

The Good Shepherd Academy

To Know, Love, and Serve God

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*"I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd lays
down his life for the sheep."
-John 10:14*



Calendars

- 📅 4. TGSA 2025-2026 School Calendar
- March Calendar: <https://www.thegoodshepherdacademy.org/calendar>

📅 Parent Service Hours (PSH) Opportunities

📅 Important Updates & Parent Reminders:

March First Friday Assembly, Faculty Meeting, and Basketball Party in Hall - March 6

Our March First Friday Assembly will be this Friday immediately after Mass. High school students will recite two soliloquies from *Romeo and Juliet* and virtue awards will be distributed to those students who displayed heroic virtue for the previous month.

Faculty will have a meeting from 1:00 - 3:00pm and so student supervision will only be provided for students in mock-trial from 12:00 - 1:00pm. Pick-up arrangements will need to be made for all other students.

A basketball party will be held in the hall after the Angelus for all basketball players to celebrate their hard work this past season!

I. 2026-2027 Registration Opens on Gradelink Soon

Thank you to all those who were able to respond to Mr. Mansueto, our Board President, regarding re-enrollment plans for the upcoming year.

Families will soon be able to re-enroll/enroll for the 2026-2027 year through EnrollMe on Gradelink. We kindly ask that registration via Gradelink be completed prior to the end of March. An announcement will be sent out once it is ready for you to complete.

II. Colonial Day Prep Begins in Earnest for May 1

The Good Shepherd will be hosting its living history day on Friday, May 1st. The theme for this year is Colonial Day. Students and families will be receiving more information as to what the day's events will look like, as well as what students will need to be working on this month and next in preparation for the event. Westward!

III. Practicum: Mock-Trial for Upper Grades (7th - 12th)

Mock-Trial classes will be on Friday afternoons from 1:00 - 2:00pm on the following dates:

March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27

April 17

The mock-trial will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 22nd.

Centurion Circular - March 6, 2026

IV. National Latin Exam - Thursday, March 12

Students in grades 6-12 will take the National Latin Exam during the first period on Thursday, March 12th, from 9:00 - 10:00am. Students are preparing in their Latin classes, but students can also visit the National Latin Exam website for more practice tests to prepare: <https://www.nle.org/previous-exams-and-answer-keys>

Students who do well will be recognized and receive awards at the end of the year awards ceremony. As this is a timed test, it is important that all students get adequate rest the night before, have a hearty breakfast, and arrive at school on-time. On this day, Latin will be the first period and schola will be the second period.

V. Spring Pictures - Friday, March 13

Spring pictures are **optional** for families/students. Families who would like to receive a Spring picture for their child(ren) will need to prepay online, prior to 11pm on Thursday, March 12th, or send an order form with their child on the day of pictures.

Pictures will be taken between 9:00 and 11:00am in the hall. One or two parent volunteers are needed to assist in bringing students/classes to the hall at the appropriate time. Please email Mrs. Villegas if you would like to help.

VI. Iconography with Father Philip - Friday, March 13

Father Philip will be hosting the March iconography class on Friday, March 13th. Students will begin at 11:00am and Father Philip will stay until 2:00pm. Lunch will be provided. The goal is for students to make considerable headway on their icons on this day. There will be breaks spread throughout the class.

VII. St. Patrick Day Festivities & Bake Sale - Tuesday, March 17

In honor of the feast day of St. Patrick, the student council will be hosting special festivities on this day, including a bake sale. Parents who bring baked items will receive parent-service hours. More information to come from the student council soon.

VIII. St. Joseph Feast Day - Doughnuts with Dads & Career Day - Thursday, March 19

On March 19th, TGSA will celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph by inviting fathers, older brothers, uncles, grandfathers, etc. to visit and enjoy doughnuts in the hall with students.

For fathers who are able to stay, we are also looking for volunteers to visit each classroom to speak to students about their careers. If interested, please fill out the following form by Friday, March 13th
<https://forms.gle/nhM4BxmJGqDRHyLy9>

IX. Sports Pictures for Track & Soccer - Friday, March 20

On Friday, March 20th, pictures will be taken for all students participating in track or soccer, as well as for coaches.

Centurion Circular - March 6, 2026

X. Mater Dolorosa Field Trip - Monday, March 23

The Good Shepherd Academy faculty and students will be joining Father Bravo and St. Madeleine for our annual trip to Mater Dolorosa, a Passionist retreat center. Father Bravo will lead us in the Stations of the Cross and we will have a picnic afterwards with games.

We will have Mass at the usual time at St. Madeleine and then board the bus to head to Mater Dolorosa, located at 700 N. Sunnyside Ave., Sierra Madre 91024, immediately after.

Any homeschool families who would like to attend, please fill out this form by **March 16th:**
<https://forms.gle/Q1AQwwY1oH7UK6AVA>

XI. TerraNova Testing for Grades 2+ - Tuesday (3/24) and Thursday (3/26)

Students in Grades 2 and above will take the TerraNova testing again this year over the course of two days, Tuesday and Thursday. Parents are asked to make arrangements for their child to be at school both days, as make-ups for the TerraNova standardized testing are difficult and take a considerable amount of time.

There will be various activities planned for the afternoons on both days for students; normal dismissal each day.

XII. High School Visit to St. Augustine - Wednesday, March 25

All high school students are invited to visit St. Augustine for their living history day event on Wednesday, March 25th. Students have the opportunity to experience first-hand St. Augustine's living history day, a tradition that is more than 20 years old. With this knowledge, our high school students will be asked to share their insight and ideas to help make our Colonial Day our best living history event yet.

Address: 130 S Wells Rd , Ventura

Time: 6:00am - 4:00-4:30pm

To arrive on time, students will need to depart at 6:00am. Mr. Renteria and Mr. Geier will be transporting students. Arrival time will be 4:30-5:00pm. An email will be sent out so that arrangements can be made for breakfast, lunch, and dinner on this day.

XIII. Jog-A-Thon Fundraiser - Moved to April 17th

Our second Jog-A-Thon will take place on Friday, April 17th. Fundraising for the event will open on March 27th. Similar to last year, each student will have a personal account through 99pledges. On the day of the Jog-a-Thon, April 17th, there will be a schedule allowing younger students to run in the morning while the older students are in class. Then the older students will run while the younger students are in class..

Families will be emailed access to the accounts for their children on March 20th so that everything can be set-up prior to the beginning of the fundraiser on March 27th.

XIV. Easter Break - April 1st - 12th

We will return to school after Easter on Monday, April 13th.

Centurion Circular - March 6, 2026

XV. St. Madeleine Hospitality Sundays - All Sundays in May, excluding Mother's Day

Each Sunday of May, excluding May 10th, Mother's Day, TGSA will be hosting the hospitality Sundays at St. Madeleine. Families will be assigned a single Sunday in May in which they will be responsible for working together to prepare and serve food to St. Madeleine parishioners. This involves the following: creating the food menu, purchasing the food, preparing food, collecting payment, set-up and clean-up. The serving time is from 7:00am - 3:00pm.

Each family will only be responsible for a single Sunday. Families assigned to the same Sunday will need to coordinate and determine the logistics for that day, such as items to purchase, prices for menu items, schedule of shifts, etc.

A detailed information sheet will be sent out at the beginning of April so that families know what to expect and can begin preparing. Mr. Renteria will also meet with each group to ensure that they are well-prepared. As this is the final big fundraiser of the school year, parents are asked to use any remaining PSH towards the purchase of food and materials for their assigned Sunday. Please bring receipts to the front office so that any purchases made for the hospitality Sundays can be counted towards your PSH for this year at \$20 per hour.

Our Good Shepherd, guide and protect us!

In Christ,

Jourdain Renteria