

Parish of the Good Shepherd

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ON PRAYER

In prayer we say who in fact we are – not who we should be, nor who we wish we were, but who we are. All prayer begins with this confession.

Prayer enables speech; it extends us beyond our known self into the unknown God. It sends our words toward this other whom we seek. We discover this way that what we thought was the seeking of our prayer is in fact a responding to the other's having sought us.

God does not need to be told anything about what we need or want. Our words in prayer are not for God's instruction but our own.

We learn to begin where we are. We are not to worry about how to begin praying. God will show each of us our way. It is our own peculiar, particular, freely given response that God wants.

At each stage of prayer God gives us what we need.

Silence is the primary speech in which God and humanity speak to each other.

The answer to prayer is prayer – more prayer, fuller conversation, more listening, more straining to hear, more reflection on what is actually heard, on what has really happened.

*These passages are from Primary Speech: A Psychology of Prayer, by Ann and Barry Ulanov
(Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1982), pp. 1, 9, 17, 21, 49, 57, and 107, respectively.*

Forum Resumes This Sunday: “The Widow’s Mighty Mite”

This Sunday, September 27, we will use art, history, sociology, and scripture to explore the well-known story of the widow who gave so little but whose gift meant so much. When Jesus told this story, what was he really trying to convey, and why was it important to him? Join us this Sunday at 11:30 a.m. in the Loring Room. ~ Charles Foster

Parish News - September 23, 2015

Updating Our Parish Directory – We Need Your Help!

On each of the Sundays in October, a printout of the current directory will be at the back of the church and in the Common Room.

- Take a moment to review your listing in one of these printouts, to ensure that your name, address, phone number, and email are correct.
- Mark any corrections on the printout.
- Be sure to include your email, if it is not already in the directory.
- If all the information in your listing is correct and complete as is, make a checkmark next to your name.

If you are not currently listed in the directory and would like to be, please fill out the form that you'll find with the directory printout. Or you may call or email the church office to have your information added.

Thanks for your help!

Read Our Parish Profile

Our parish profile is on our website (www.goodshepherdnewton.org). Based on the parish survey and the discernment meetings held last spring, the profile lets rector applicants know who we are as a parish, who we want to be as a parish, and the qualities we seek in a new rector. Take a look!

From Your Christian Education Committee

Nursery is available every Sunday for infants through Pre-K at 9:45 a.m. Atrium (ages 3-6) will begin at 10:00 a.m. Children should go through an orientation before transitioning to the Atrium. If you have a child who needs to be oriented to the Atrium, please contact Maureen Gass. If you have any questions regarding Christian Education or are willing to volunteer to help in any capacity (no matter how small), please reach out to the co-chairs of the Christian Education Committee, Alison Corkery and Jennifer Manthei.

Parish Auction on October 17

Please all mark your calendars for the Parish of the Good Shepherd's Annual Hearts and Hands Auction to be held on Saturday, October 17th from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. We are looking forward to hosting a very fun evening filled with good food and wine, live entertainment and of course an amazing assortment of things to bid on. Donations of all sorts (including vacation home stays, gift certificates, dinners, handmade items, services and household treasures) are very much needed. Please contact Kim Nauen at kimnauen@gmail.com to arrange for your donation.

Would You Like to Give Flowers?

A flower chart is posted downstairs in the Common Room if you would like to sign up to give flowers in memory of, in honor of, or in thanksgiving for a loved one. (Suggested donation is \$75.)

Next Newsletter

The deadline for the next newsletter is **Monday, October 5 at 12:00 noon**. Please email your items to our Parish Administrator, Margaret Harrison, at office@goodshepherdnewton.org. Thank you!