

Save the Date: Annual Church Festival with Flea Market is scheduled for Saturday August 13th 1 day only

Students in Grade 7-10, this is great way to complete some of the required service hours with assisting at the Church Festival



As always, I like to share the deep traditions and meaning of our Church. What a great way to learn as a family and learn more about this great Faith of ours.

As we continue our journey of Faith learning. This week will be about the difference between a disciple and an apostle. Everyone is a disciple in Christ but only 12 were chosen to be an apostle. This week is about discipleship

Being a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ means to learn from Him and to stay close to Him. These two requirements were essential for Christ's disciples then, and likewise are necessary for followers of Christ today.

To be a disciple, the most basic sense, is to be a follower of Christ. The idea of discipleship that Jesus left us with is to be a whole-hearted follower of Christ. We grow in the grace and

knowledge of Christ through the renewing of our minds. We have a new heart, we have the Holy Spirit within us, and by God's grace, He has given us this revelation.

Being a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ means to learn from Him and to stay close to Him. These two imperatives are the very core of true discipleship. These two requirements were essential for Christ's disciples then — and likewise are necessary for followers of Christ today.

Christ's disciples learned from Him by listening carefully to His teaching. The teaching ministry of Christ was one of the most important aspects of His earthly ministry. It is interesting to note that immediately upon calling His first disciples, they followed Him throughout Galilee listening to Him "teaching" and "preaching

How to Stay Close to Christ?

Christ's disciples stay close to Him by personally spending time in His Word. It's obvious from any study of Christ's dealings with His disciples in Scripture that the key to His ministry with them was that He spent quantity and quality time with them. This principle is highlighted in passages like [Mark 3:14](#), where it says, "...that they might be with Him..." The key to discipleship was the opportunity to get close to the teacher.

After Jesus' resurrection, His followers gathered on that hillside in Palestine to watch as He ascended back into heaven. The Lord took that opportunity to give them one more set of instructions ([Matthew 28:19-20](#)), but He also gives them an amazing message of encouragement, "...I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

His earthly disciples realized that He was about to leave them to return to His Heavenly Father; but in this last time together, He helped them to understand that because He was God, they could actually be with Him for the rest of their lives.

2. Christ's disciples stay close to Him by making prayer a top priority. There was one other essential ingredient in Christ's ministry with His followers — He prayed ([Luke 9:18](#)), He taught them to pray ([Luke 11:1-4](#)), and He expected them to pray ([Luke 22:39-46](#)).

God Himself established prayer as a way for Christ-followers to communicate directly with All-mighty God ([Hebrews 4:14-16](#)). Prayer proves that His disciples are dependent upon Him — and true disciples of Christ will be characterized by a vibrant prayer life.

What is an apostle?

The word *apostle* means "one who is sent out." In the New Testament, there are two primary usages of the word *apostle*. The first is in specifically referring to the [twelve apostles](#) of Jesus Christ. The second is in generically referring to other individuals who are sent out to be messengers/ambassadors of Jesus Christ.

The twelve apostles held a unique position. In referring to the New Jerusalem, [Revelation 21:14](#) states, "The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb." The twelve apostles are also referred to in [Matthew 10:2](#); [Mark 3:14](#); [4:10](#); [6:7](#); [9:35](#); [14:10](#), [17](#), [20](#); [Luke 6:13](#); [9:1](#); [22:14](#); [John 6:71](#); [Acts 6:2](#); and [1 Corinthians 15:5](#). It was these twelve apostles who were the first messengers of the gospel after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It was these twelve apostles who were the foundation of the church—with Jesus being the cornerstone ([Ephesians 2:20](#)).

This specific type of apostle is not present in the church today. The qualifications of this type of apostle were: (1) to have been a witness of the resurrected Christ ([1 Corinthians 9:1](#)), (2) to have been explicitly chosen by the Holy Spirit ([Acts 9:15](#)), and (3) to have the ability to perform signs and wonders ([Acts 2:43](#); [2 Corinthians 12:12](#)). The responsibility of the twelve apostles, laying the foundation of the church, would also argue for their uniqueness. Two thousand years later, we are not still working on the foundation.

Beyond the unique twelve apostles of Jesus Christ, there were also apostles in a generic sense. Barnabas is referred to as an "apostle" in [Acts 13:2](#) and [14:4](#). [Andronicus and Junias](#) are possibly identified as apostles in [Romans 16:7](#). The same Greek word usually translated "apostle" is used to refer to Titus in [2 Corinthians 8:23](#) and Epaphroditus in [Philippians 2:25](#). So, there definitely seems to be room for the term *apostle* being used to refer to someone besides the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ. Anyone who was "sent" could be called an apostle.

What exactly would be the role of an apostle outside that of the twelve apostles? That is not entirely clear. From the definition of the word, the closest thing today to an apostle, in the general sense, is a missionary. A missionary is a follower of Christ who is sent out with the specific mission of proclaiming the gospel. A missionary is an ambassador of Christ to people who have not heard the good news. However, to prevent confusion, it is likely best to not use the term *apostle* to refer to any position in the church today. The vast majority of occurrences of the word *apostle* or *apostles* in the New Testament refer to the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ.

There are some today who are seeking to [restore the position of apostle](#). This is a dangerous movement. Frequently, those claiming the office of apostle seek authority equal to, or at least rivaling, the authority of the original twelve apostles. There is absolutely no biblical evidence to support such an understanding of the role of apostle today. This would fit with the New Testament's warning against false apostles ([2 Corinthians 11:13](#)).

In a sense, all followers of Jesus Christ are called to be apostles. We are all to be His ambassadors ([Matthew 28:18-20](#); [2 Corinthians 5:18-20](#)). We are all to be "ones who are sent out" ([Acts 1:8](#)). We are all to be preachers of the good news ([Romans 10:15](#)).



The Eastern Region Summer Youth Program for teens in grades 7-12 will begin Sunday, July 10 at Sacred Heart - St. Mary's Church in New York Mills. Teen Nite Out will be held each Sunday from 5:00-8:00pm with food, music by a DJ, open recreation, and a witness talk by a young adult speaker. There is no cost for Teen Nite Out! Wednesday's we are on road trips to local theme parks. All are welcome! For more information or to register for trips or Totus Tuus, email summerprogram@syrdio.org.

FULL SCHEDULE:

Sunday, July 10: Teen Nite Out, 5-8pm at SHSM

Wednesday, July 13: Water Safari (Cost is \$40)

Sunday, July 17: Teen Nite Out, 5-8pm at SHSM

Wednesday, July 20: Six Flags Great Escape (Cost is \$60)

Sunday, July 24 - Thursday, July 28: Totus Touus at Holy Trinity (Cost is \$31 for the week, by attending Teen Nite Out you will get a \$6 discount!)

Sunday, July 31: Teen Nite Out, 5-8pm at SHSM

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The St. Pio Prayer Group Meeting are on the first Friday of each month. All are welcome Call Gazak 315 507 2735 for question



Eucharist Devotion: An hour of Eucharist Devotion every Thursday after 12:10am.
Prayers, Litany, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and time for private prayer



As a reminder, please TURN OFF all cell phones while attending Mass or leave in your vehicles.



Registration 2022-2023. It is important to remember that the Sacrament of First Communion and Confirmation is a 2-year required program. Those making First Communion are to attend 1st and 2nd grade and Confirmation is 9th & 10th grade. If anyone has any questions, please reach out to me directly.

The Faith Formation Program is in need of a Catechist for Kindergarten. If you would be interested in teaching this class, please message me directly. Virtus training is required.

If any family wishes to be removed from the weekly mailing, please email me directly.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday @ 3:15 pm prior to Mass and the 1st Thursday of the month after the 12:10 Mass

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4pm

Sunday 7:30 AM, 8:30AM, 10AM Polish Mass and 11am

Let's remember that as Catholics, it is important to attend Sunday Mass. At Mass we are able to stand mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.



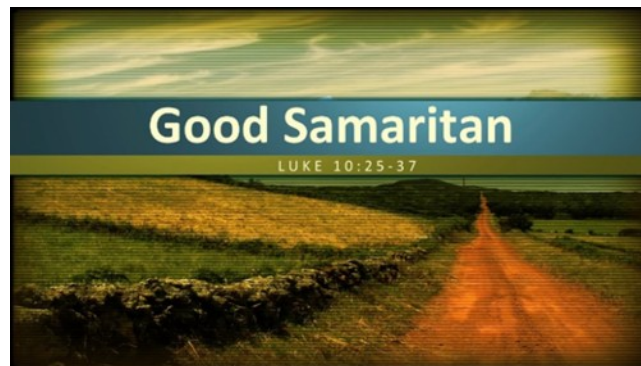
Sunday Readings

First Reading: DT 30:10-14

Responsorial Psalm: 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37

Second Reading: Col: 1:15-20

Gospel: LK: 10:25-37



Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Let us Pray: Lord God and Father, who entrusted the earth to men and each to the other, as one family of man, give us the grace this day, to see Your Face in our neighbor and to seek all who need our help. Grant us the grace to work faithfully for Your glory and for our neighbor's good. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord, with the Holy Spirit, one God forever, Amen.

Regardless of what culture or religion we're from, we should be willing to help people in need, even if they're different from us. So, the question to ask is not "Who is my neighbor?" but "Whose neighbor can I be?" If we were to pose Jesus, the question "Who is my neighbor?" what would he answer? He would certainly remind us that our neighbor is not only our fellow countrymen but also those outside our community. What does being a neighbor mean to you? It can be a lot of things, if we look close to home it is making sure our older neighbors close to us are being looked after, as we grow our neighbors become our church family, and soon we realize the people in our communities, state, and country are our neighbors. We then have to remember those around the world that can also be suffering, especially in Ukraine and other countries in turmoil. We live in a society where bitterness and vengeance often seem to triumph over forgiveness. We live and work with people who seem to be imprisoned in their resentments. Christ sends us forth to our homes and neighborhoods where it is all too easy to cultivate prejudice toward those who are different from us. We are missioned to a society in which human life is threatened by mass shootings and lack of concern for our neighbors. . We witness the weak and vulnerable of our society passed by time and time again. We belong to a wounded humanity, scarred by sin and division, by the pain we inflict on one another. Where are the Good Samaritans? It is Jesus as he comes to the wounded and brings them to the inn for healing. He is the one who stops for us as we lie by the roadside in our own needs. Jesus continues to bear our sins and even grieve for us. Today Jesus tells us to reach out and care for those who are in need, despite their race, religion, or political opinions!

Unfortunately, in today's world most of us are cautioned to be careful, especially with strangers. And to a degree this is good advice. Let's put ourselves on that road. What might be some legitimate reasons we don't stop and help?

Danger. What if that man lying there was just pretending to need help? Maybe his friends were behind the bushes just waiting to waylay any do-gooder that happened by. You never know with strangers.

Purity. The condition of the man was difficult to discern from a distance. If he was dead, touching a body would make you ceremonially unclean. If you see someone with a flat tire on your way to church, what is the better decision? You are not dressed to help. Coming in late would interrupt the service. What if you are serving that day? People are counting on you.

Punctuality. Your family is expecting you back home after a week away. Friends and neighbors have been helping to cover your responsibilities while you were gone. Your family will worry if you are late. Maybe someone more local would happen by and help.

Skill Set. This injured man obviously needed help from someone trained in First Aid. You have no such skills. Probably someone else will come along who could offer the type of help really called for in this situation. Better let someone else take this one.

Blame. This wounded man may not be innocent. Maybe he was a thief knocked in the head by other thieves when it came time to divide the loot. Or maybe he ended up in this situation because of his own foolishness. He might have flashed his money around. Poor planning for his journey should not cause me to stop my own journey. That would not be fair.

Are these really legitimate reasons or are they excuses because we don't really want to help.

Today's world continues to suffer from "it is all about me". Now put yourself in place of the one laying on the road, I bet you hope that the next person that comes along is a good Samaritan and able and willing to help. So today may we open our eyes, mind, and heart to someone who is in need and do what we can to care for them. May we have the eyes of Jesus and "see" every person as he does: one of God's beloved! And let us remember Jesus' words to the lawyer: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

Let us Pray: Lord, teach us to be good neighbors, not just to the folk who live nearby but to everyone that we meet, to see the best in, and want the best for all your precious children,

who might one day return to their Father's house and the warmth of your embrace. This we pray in your Name. Amen.



Theme: Love your neighbor

Scripture Luke 10:25-37

Read from the Bible: On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus, "Teacher" he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered;" Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, and with all of your soul, and with all of your strength and with all of your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself. You have answered correctly, 'Jesus replied. "' Do this and you will live.'" But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, and who is my neighbor? Luke 10:25-29

Introduction:

This puppet skit is lightly based on a parable told by Jesus called the good Samaritan, you can find the parable in Luke 10:25-37. Script:

Man from Jericho: (whistling) Oh what a great day for a walk to Jerusalem. (two robbers mug him, slamming him to the ground)

ROBBER #1: aha ! I'll take his wallet, you hold him down

Robber #2: duh, ok boss, I'll hold him down yes I will.

Robber #1: Hey, he ain't got no wallet, all he has is a bag of gummy worms.

Robber #2: Gummy worms, woo hooo!! I luv gummy worms boss, can I have some please hah can I have some boss,? GUMMY WORMS ARE DELICIOUS!!!!

Robber #1: BE QUIETTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT!!!! How are we gonna pay for a hotel in Jerusalem with a bag of gummy worms?

Robber #2 That's easy boss, I will hug them and squeeze them and keep them warm, and make sure that the gummy worms are safe , you can count on me boss , you can count on me boss, I won't let these gummy worms go until we get them in the hands of the innkeeper.

Robber #1: The innkeeper won't take gummy worms for a room, awww... never mind let's go.

Robber #2: OK Boss whatever you say, can I have the red gummy worms boss ?

Robber #1: I'll give you the red gummy worms , here, take 'em! (starts hitting him with the bag of worms)

(A Priest is coming down the road)

Priest: Oh my, what a mess, these people will sleep anywhere nowadays, I'll have to go to the other side of the road tsk, tsk cheerio old chap, have a nice sleep and all that. (snorts)
(A levite passes by)

Levite: Yikes, looks like someone has been robbed and beaten up, I wish I had the time to help him, but I've got a very important meeting to get to with the elders of the church, we're going to the big gladiator match. I'll say a prayer for you my friend.

(A Samaritan man walks by)

Samaritan: Oh noooo, are you alright? Here let me put some bactine on you, and bandage your wounds, hold on I'll call 911 for help. We'll take you to the hospital and I'll pay the bill, you poor man. Follow Up:

After Jesus told the parable he asked the expert in the law, which of the three men who passed by was a neighbor to the man who was robbed? Questions:

Who do you think was the neighbor? Why? Have you ever needed help? Did anyone help you? Do you help others? The expert in the law told Jesus that the man who had mercy on the guy who was robbed was the true neighbor. Jesus told the expert to go and do the same.

Memory verse: Luke 10:27

Weekly Prayer

This week's Sunday Prayer for July 10th. Let Us continue to know and love the Lord



From Bishop Lucia:

First Saturday Devotions:

Bishop Lucia will be celebrating First Saturday devotions beginning this Saturday. He will be in the Utica Area on Saturday September 3rd at 8:00 am - Holy Trinity Church, Utica

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly – July 24th

Pope Francis has established throughout the Church the celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and Elderly on the fourth Sunday of July (24th), near the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. The theme for this year's celebration is **"In Old Age They Will Still Bear Fruit" (Ps. 92:15)**. The theme is meant to emphasize how grandparents are a gift both to society and the Church.

3) From the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: 3 items

**Middle School Summer Pilgrimage
August 13, 2022 - Niagara Falls, New York
SAVE THE DATE**

Come join the Diocese of Syracuse Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry on a special summer pilgrimage for middle school students! They will visit Niagara Falls, ride the Maid of the Mist, visit a Marian Shrine for Mass, and finish off the day with Laser tag and dinner at LAZERTRON!

This event is open to boys and girls entering grades 6th through 8th.
The cost of the trip will include all activities, a t-shirt, and dinner.
Registration will open shortly.

Contact Kateri Lickona at 315-470-1475 or klickona@syrdio.org for more information.