

Dear **Good Shepherd** Parishioners and Friends:

The **Diocese of Paterson** has asked each parish to consider their ministries, initiatives and budget over the next 3-5 years. Your **Good Shepherd Parish Life Assessment** responses emphasized the good work we do now and suggested other growth opportunities for the future. Based on your input, many **new ministries and initiatives** are already underway.

St. Peter wrote "You, too are living stones built as an edifice of spirit".
At **Good Shepherd**, we believe **We are *Living Stones*** and **to grow further as a faith community, we are increasing our focus in the following areas:**

Youth – creating a vibrant **Youth Ministry** is key to encouraging our children and teens to engage more fully in their faith, and become more involved in parish and spiritual life.

Families and Couples – to strengthen the entire family through educational, cultural and spiritual programs and vibrant activities where families can come together in faith.

Seniors – to offer fellowship beyond our worship through programs and events which enrich seniors both spiritually and socially.

In addition to the above we must plan for our buildings and maintenance requirements over the next 3-5 years, including renovations to our HVAC, resurfacing the parking lot and more.

We have work to do to develop these new initiatives and determine the increased demands on our budget. As our current income will not enable our parish to realize these new initiatives, we need to "jump start" funding now.

We ask you to consider your financial support of our parish, and upon reviewing the information in this brochure, consider as your means may allow an **increase or consistent commitment** to your Sunday offering. The weekend of **April 29 & 30** will be **Commitment Weekend**. Please bring the **completed commitment card** you received in this mailing or cards will be provided to fill out that weekend.

We hope we can count on you to become further engaged at **Good Shepherd** and in making a difference for our future through your faith, offering, service and love.

Thank you for your consideration and on-going generous support. We pray for God's blessing upon you and your family.

In Christ,

Fr. Tim Dowling *Fr. Michael J. Szwarc*

Fr. Tim Dowling

Fr. Michael J. Szwarc



 **Time**
 **Talent**
 **Treasure**


At Good Shepherd




The most important resources of our Parish are our people! It is through your Stewardship, the sharing of **Time, Talent and Treasure**, that helps keep our parish community strong and vibrant.

There are always opportunities to get involved! Visit www.goodshepherdrc.org to learn more.

 **Time** At Good Shepherd you have the opportunity to give your time to help our parish thrive while also enjoying social interaction with fellow parishioners. Participation in liturgical celebrations, events and outreach programs enhance your spiritual life and help build a vibrant community within our parish.

 **Talent** God has blessed each one of us with unique gifts and talents. We hope that you will share your talents in some of our many ministries and committees, such as **Music, Religious Education, Hospitality, Buildings & Maintenance** and more.

 **Treasure** We are so blessed with generous financial contributions to our parish. There are many options to provide financial support:

Weekly Offertory Envelopes are an integral part of Stewardship, enabling us to better budget for our parish. Contact the **Parish Office 973-786-6631** to receive envelopes.

Online Giving is a secure way to support your parish on a recurring monthly or one-time basis. Scan this QR code or click on the **Online Giving icon** on our website.



Monthly Bank Checks - Contact your Bank to determine if **Monthly Bank Checks** are available. Mail to:

Good Shepherd RC Church - Attn: Bookkeeper
PO Box 464, Andover, NJ 07821

We are *Living Stones*
Help us build
Youth, Family and Senior
Spiritual and Social Programs

*You too are living stones
built as an edifice of spirit*
1 Peter 2:4



Good Shepherd
R.C. Church, Andover NJ

www.goodshepherdrc.org
973-786-6631

OUR VISION

Youth

- ◇ Create a vibrant Youth Ministry
- ◇ Engage our families in our Religious Education programs

Family

- ◇ Create Family-oriented Spiritual and Social Programs and Events
- ◇ Expand Evangelization to our local community

Seniors

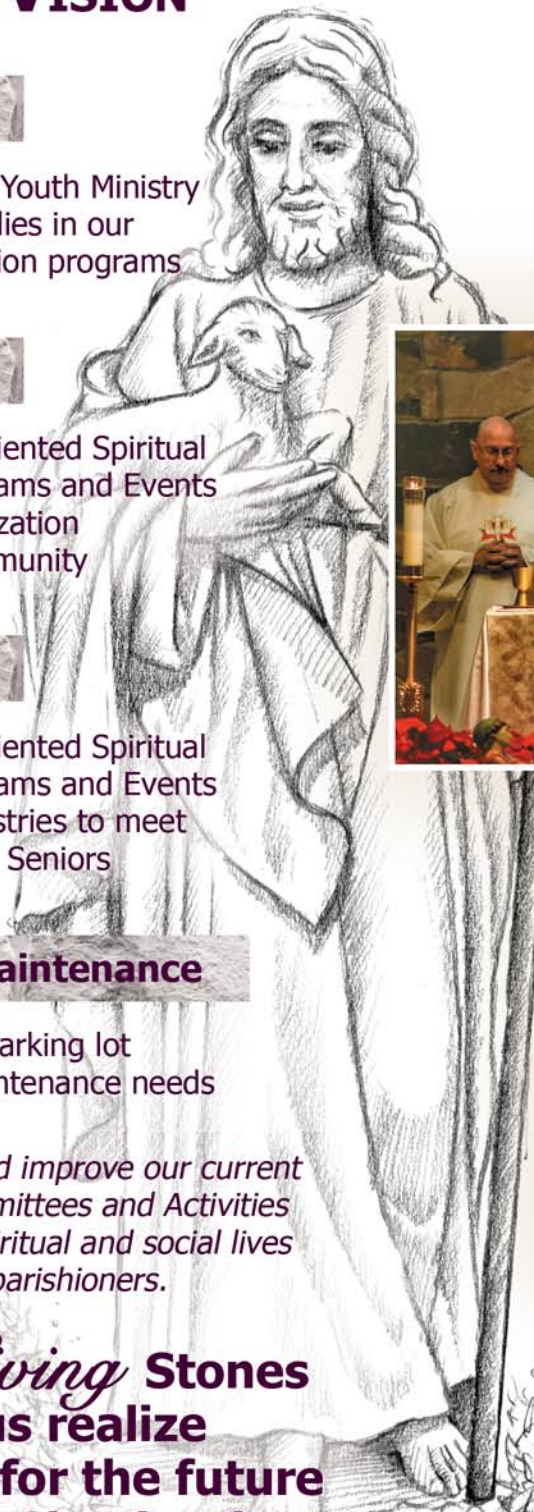
- ◇ Create Senior-oriented Spiritual and Social Programs and Events
- ◇ Expand our Ministries to meet the needs of our Seniors

Parish Maintenance

- ◇ Plan for HVAC, parking lot and general maintenance needs

Plus continue and improve our current Ministries, Committees and Activities to enrich the spiritual and social lives of our parishioners.

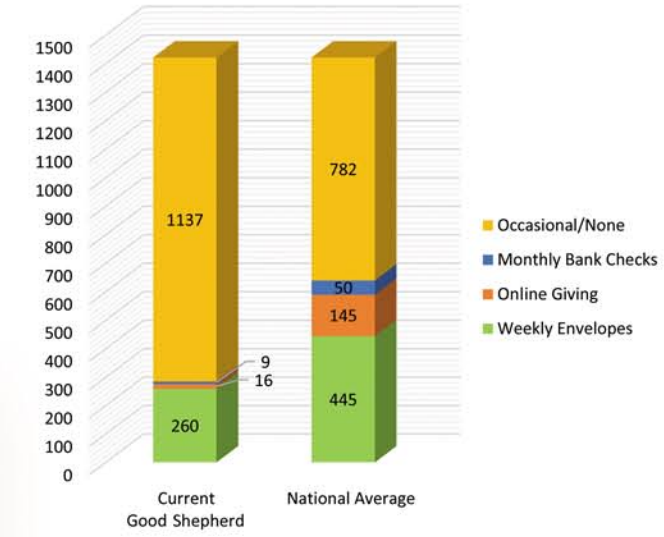
We are *Living Stones*
Help us realize
Our Vision for the future
of Good Shepherd



OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

A Christian Community founded in the Roman Catholic tradition we endeavor by word and deed to continue the life and work of Jesus Christ

Sources of Offerings
 Current Good Shepherd vs. National Average



	% Current Good Shepherd	Current Good Shepherd	National Average	% National Average
Monthly Bank Checks	0.6%	9	50	3.5%
Online Giving	1.1%	16	145	10.2%
Weekly Envelopes	18.3%	260	445	31.3%
Occasional/None	80.0%	1,137	782	55.0%
Known Givers Total	20.0%	285	640	45.0%
Total Registered Families		1,422		

Our Offerings compared to the National Average

The above graph and data compares **Good Shepherd** offerings to the **National Average** from a 2013 report by the **United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)**.

Currently about **20% of Good Shepherd registered families** provide offerings via weekly envelopes, monthly online giving or bank checks. The National Average based on the report indicates **45% of registered families** provide envelopes, online giving or bank checks.

At **Good Shepherd** we don't consider ourselves "average" yet in offerings there is room for growth. Please prayerfully consider increasing your offerings, or a consistent commitment to weekly, monthly or quarterly offerings as your budget allows - **THANK YOU.**