinguish right from wrong." God's long response to his request can be boiled down to "Nice going! Good choice!"

Notice that Solomon didn't ask to be smart, but to be wise. There is a big difference. Wisdom is more than intelligence; it goes much deeper. Some of the cleverest people in the world are not wise at all. They have smarts but do not know what to do with them. And many people with most IQs have real down-to-earth wisdom. The Gospel says about the kingdom of heaven. What is the kingdom of God? St. Paul says, "The kingdom of God is not a matter of food and drink, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 14:17). When the peace, joy and the righteousness enter into our life by accepting Jesus, we are entering into the kingdom of heaven. Paul who always had God at the center of his heart and life says, "all things work for good for those love God, who are called according to his purpose."

In today's gospel Jesus uses three parables to explain what kingdom of God is. The parables of the "treasure in the field" and the "pearl of great price" ring a bell in each of us because many people dream of striking it rich. The success of casinos and state lotteries came from the hope people have that they might win and all their problems will be solved. If we satisfy all of a person's desires, emptiness remains because we are more than a body. We have a soul. Consider a human life without friendship, love, purpose or faith and we can understand why our greatest need is spiritual.

How do people come to the kingdom? For some, it happens sudden, like stumbling across a treasure in the first parable. The man is plowing and suddenly hits something, and it is not a rock but a treasure. This was the experience of St. Paul on the road to Damascus. He was thrown to the ground and had a sudden dramatic powerful life changing encounter with Christ. Tragedies can throw us to the ground as suddenly we realize the need and place for God in our life. A tumor or lump, the sudden shortness of breath, recurrent dizziness, financial losses, a disabling accident suddenly put everything in our life into a different perspective. Some people will come to God suddenly.

Others go on search. Within them is a dissatisfaction with their life. They saw too many idols with clay feet. They are like merchants in search of fine pearls in the second parable. This was the experience of St. Augustine, going from one thing to another, one escape to another, one belief to another, until he comes to see that all his unrest was really a disguised search for God. Finally, others grow into an embrace of God through their life in the Church like the fish in the net in the third parable. They are gathered into Christ's life at Baptism and slowly as they mature, hopefully, they come to appreciate God as their life's center of gravity. To conclude the treasure, the pearl or the net is the saving presence of God among his people with his life transforming love and joy. If God is with us and within us, gradually the spirit of God will take control of our life.

We can fill our heart with anything we wish. It can be positive or negative, life or death, truth or lie, love or hatred, forgiveness or revenge. Depending on our attitude the grace of God will work in us. Kingdom of God is a gift to us for our effort to make it in us, in our family, on our workplace and in our nation. The good Lord will bless us in our effort.

BUILDING UPDATE

You can still make a pledge to help meet our goal of \$475,000

EXPANSION PLEDGE UPDATE **as of July 18, 2026**

Thank you to everyone for your campaign pledges. We are now accepting pledge contributions. You can make a pledge payment by personal check or bank draft. There are "Building Fund" envelopes in your monthly envelopes mailed to your home and also in the Parish Office for your convenience.

Expansion Goal
\$475,000

Pledges Received to Date
\$69,910.00

Balance
\$405,090.00

COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

The work continues in the Columbarium area. The ground has been leveled, and the pavers have been laid. Work will continue with installation of new columbarium, benches and a Rosary Monument soon.

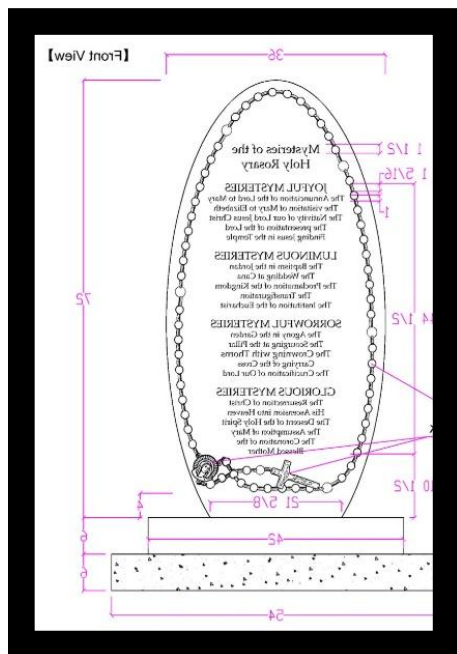


Figure 1 Rosary Monument

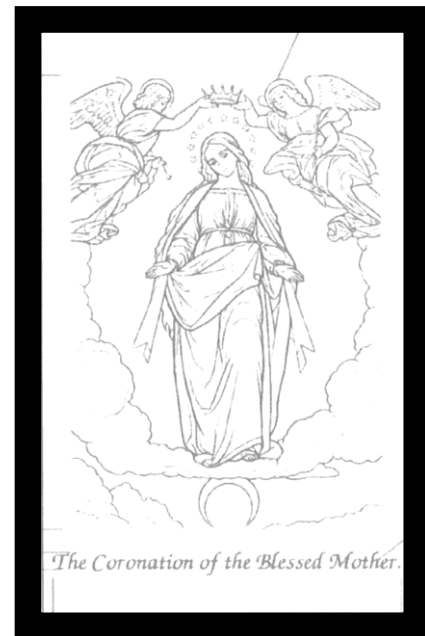


Figure 2 Face of new columbarium



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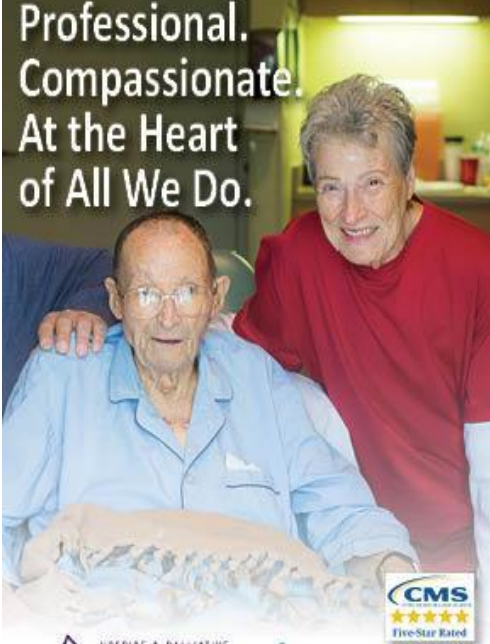
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