

Parish of the Good Shepherd

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ON TIME

I went out, Lord.
Men were coming and going,
Walking and running.

Everything was rushing: cars, trucks, the street,
the whole town.
Men were rushing not to waste time.

They were rushing after time,
To catch up with time,
To gain time.

Good-bye, Sir, excuse me, I haven't time.
I'll come back, I can't wait, I haven't time.
I must end this letter – I haven't time.
I'd love to help you, but I haven't time.
I can't accept, having no time.
I can't think, I can't read, I'm swamped,
I haven't time.
I'd like to pray, but I haven't time....

And so all men run after time, Lord.
They pass through life running –
hurried, jostled, overburdened, frantic,
and they never get there. They haven't time.
In spite of all their efforts
they're still short of time,
of a great deal of time.
Lord, you must have made a mistake
in your calculations.
There is a big mistake somewhere.
The hours are too short,
The days are too short,
Our lives are too short.

You who are beyond time, Lord, you smile
to see us fighting it.
And you know what you are doing.
You make no mistakes in your distribution
of time to men.
You give each one time to do
what you want him to do.
But we must not lose time,
waste time,
kill time,
For time is a gift that you give us,
But a perishable gift,
A gift that does not keep.

Lord, I have time,
I have plenty of time,
All the time that you give me,
The years of my life,
The days of my years,
The hours of my days,
They are all mine.
Mine to fill, quietly, calmly,
But to fill completely, up to the brim,
To offer them to you, that of their insipid water
You may make a rich wine such as you made
once in Cana of Galilee.

I am not asking you tonight, Lord,
for time to do this and then that,
but your grace to do conscientiously,
in the time that you give me,
what you want me to do.

From "Lord, I have time," by Michel Quoist in *Prayers*
(Lanham, Maryland: Sheed & Ward, 1999), pp. 96-99.

Parish News - April 20, 2016

Forum on Aging Continues on April 24

Join us this Sunday, April 24 at 11:30 a.m. as we continue our series on aging. We're going to look at the history of aging to see how – if at all! – things have changed. And we're going to continue to explore what it means to trust in God and how, exactly, we can do that. And there will be some amazing pictures!

~ *Charles Foster*

Save the Date!

On Sunday, June 12, our new rector, the Rev. Jay Weldon, will begin his ministry at Good Shepherd. He will preach and preside at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. Our annual Parish Picnic will be held after the 10:00 a.m. service, which will offer time for us to welcome Jay and his family.

There's Still Time to Participate in the Diocesan Mission Strategy Process

The diocesan mission strategy listening team has issued its initial report and invites the diocesan community's response – in person, online, or by phone. Four open forums have been scheduled at locations around the diocese, at which the team will present its initial findings and invite further conversation. Online and phone response options will also be available during the two-week response period, April 10-24. The report, the online response link and toll-free number, as well as the locations and times of the forums, can be found at www.diomass.org/new-mission-strategy.

Next Newsletter

The deadline for the next newsletter is **Monday, May 2**. Please email your items to our Parish Administrator, Margaret Harrison, at office@goodshepherdnewton.org. Thank you!

Christian Education News

Youth Group Meets on April 24th

Youth Group will meet from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 24. We will continue our theme of spiritual practices by exploring practices that originated in Asia.

Upcoming Confirmation Classes

Confirmation class will meet from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on these Sundays: April 24, May 1, and May 15.

Confirmation is Saturday, May 21st

Members of our confirmation class will be confirmed on Saturday, May 21 at 10:30 a.m. at All Saints Parish, 209 Ashmont Street in Dorchester. Bishop Gates will preside. We'd be delighted if members of the parish came to support the confirmands. This has been a two-year journey for the teenagers as they've questioned and matured in their understanding and their faith. They have been amazing, and they will continue to be amazing.

Recognition Sunday and Parish Picnic is Sunday, June 12th

At the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 12, we will recognize the amazing volunteers who give so much to our children and youth. The annual Parish Picnic will follow the service.

But, Church School Continues...

All summer long, for the first time ever, we will have church school! Mad science will be taking over Church School! Children and youth will be making goo, walking on water, watching baffling experiments, and much more. They will walk away amazed, excited, and knowing a little more about both the world and God. Each Sunday we'll look at a Bible story through the eyes of a mad scientist, which will help us understand Jesus in a whole new way.

~ *Kourtni Brown*
Director of Christian Education