

St. Mary St. Michael

15164 Juniper Dr., Marne MI 49435
616.677.3934 • www.saintmarysmarne.org

17150 88th Ave., Coopersville, MI 49404
616.384.4026 • www.saintmichaels.us



Pastor: Rev. Michael Hodges

frmhodes@grpriests.org • For emergencies please call: 616.745.1409

Saint Mary Parish Staff

St. Mary Parish Office Hours
Monday9:00AM - 4:30PM
Tuesday9:00AM - 4:30PM
Wednesday 9:00AM - 11:30AM
Thursday 9:00AM to 4:30PM
Friday Closed

Deacon
Tom Roberts
troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

Business Manager
Todd Kline
businessmanager@saintmarysmarne.org

Parish Secretary
Cathie VanGessel
secretary@saintmarysmarne.org

Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Veneklas
dre@saintmarysmarne.org

Maintenance
Jim Looks

Custodian
Marian Looks

Liturgical Minister
Gary Karr
gkarr@saintmarysmarne.org

Music Director
Dr. Bernie Stanko
616.490.3836
berniestanko@hotmail.com

St Mary Prayer Line
616.677.3934 or
Linda at 677.3269
For evening requests call
Darlene 616.453.0157 or
email bfa1414@yahoo.com

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Deacon
Tom Roberts
troberts@saintmarysmarne.org

Business Manager
Todd Kline
bsmgr@saintmichaels.us

Parish Secretary
Beki Rotman
secretary@saintmichaels.us

Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Veneklas
childrensministry@saintmichaels.us

Maintenance
David Goosen

Custodian
Carol Reens

Liturgical Minister
Kevin Kilpatrick
liturgy@saintmichaels.us

Scrip Coordinator
Brenda Kilpatrick
616.837.6363

St Michael Prayer Line
Chris Albrecht
616-403-7110
Judy Driedger
616-899-2470

Director of O.C.I.A
Cliff Kozminski
616.437.5318

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00PM • St Michael
Sunday 8:30AM • St Michael
Sunday 10:30AM • St Mary

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday 12:00PM • St Mary
Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30PM
Wednesday 12:00PM • St Michael
Adoration begins after Mass until 3:30PM
Thursday 12:00PM • St Mary
Friday 12:00PM • St Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday and Thursday 12:30PM to 1:30PM • St. Mary
Wednesday and Friday 12:30PM to 1:30PM • St. Michael
Saturday 3:00PM to 3:45PM • St. Michael

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday September 20

4:00PM † Lelah Bouchard by Curt & Joan Kutchin MI
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael

Sunday September 21

8:30AM † Pete & Marge Ferwerda by Pam Raczkiewicz MI
 10:30AM † Jim Potts by M/M Paul Kirkwood MA

Monday September 22 No Mass, No Adoration, No Confessions

Tuesday September 23 No Mass, No Adoration, No Confessions

Wednesday September 24 No Mass, No Adoration, No Confessions

Thursday September 25 No Mass, No Adoration, No Confessions

Friday September 26 No Mass, No Adoration, No Confessions

Saturday September 27

4:00PM † David Balkon by Ray & Kathy Maka MI
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—3:45 PM - St Michael

Sunday September 28

8:30AM † Caroline Idziak by Bob Idziak MI
 10:30AM † Gordon Powers by Family MA

MA=St. Mary MI=St. Michael's



Scripture Readings for the Week of September 21, 2025

Sunday Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Am 8:4-7; Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

Monday Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
 Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday Ezr 9:5-9; Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Lk 9:7-9

Friday Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4; Lk 9:18-22

Saturday Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest
 Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	Sep 27—4:00PM	Sep 28 —8:30AM
Altar Servers	Dylan Ranney NEED ONE	Aiden Rogers Melena Lindberg
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Guilbault NEED THREE	Deacon Tom Jennifer DeMull Chris Albrecht Joe Hitchings Zack Nelson Jennie Taylor Sharon Carlson NEED ONE
Lector	Rob Guilbault	Dennis Zimmer
Sacristan	Cindy Bleckley	Rosemary Weigel
Ushers	NEED TWO	Calvin Lindberg Jim Ponshair Peter Nielsen Duane Snowdin
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

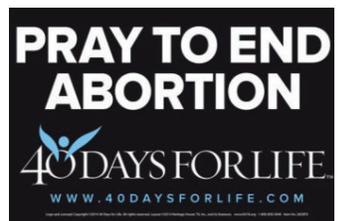
	September 28 —10:30AM
Sacristan	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Ty Ricord Sela Ricord Calvin Davis
Precious Body	Deacon Tom Mary Kirkwood Nettie Leale
Precious Blood	Bruce Kamp Marge Jirous June Stevenson Need One
Hospitality	Leonard Horter
Lector	John Klein
Music	Bernie Stanko

40 Days for Life!

Would you be willing to pray for one hour?

40 Days for Life is a unique pro-life effort that consists of 40 days of prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil in front of abortion clinics. This will be the 32nd campaign in Grand Rapids, and it will take place in front of **Planned Parenthood- Grand Rapids**, This facility provides the abortion pill and refers for abortions. Dozens of area churches have adopted a day of prayer. **Our parish family has chosen Friday, October 17, 2025** ~ Would you be willing to pray for

one hour to fill in the time slots to pray to end abortion? We will need 2 prayer volunteers from 7 am till 7 pm throughout the day. This is a powerful and proven effective way to close abortion centers



and show the Mother's that we are praying and thinking about them and their babies. Please consider a hour of your time~ If you are unable to attend that day you may go to the clinic and pray any time! Thank you for your commitment to LIFE! God bless!

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Catholic Service Appeal - 2025

Thank you for your gifts to 2025 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Every gift, regardless of the amount, is important in this effort. Our parish goal for 2025 is: Thank you for your stewardship!

St Mary

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$50,516.00

Total Pledges Made: \$55,055.00 (109%)

Balance: \$4,539.00 OVER- THANK YOU!

Participation: 107 of 260 Active - Households (42%)

St Michael

CSA 2025 Pledge Goal: \$52,297.00

Total Pledges Made: \$41,330.00 (79%)

Balance: \$10,967.00

Participation: 98 of 255 - Active Households (38%)

Totals as of September 15, 2025

Please keep in mind that any amount raised over our goal is returned 100% to the parish. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.



**STRENGTHENED IN CHRIST,
RESPONDING WITH JOY.**

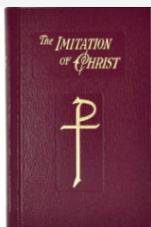
Diocese of Grand Rapids
Catholic Services Appeal

St. Joseph Church - Wright is celebrating 175 years

of worshipping God and we want you to join us! On Saturday, October 18th the parish is hosting an Octoberfest Homecoming party starting at 5:00pm. Food will be provided with beer available for purchase. Bring the family to enjoy the live music, historic photos, commemorative items, big raffle, and s'mores for the kids. Please RSVP By September 30, 2025 by visiting the parish website (www.ourcluster.org/175th-anniversary), or calling the parish office at 616-899-2286.

Women's Book Club

All Ladies of St Mary's and St Michael's are welcome to join in our 2nd book study beginning **Tuesday, September 16th, at 10am** in St Mary Church Community Room. **The Imitations of Christ**, by Thomas à Kempis. Call Mary Guilbault with any questions and to sign up. 810-397-4461



Bulletin Sponsor of the Week



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

Fr Mike's Musings

Spiritually, we all know that gratitude is central to the Gospel message. Giving thanks presents us with the opportunity to look at this particular aspect of our faith. We are called to be eternally and deeply grateful. Perhaps we all struggle in various ways with gratitude. It's fair to say that we will never be grateful enough until we are perfected in Heaven. But, for now, it's important to look at gratitude and to try to let it increase in our souls.



We will never be truly grateful unless we see clearly all that God has done for us. It's so easy in life to focus on all the struggles we face and, as a result, to get down, depressed, frustrated and even angry at times. What's far more challenging is to look beyond the crosses and burdens we face each day to see the abundance of grace and mercy given to us by our Lord. Unless we see that mercy and grace, we will struggle greatly with authentic gratitude.



Having been laid up for the past six weeks with my injured foot I fully understand what it means to be best with the frustrations of being unable to perform to one's own satisfaction. My upbringing taught me that a man's value lay in his work and being unable to perform my priestly responsibilities to the fullest added insult to my injury.

But there were voices and actors during my recuperation who, time and again, pulled me back from the abyss of despair and reassured me that this inconvenience would pass. Rides to and from Sunday Mass and to various medical appointments were readily made available, food was plentiful and regularly supplied, prayers for my recovery and words of encouragement and concern were also regular and abundant. All this bounty from my parish families offset the frequent bouts of depression and self-loathing that I experienced in my solitude.

I never again need to wonder what God's mercy and grace is like, it took the form of all the good people, known and unknown, who strove to alleviate my burdens in a time of need—physical, emotional, and spiritual. While my ability to work and perform my duties will always be hallmarks in my life, I now am more aware of the truth and extent of God's presence as well. The people of St. Mary and St. Michael are a form of that truth, and for this I am grateful. Thanks to you all. May we all come to know such a heartfelt and holy presence.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Together with your families, the Diocese of Grand Rapids honors the faithful witness to your vocation of marriage and wishes to celebrate with you. Bishop Walkowiak is inviting **all couples celebrating milestone anniversaries** to join him on **Sunday, Oct. 5 at the 10 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew** (301 Sheldon Blvd., Grand Rapids) for this annual celebration. A simple reception will immediately follow. Please RSVP by scanning the QR code or calling Lauren Vandervort at 616-246-0588.



Pray for our Priests - September 23

The priests of the diocese attend a retreat together every fall. This fall convocation is an important time away from their parishes to build camaraderie, pray together, engage in continuing formation and celebrate milestone anniversaries. Let us gather as a Catholic community during this time to pray for our shepherds. Check with GRdiocese.org to find open times for prayer in churches across the diocese.



St Mary will offer Rosary and Prayer Service at 12PM and 6PM on Tuesday, Sept. 23 . Please Join us. All are Welcome.

Together is where we belong

If you have been away, Whatever your reasons are for being away, there's one thing you should know ... you've been missed. Come back to the place where you can be fed. If you have friends or loved ones who have been away, invite them back. Our Cluster parishes are places of welcome where the love of Christ is shared in community, service, and sacrament. Gather with us! Come back to Mass. The Doors are Open! Together is where we belong!

September 21, 2025 ~ The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

St. Mary's Parish News

St Mary Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW):
Pre-School thru 2nd Grade During 10:30 AM Mass.
CLW will start on Sunday, October 5th.

This is the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. LK 16:1-13. This story teaches us that being honest is a good thing and that they can be trusted to do the right thing. Even when no one is watching. It also shows that being honest can lead to positive outcomes.

1st-7th Grade Faith Formation Classes -
Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

8th Grade - Confirmation Classes -
Wednesdays at Hall / 6:00- 7:30pm

Class start this Wednesday, September 24, 2025
 Forms are available online or in the Narthex.



Register ONLINE HERE:

<https://www.saintmarysmarne.org/religious-education-elementary>

Classes resume Sept 24. We are working on class lists and ordering books and supplies. To help us get an accurate number of students, please take a minute and register your child(ren) today.

For more information or any questions on any of these programs Please contact Debbie Veneklas at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616.677.3934

High School Students

Are you still in high school and have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation? We invite you to join our Confirmation Preparation Classes, where you will grow in our Catholic faith, learn more about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and be ready to complete your initiation into the Church. Classes will begin soon, and all high school students are welcome. Come journey with other young people as you take this important step in Catholicism. **"Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."** For more information or to register, please contact our DRE Debbie Veneklas at dre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616-677- 3934

Save the Dates

Sept 23	Pray for Our Priest - 12pm & 6PM
Sept 24	Rel Ed Classes Start
Sept 26-29	Knights of Columbus Scrap Metal Drive- Parish Hall Parking Lot
Sept 27	COR- 7AM Community Room
Oct 3	Happy Birthday Fr. Mike
Oct 5	Cookies After Mass
Oct 11	COR- 7AM Community Room
Oct 12	Knights of Columbus Breakfast & Blood Drive 8:30AM-12:30PM
Oct 14	Our Lady of Fatima Guild Meeting 7PM Community Room
Oct 25	COR- 7AM Community Room
Oct 27	Fr Mike Ordination of Priesthood Anniversary- 13years
Nov 2	Cookies After Mass

Knights of Columbus #11581 News

How to become a Knight: You can enroll in the Knights of Columbus immediately as an "Online Member" by scanning the QR Code. Once you complete and submit the form on that page a local council will contact you. For additional information or to learn more about what the Knights do, Contact Grand Knight: Bruce Kamp b.kamp@charter.net / Phone 616-780-4941



Upcoming Blood Drive & Community Breakfast - Oct 12

Blood Drive is 8:30AM to 1:00PM

Breakfast will be served 9AM till noon.-

Breakfast Cost-

\$10.00 Adults,

\$8.00 Seniors,

\$5.00 Kids

Come out and support our Knights!

Pre-Register here: Oct 12

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11598498



Cor

Cor continues this fall as we begin a series on "The Mission of the Family". If you have any questions, please reach out to Robert Lothschutz at 616-292-5964.

Upcoming Dates: Sept 27, Oct 11, 25, Nov 8, 22, Dec 13 from 7:00 to 8:30 am in the Community Room. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

Knight of the Month

Knight Person of the Month- September:

Paul Lothschutz

Knight Family of the Month- September:

John & Christina Withers Family

The Knight Person / Family of the month is a way of

recognizing someone who has gone above and beyond, or done something extra for the council or our church community. Congratulations and Thank you for service and commitment to our Parish Family!

Monthly Charitable Donation

Lori's Voice

Fall Scrap Metal Drive - September 26-29

Trash Bin will be in the Parish Hall Parking Lot.

Start saving your scrap now.

All proceeds benefit the K of C charitable donations.

Items not taken: TV's, freezers, refrigerators, air conditioners (anything with Freon or oil/fluids in it)

Items taken: scrap metal, old metal equipment / implements, washers, driers, engines & transmissions with all fluid drained.

Contact: Grand Knight:

Bruce Kamp: b.kamp@charter.net / Phone 616-780-4941



Giving Back to God

Mass: Attendance 9/14	146
Adult Contributions	\$2201.00
Children Contributions	\$7.32
Loose Contributions	\$241.00
Capital Improvement	\$120.00
Online Giving	\$1973.00
Total	\$4542.32
Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget	\$5471.81
Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD-Actual	+3316.59

Thank you for your continued support and generosity! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions.



Welcome to the Cluster Parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael

St. Michael's Parish News

Scrip News— Thank you to our 11 families that purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$69.30.



St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Marvin Hecksel, Payton Patterson, Pat Harlett, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Faith Formation Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now enrolling. Attention families with children ages 3 through grades 8. You can find registration forms on the parish website and forms are also located in the church narthex. **Classes have started. It is not too late to join us.**



Attention parents of 1st or 7th graders:

First graders' Parents! Do you know of a child that is attending first grade at a public school this fall? Please have their families contact the Parish Office now so that we can be sure to sign them up for Wednesday night classes. If a child is anticipating receiving their First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation, they will have to complete one year of Catechism class prior to preparing for these sacraments in second grade.

Do you have a seventh grader or know one? Confirmation preparation begins in the seventh grade. If you know a student in seventh grade this fall, please spread the word to their parents now. They can still attend Faith Formation class.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: CLW program is offered on Sunday during 8:30 Masses. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week as we pray, read and explore the Sunday Gospel from a child's viewpoint. We include the Gospel Acclamation so children understand the importance of preparing our mind and heart for the Gospel reading. **CLW will resume next Sunday, September 28th.** Today's Gospel Jesus tells us that those who can be trusted in small things are those who will be trusted in big things. Practicing honesty and reliability helps us become honest and reliable people.

Elementary Faith Formation: The elementary program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesday from 6:00- 7:30 pm in the parish school. Registration forms are in the back of church and on the parish website. **Classes have started, but It is not too late to join us.**

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 meet on Sundays from 9:45-11:15am in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation. Our programs are on Summer break. Class will resume on Sunday, September 28th.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Caroline Idziak
by Bob Idziak

Thank You!



Thank You!! Thank you to EVERYONE who worked so tirelessly to make this year's festival a big success. We will have final numbers to report in the coming weeks, but we could not have pulled it off without the efforts of our co-chairpeople Cindy Bleckley and Cindy Lindberg, and the countless volunteers who gave of their time, talent and treasures. Thank You!



What is it? The PaperGator® is a fundraiser where St. Michael's is paid to collect paper products for recycling.

What CAN go in the bins?
Newsprint
Catalogs/Magazines
Junk Mail
Phone Books
Office/School paper
Hard and soft cover books

What CANNOT go in the bins?
Paperboard
(Grocery Item boxes)
Plastic
Metal
Trash
Glass
Cardboard

Giving Back to God

September 13/14

Mass Attendance: 9/6- 4:00PM:	90
Mass Attendance: 9/7: 8:30 PM	188
Adult Envelopes	\$8,491.00
Loose Cash	\$253.00
Children's Envelopes	\$67.93
Total	\$8,811.93
<i>Weekly Offertory Needed for Budget</i>	\$5,297.00
<i>Offertory-YTD Budget vs YTD Actual</i>	+\$7,903.55

Thank you for your continued support!

Online Giving — Now there's an even more convenient way to contribute to St. Michael's! To donate now, open your phone camera, scan the QR code and follow instructions. Or text the word GIVE to: 616-384-5011.



September 21, 2025 ~ The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

How a Prophet Makes a Profit

An enormous amount of everyone's time is taken up with managing: office work, housework, desk work, shop work, yard work, homework—these all involve the use and management of material things or of one's own skills and opportunities. This is so much a part of human life that our Lord gives us a special teaching on how to manage what is ours.

Contrary to what we might expect, Jesus doesn't urge us just to give away or forget about material things; he advises us to use them, and to use them to our own advantage! But because Jesus came to "make everything new," and because he is the Good News of human history, we expect him to say something new and radically different about how to turn to our best advantage all the money, property and talents we have. He does.

He begins with a fairly obvious but generally forgotten principle: "Look ahead." Jesus is a proponent of long-range planning. Good managers ask, "Where do you want to be and what do you want to be doing five years from now? Ten years? Twenty years?" Jesus asks, "What do you want your life to be like ninety years from now?" He suggests we think about it in detail.

His second principle is the ponder package. "What really lasts," Jesus says, "is people." When there is no more work to do, either because you are too old to do what is normally looked on as "work"—or because you are "too old" in the sense of having died and passed beyond time—there will still be people to relate to. So, principle number two is: "Use money, property, and all the talents you have to build up your relationship with people." It's a long-term investment.

This is not obvious. It is not accepted as a self-evident principle in our world that the real value of having ability, money and property—even a little—is that you can use what you have to enter into lasting relationships with other persons—including the three divine Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. But this is the real value, in having anything: strength, beauty, health, talent, skills, popularity, position, prestige. The only real value in any of these things is that they can all be used

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8;
Luke 16:1-13

to build up deep, loving, lasting relationships between you and God and other people. To understand this is to know the secret of profitable ownership, profitable management of all that is yours.

The logical move at this point would be to ask, "How does one go about doing this? How can you use your talents, position, property and other advantages to help other people and to serve God?" And until we do ask this question and come to concrete answers, we have not responded to these words of God. But there is another question we need to ask first. It is the question of faith: "Do you really believe what Jesus teaches here? And do you understand how radical it is?"

Unless you understand that Jesus is inviting you to a radical change of outlook, you won't really understand what he is saying. He is not just urging us to be service-oriented people and adopt an attitude of willingness to help others in everything we do. The Boy Scouts and the Rotary Club teach this. Jesus is not just counseling unselfishness or service as the way to be happy. He is calling us to look at everything we have in a radically new way; to see our every skill, talent, opportunity and possession as something given to us to manage, to use, to invest for one single purpose: the forging of an unbreakable bond between ourselves, God and other people. What he is saying here is an echo of what he said the Sunday before last (Luke 14:25-33) and the Sunday before that (Luke 14:7-14). To be disciples of Jesus we must renounce all use of material goods that does not



have God and love for others as its goal, and we must dedicate ourselves to serving others in everything we do. This is the Good News proclaimed in this reading.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Twenty-Fifth Week of the Year

Pray daily: Lord, I believe in you as the Teacher of Life, the Master of the Way. Make my faith practical. Show me how to base my lifestyle on the wisdom you revealed. Amen.

Monday: Luke 8:16-18: Jesus said, "Pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given, and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away." Do you really "have" Jesus as a teacher and guide for your life? How much attention do you pay to his words and example? What difference have they made in your life?

Tuesday: Luke 8:19-21: Jesus said, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and act on it." What words of Jesus did you consciously put into practice yesterday? Which ones will you act on today? Do you feel as close to Jesus as his mother and brothers?

Wednesday: Luke 9:1-6: Jesus sent the twelve to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither walking stick, nor sack, nor food, nor money, and let no one take a second tunic." These instructions were not meant to be taken literally (see John 13:29). Does that dispense us from observing what he meant by them? What was the point Jesus was making? How do his instructions give a special tone to your life?

Thursday: Luke 9:7-9: Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was happening, and said, "Who then is this about whom I hear such things?" And he kept trying to see Jesus. Do you show as much interest in learning about Jesus as Herod did? How did Herod respond in action to what he heard about Jesus? How do I?

Friday: Luke 9:18-22: Once when Jesus was praying in solitude, and the disciples were with him, he asked

them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?... Who do you say that I am?" How would you answer this question? Could you answer it without words, just by pointing to your actions?

Saturday: Luke 9:43-45: Jesus said, "Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands." But they did not understand this saying; its meaning was concealed from them so that they should not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying. Are you afraid to follow up on some of the sayings of Jesus? Which ones have you thought about until they led you to change something in your behavior or lifestyle?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Make a list of the things you do every day, regularly. Next to each write the value, fulfillment or satisfaction you are seeking through each one of them. Ask if you are seeking greater closeness with God in each one.

As Disciple: Use the same list, and write after each thing you do the value or teaching of Jesus Christ that inspires you to do it. Use his words if possible.

As Prophet: Put up a sign where you work: "The goal of this business is to make prophets." See how many people think it is a misspelling.

As Priest: In everything you do this week, consciously ask how this is contributing to your relationship with other people. How could it?

As King: Draw up a "personal stock portfolio." Make a list of what you are investing in what: for example, how much time and money in your house, career development, retirement, medical insurance, in maintenance of your health and appearance, your personal relationships and so on. Include in it how much time and money you are investing in knowing Jesus more intimately, in understanding his teachings more deeply, in God's eternal retirement plan, in establishing the reign of God on earth.

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