## Servings: 8

Notes: Mushroom bread pudding can be baked in a buttered 2-quart shallow baking dish (not lined with parchment; do not unmold pudding from baking dish). Bread cubes can be baked 1 day ahead and cooled, then kept in an airtight container at room temperature. Pudding can be assembled (but not baked) 2 hours ahead and chilled, covered. Description:
Preparation Time: $\mathbf{3 5}$ minutes
Start to Finish Time: 1 hour

1. Preheat oven to $350^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ with rack in middle.
2. Bake bread cubes in 1 layer in a large shallow baking pan until goldenbrown, about 10 minutes.
3. Tear or cut mushrooms lengthwise into $1 / 4$-inch-thick pieces.
4. Cook shallot in butter in a 12 -inch heavy skillet over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until beginning to soften, about 3 minutes. Add mushrooms, $1 / 2$ teaspoon salt, and $1 / 4$ teaspoon pepper and cook until liquid mushrooms give off has evaporated, about 15 minutes. Add parsley and garlic and cook, stirring, 2 minutes. Remove from heat.
5. Whisk together half-and-half, eggs, cheese, $1 / 2$ teaspoon salt, and $1 / 4$ teaspoon pepper in a large bowl. Stir in mushrooms and bread cubes until coated well and let stand 10 minutes for bread to absorb some of egg mixture.
6. Meanwhile, butter ramekins, then put a round of parchment in bottom of each and butter parchment.
7. Spoon mixture into ramekins and bake on a baking sheet until firm to the touch, 30 to 35 minutes. Unmold puddings and discard parchment.
