

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES

CATHOLIC CHURCH  
AND SCHOOL

JUNE 18, 2023

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



### RECONCILIATION

Sat. 3:00-4:00pm

Wed. 12:00-12:30pm

### MASS TIMES

Sat. 9am, 5:00pm Sun. 9:00am, 11:30am,  
1:30pm (Español), 5:00pm

Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri. 8:30am

Wed. 9:00am Jueves. 6:30pm (Español)

### PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel is open 24/7

For Baptism, Matrimony and  
Anointing, please call the  
parish office.



## PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Patrick A. Keane, Pastor**  
(919) 861-4604

**Chris Sutton, Principal**  
(919) 861-4610, [csutton@olls.org](mailto:csutton@olls.org)

**Jannine LeBlanc, Assistant Principal**  
(919) 861-4623, [jleblanc@olls.org](mailto:jleblanc@olls.org)

**Deacon Byron Champagne**  
Adult Faith Formation/Stewardship & Engagement Coordinator  
(919) 861-4614, [bchampagne@ourladyoflourdescc.org](mailto:bchampagne@ourladyoflourdescc.org)

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[mcharlesworth@ourladyoflourdescc.org](mailto:mcharlesworth@ourladyoflourdescc.org)

**Deacon Tom Mack**  
[tmack@ourladyoflourdescc.org](mailto:tmack@ourladyoflourdescc.org)

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**Joshua Gusman, Director of Liturgy & Music**  
(919) 861-4611, [jgusman@ourladyoflourdescc.org](mailto:jgusman@ourladyoflourdescc.org)

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**Arielle Lapid, Interim Fallon Center Coordinator**  
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### Pastoral Council

Chair: Jennifer Williams  
(919) 755-6287

Bob Bowerman  
Lauren Hackett  
Jason Lemansky  
Tom Longo  
Barbara McMorran  
Kenya Reynard  
Kelli Cross

### Finance Council

Chair: Jeff Yardley  
(919) 219-0752

Ellen Crowley  
Kate Duncan  
Tom Dunham  
Jason Sandner  
Curt Williams

### School Advisory

Chair: Reed Murphy  
(919) 624-0298

Dcn. Byron Champagne  
Kelli Cross  
Cara Fothergill  
Cathy Gephart  
Anne Holder  
Jannine LeBlanc  
Marjorie Shaughnessy  
Chris Sutton

## PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Active members of our parish are identified by their generosity of time, talent and treasure.

## NOTICE

## CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, JUNE 17

9:00am - † Bobby Worsham  
5:00pm - Charlie Gutekunst

### SUNDAY, JUNE 18

9:00am - † Michael Doran  
11:30am - Holy Souls in Purgatory  
(Español) 1:30pm - Pro Populo  
5:00pm - † Rosella Mary Eilert

### MONDAY, JUNE 19

8:30am - † Charles Joseph Villa Verde  
8:30am - Lefebvre Family

### TUESDAY, JUNE 20

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

9:00am - Elizabeth Reese

### THURSDAY, JUNE 22

8:30am - † Thomas B. Aldridge, Jr.  
(Español) 6:30pm - Pro Populo

### FRIDAY, JUNE 23

8:30am - † Ron Franzel

### SATURDAY, JUNE 24

9:00am - † James & Rosemary Opeka  
5:00pm - † Jim Ambrose

### SUNDAY, JUNE 25

9:00am - † Pat Steele  
11:30am - † Kay & Anne Marie Bittle  
(Español) 1:30pm - Pro Populo  
5:00pm - † Joseph Robert Fink

**Regular  
Office Hours**

Monday - Friday  
8:30am - 4pm

**Website**

[ourladyoflourdescc.org](http://ourladyoflourdescc.org)

**OLL Flocknote**

[ollraleigh.flocknote.com](http://ollraleigh.flocknote.com)

**Adoration Chapel**  
[oll.weadorehim.com](http://oll.weadorehim.com)

## THE MISSION OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

is to invite and lead all people to know and love Jesus Christ and to live their Catholic faith through word, sacrament, community, evangelization and service.

## MINISTERIO HISPANO

### HISPANIC MINISTRY

Oficina Parroquial: 919-861-4600

La Misión de la Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes es invitar y dirigir a todas las personas a conocer y amar a Jesucristo a vivir su fe Católica a través de la palabra, los sacramentos, la comunidad, la evangelización y el servicio.

#### **Enlace Misas en Vivo por Youtube:** (Youtube Live stream)

Para unirse en cualquier momento con las misas celebradas en Nuestra Señora de Lourdes en directo por nuestro canal de Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/OurLadyofLourdesCCRaleigh>

#### **Comité Ministerio Hispano**

*Hispanic Ministry Commtte*

Roderico Roblero: (919) 986-5294

Yulisa Díaz: (919) 798-8338

Alberto Borrayes

Celeny Arreaga

Edvin Chaj

Fernando Velásquez.

#### **Coordinadores Ministerio Hispano**

*Hispanic Ministry Coordinators*

Bautismo (clases): Edilmar López 919-349-5036

Coros: Juan Gómez 919-896-0849

Eventos: Laura Rosas 919-576-6111

Formación Adultos: Filomeno Méndez 919-559-8314

Grupo de Mujeres: Ilda Baltazar 919-601-8032

Grupo de Oración: Celeny Arreaga 919-641-9792

Jóvenes Adultos: José Velásquez 843-492-8103

Lectores: Hortencia Escobar 919-592-3872

M. Extraordinarios: Jesús Méndez 919-819-7007

Monaguillos: Dominica Díaz 919-822-4224

Santo Rosario: Carmela Roblero 919-454-5251

Sacristanes: Orlando Morales 919-338-4384

Visita Enfermos: Darinel Morales 919-428-8691

Ujieres: Maribel González 919-345-1943

#### **HORARIO MISAS EN ESPAÑOL**

Jueves 6:30 pm

Domingos 1:30 pm

#### **HORARIO MISAS EN INGLES**

Lunes, Martes, Jueves y Viernes 8:30 am

Miércoles 9:00 am Sábados 9:00 am y 5:00 pm

Domingos 9:00 am, 11:30 am y 5:00 pm

#### **CONFESIONES**

Miércoles (Inglés): 12:00 pm, hasta las 12:30 p.m.

Jueves (Español): Después de la misa de las 6:30 pm.

Sábados: (Inglés/Español) 3:00 p.m.

#### **BAUTISMOS PARA NIÑOS MENORES DE 7 AÑOS**

##### **Requisitos:**

- Papás tienen que estar registrados en nuestra parroquia.
- Presentar copia del acta de nacimiento del niño(a)
- Llenar la forma pre-bautismal.
- Papás y padrinos asistir a la platica pre-bautismal y a la misa.
- Los padrinos no pueden estar viviendo en unión libre.

Para más información , comunicarse con:  
Edilmar López al: 919-349-5036



**VISITANDO Y LLEVANDO**  
**LA COMUNIÓN A LOS ENFERMOS**

*Pastoral Care*

Si usted tiene algún familiar o conocido de la comunidad que se encuentre enfermo y desea que se le visite, bien sea en la casa donde éste reside u hospital, o se le lleve la Santa Comunión, puede comunicarse con **Darinel Morales** al 919-428-8691.

**GRUPO DE JOVENES ADULTOS 18 a 30 años**

*Hispanic Young Adult Group*

El Grupo de Jóvenes Adultos se reúnen todos los domingos de 10:00 am a 12:00 pm en el Salón 202 del Fallon Center

El Grupo Jóvenes de Adultos se reúne para tratar temas diversos que les ayudan en su crecimiento Espiritual, Emocional y desarrollo de liderazgo. Además de organizar diversas actividades que motive a los jóvenes a participar de la vida y misión de la iglesia.

Para más información, comunicarse con:  
José Velásquez al: 843-492-8103

**BODAS / MATRIMONIOS**

*Wedding*

Está pensando en casarse por la Iglesia?

El primer paso, es hacer una cita con el Padre Patrick Keane (el habla español). 919-861-4600

Para más información, sobre el proceso para contraer matrimonio, por favor comunicarse con:  
Roderico Roblero: 919-986-5294

**ADORACIÓN PERPETUA ANTE**  
**JESÚS SACRAMENTADO**

Nuestra Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes tiene una Capilla para la Adoración Perpetua las 24 Horas.

Todos estamos invitados a pasar unos momentos orando en silencio ante la presencia de nuestro Señor Jesús Sacramentado.

**GRUPO DE ORACION**

*Hispanic Prayer Group*

Todos los Viernes a las 7:15 p.m. en el Salón Fallon Center.

El Grupo de Oración tiene como objetivo fortalecer la fe de sus miembros y acercarlos mas a Dios a través de Oración, predicas y alabanzas.

Para más información comunicarse con:  
Celeny Arreaga al: 919-641-9792

**GRUPO DE MUJERES**

*Hispanic Women Group*

El Grupo de Mujeres se reúne todos los sábados de 6:30 pm a 8:30 pm en el salón 201 del Fallon Center.

El Grupo de Mujeres tiene como objetivo ayudar a las Mujeres a descubrir y fortalecer su identidad, así mismo incrementar y empoderar su autoestima y por supuesto mejorar su relación con Dios y su relación matrimonial y su rol como madre.

Para más información, comunicarse con:  
Hilda Baltazar al: 919-601-8032

**Clases de Catecismo Para Adultos**

*Faith Formation Claeses for Adults*

Este programa es para personas mayores de 17 años que no estén bautizadas y para personas que solamente les hace falta la Primera Comunión y la Confirmación.

Este programa de formación de adultos es también para personas que deseen convertirse al catolicismo y para aquellos bautizados que deseen aprender un poco mas de su fe católica.

**Requisitos:**

- Llenar la forma de registro.
- Para los que no están bautizados, presentar el acta de nacimiento.
- Para los que le hace falta la primera comunión y confirmación, presentar el certificado de bautismo.

Para más información, comunicarse con:  
Filomeno Méndez al: 919-559-8314



# PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

## SANCTUARY CANDLES

A 14-day  
CHURCH SANCTUARY  
CANDLE  
will burn  
in thanksgiving for  
Maria Carbone House  
from Anne Suber

A 14-day  
CHAPEL SANCTUARY  
CANDLE  
will burn  
for the the intentions of  
Dennis & Linda  
Redoblado

## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are  
*in loving memory of Joseph J Bernardi*  
from family

## OFFERTORY

**OLL SCHOOL EXPANSION FUND:  
BUILDING THE LEGACY**

**\$65,306.20**

The Second Collection for the first weekend of each month will no longer be called Debt Reduction but "Capital Improvement Fund".

50% will go towards the OLL School Expansion and the other 50% towards the Future Building Fund for the Parish which will address future needs for the Church, Office, Fallon Center, or Rectory. As usual, if checks are marked for a certain purpose, (such as OLL School Expansion,) 100% of that check will go towards the School Expansion even if dropped into the second collection.

Thank you for the generosity and great love of the parish that has been shown over the course of our debt reduction campaign. May God continue to bless you always!

## Pro-Life Corner

### Special Blessing of a Child in the Womb



Expectant parents and their families are invited to participate in a ceremony to bless their child in the womb, which will be held during the **9:00 Mass on June 25**, here at OLL. Please contact Kathy or Bob Klein at 919-815-1369 or blk4jnm@gmail.com if you would like to participate **no later than Wednesday, June 21.**

## The Bishop's Annual Appeal is in progress.

Statistics for Our Lady of Lourdes are as follows.

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| PARISH GOAL                            | <b>\$219,962.59</b> |
| Amount Given                           | <b>\$175,683</b>    |
| Percent of Goal                        | <b>80%</b>          |
| Number of Donors                       | <b>355</b>          |
| The pledge average is <b>\$597.61.</b> |                     |

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## Toddler Time Shower



Catholic Parish Outreach needs your help in restocking their clothing for toddlers and preschoolers! As rent and food prices have soared, CPO clients cannot stretch their dollars far enough to cover new clothing for growing little ones. CPO is happy to accept new and gently used clothing for all seasons.

**Please look at the list of needed items and consider bringing your donations to OLL the weekend of June 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Monetary donations are very welcome, too, and checks can be made payable to "Catholic Parish Outreach". Thank you!

- Clothing, sizes 3T-6T (new or gently used)
- Preschool Shoes
- Preschool Socks
- Preschool Underwear (new 2T-6T)
- Diapers, sizes 4 to 6
- Wipes
- Infant Formula, milk-based only
- Baby Food, stages 1-3
- Baby Shampoo

NO car seats, please

## MASS ATTENDANCE Weekend of June 11

**5pm Saturday: 191**

**9am Sunday: 395**

**11:30am Sunday: 278**

**1:30pm Sunday: 364**

**5pm Sunday: 182**

**TOTAL: 1,410**

*Please Pray for  
our Sick &  
Suffering*

FRANK BELL  
ALICE CARRIGER  
KATHLEEN CHARLESWORTH  
MYLES CHARLESWORTH  
JANET CHIAVETTA  
DANA CASH  
ELEANORA CEFALU  
CAROL CUSIMANO  
ANDREW DILILLO

BARBARA GRANT  
LOUISE GUYTON  
GREG HOBBS  
JOE KORST  
ANNETTE LEFEBVRE  
LIZ LORSCHIEDER  
FRANK JANASIEWICZ  
DEACON TOM MACK  
ED MACKO

EILEEN MACKO  
ANN MARCO  
CHRISTINE MARTIN  
JULIA MEYERS  
LOUISE NANCE  
RICHARD POLLARD  
IRMA CRUZ-QUINONES  
MARY REDMOND  
DAN & KAREN RITCHIE

JOELLE ROEHRL  
MARY-LOUISE SAUTER  
ALLISEN SCHULT  
NANCY URBEN



# Pilgrimages with Fr. Pat Keane

[www.pilgrimages.com/frkeane](http://www.pilgrimages.com/frkeane)



## ❖ Medjugorje - \$2,664

**October 26 - November 3, 2023**

Visit the Holy sites of Medjugorje including Apparition Hill, Cross Mountain, St. James Parish, and the Risen Christ statue have been visited by 40 million people. You may do Medjugorje only, or continue with two days in Dubrovnik.

## ❖ Medjugorje & Dubrovnik - \$3,014

**October 26 - November 5, 2023**

After pilgrimage to Medjugorje and Mass for the day, take two additional days to visit one of the best preserved 600 year old cities in the world, still occupied by 5,000 inhabitants.

## ❖ The Holy Land - \$6,168

**May 19-28, 2024**

Tel Aviv · Caesarea · Nazareth · Cana · Tiberias · Sea of Galilee · Jordan River · Mt. Tabor · Jerusalem · Gethsemane · Ein Karem · Bethlehem · Qumran · Jericho · Dead Sea · Mt. of Olives · Mt. Zion · Church of the Holy Sepulchre

## ❖ Jordan & The Holy Land - \$7,198

**May 16-28, 2024**

Amman · Petra · Kerak · Madaba · Mt. Nebo · Jerash  
as well as the Holy Land destinations listed above

### TRIPS INCLUDE...

- † Round-trip airfare
- † Airport taxes & fuel surcharges
- † Centrally located first class hotel
- † Transfers as per itinerary
- † Tour escort throughout
- † Breakfast & Dinner daily
- † Wine with dinners
- † Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- † Daily Mass & spiritual activities

...and more; see individual trip listings





# The Litany of St. Joseph

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† Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**  
Jesus, hear us.  
**Jesus, graciously  
hear us.**  
God, the Father of Heaven,  
**Have mercy on us.**  
God, the Son, Redeemer of the  
world,  
**Have mercy on us.**  
God, the Holy Spirit,  
**Have mercy on us.**  
Holy Trinity, One God,  
**Have mercy on us.**  
Holy Mary,  
**Pray for us.**  
St. Joseph,  
**Pray for us.**  
Renowned offspring of David,  
**Pray for us.**  
Light of Patriarchs,  
**Pray for us.**  
Spouse of the Mother of God,  
**Pray for us.**

Chaste guardian of the Virgin,  
**Pray for us.**  
Foster father of the Son of  
God,  
**Pray for us.**  
Diligent protector of Christ,  
**Pray for us.**  
Head of the Holy Family,  
**Pray for us.**  
Joseph most just,  
**Pray for us.**  
Joseph most chaste,  
**Pray for us.**  
Joseph most prudent,  
**Pray for us.**  
Joseph most strong,  
**Pray for us.**  
Joseph most obedient,  
**Pray for us.**  
Joseph most faithful,  
**Pray for us.**  
Mirror of patience,  
**Pray for us.**  
Lover of poverty,  
**Pray for us.**  
Model of artisans,  
**Pray for us.**

Glory of home life,  
**Pray for us.**  
Guardian of virgins,  
**Pray for us.**  
Pillar of families,  
**Pray for us.**  
Solace of the wretched,  
**Pray for us.**  
Hope of the sick,  
**Pray for us.**  
Patron of the dying,  
**Pray for us.**  
Terror of demons,  
**Pray for us.**  
Protector of the Holy Church,  
**Pray for us.**  
Lamb of God, who takes away  
the sins of the world,  
**Spare us, O Lord.**  
Lamb of God, who takes away  
the sins of the world,  
**Graciously hear us,  
O Lord.**  
Lamb of God, who takes away  
the sins of the world,  
**Have mercy on us.**

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He made him the lord of his household,  
**And prince over all his possessions.**

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**Let us pray.**

O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother; grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector: You who live and reign forever and ever.

**St. Joseph, pray for us.**



# St. Joseph, Model of Fathers

In the litany of St. Joseph, we say, “St. Joseph, Head of the Holy Family, pray for us.” There is more hidden behind this invocation than meets the eye.

We know, of course, that Mary is the Virgin Mother of Jesus Christ. We know that the Savior was not conceived of a human father. Yet the Church has never tired of insisting on the fatherhood of St. Joseph in the Holy Family.

It is crucially important to understand that there are two levels to fatherhood. There is the physical level of providing for the conception of a human body. In this sense, Christ did not have a human father.

But a father is not only to cooperate with his wife in generating a child. He is also to cooperate with her in rearing the offspring which his spouse brings into the world.

From all eternity, Joseph was destined to be the spouse of the Blessed Virgin. They were truly married. Joseph was Mary’s husband, and she was his wife.

Marriage is the most intimate of all unions between two human beings. It imparts a community of gifts between those joined together in matrimony. Consequently, in giving Joseph the Blessed Virgin as his spouse, God appointed him to be not only her life’s companion, but also the witness of her virginity, the protector of her honor. By reason of his conjugal tie to Mary, he participated in her sublime dignity.

We cannot exaggerate the importance of seeing St. Joseph as the true spouse of Mary. Under God, he was to share in her unique role as Mother of the Word made flesh who dwelt among us.

St. Luke tells us that, on returning to Nazareth after Mary and Joseph found the young Christ in the temple, “Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and grace before God and men (Luke 2:52)”.

What are we being told? We are being told that the Christ child constantly manifested greater wisdom as he grew in age. In God’s mysterious providence, both Mary and Joseph contributed to this manifestation of greater wisdom in Jesus.

**We return to our main theme: that St. Joseph is the divinely revealed model of human fatherhood.** We know only too well that a man can father a child in body without even being married to the mother of his offspring.

True fatherhood begins with a lifetime commitment of the husband to his wife.

True fatherhood builds on the selfless love of the husband for his wife.

True fatherhood depends on the generous love of the husband for the offspring of his wife.

True fatherhood means that the husband cooperates with his wife in the spiritual upbringing of the children.

True fatherhood therefore, is not only or even mainly generating a human body in this world. It is also and mainly collaborating with the mother in developing the human soul for everlasting life in eternity.

How, then, is St. Joseph the exemplar of fatherhood? He is the prototype of what all human fathers should be; and so they should reflect, in their families, the seven virtues which the Church specially honors in St. Joseph’s relationship to Jesus and Mary.



# 74 received 1st Holy Communion



## First Holy Communion

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Eleanor Elizabeth Coltrera*

*Lillian Gray Coltrera*

*Elizabeth Scott Botzum*

*Charlotte Elizabeth Dunn*

*Daniel Hayes Mitcho*

*Anita Therese Kathleen O'Dwyer*

*Rowan Jane Bunting*

*Tilghman Douglas Rorie*

*Caroline James Maxwell*

*Adeline Ann Day*

*Adair Lang Boyle*

*Marrianna Claire Prevost*

*Taylor Grace Reynard*

*Arwen Addison Reynard*

*Avrie Madison Reynard*

*Brooke Lauren Reynard*

*Benjamin Church Votta*

*Gabrielle Faith Asucion Carbonera*

*Liana Nuñez*

*John Dean Patrick Walpole*

*Sofia Ana Cadei*

*Brianna Mendoza-Gonzalez*

*Marisa Lynn Szymusiak*

*Addison Rose Szymusiak*

*Haley Nella Clifford*

*Remington John Coble*

*Cassidy Harper*

*Alexandra O'Neal Lupton*

*Fiona Ivy McDermott*

*Finnegan Joseph McDermott*

*Christopher Matthew Patrick*

*Cullen Christopher Spangler*

*Luka Hudson Vukina*

*Mary Jessica Yardley*

*Quy Hoang Duong*

*Caroline Anne LaNasa*

*Lilly Grace Murphy*

*Jack Thomas Rupert*

*Lottie Clare Spivey*

*Edward Townes Spivey*

*Olivia Gutierrez*

*Miles Robert Traquena Neylan*

*Dylan Matthew Reddy*

*Leydi Edith Diaz Morales*

*Juan Jesus Mejia Sánchez*

*Gavin Matthew Gomoll*

*Kassandra Breedlove*

*Adam Moore*

*Dane Bradshaw*

*Emily Greene*

*Lily Maureen Richardson*

*Ryan Thomas Richardson*

*Drew Michael Richardson*

*Henry Franklin Wharam*

*Margaret Evelyn Darst*

*Abigail Gonzalez*

*Victoria Leonardo Herrera*

*Eunice Niangkhawn Lun*

*Olivia Carvalho Parpinelli*

*Allison Sofia Ramirez Gama*

*Belinda Yurid Velásquez Roblero*

*Daleny Rosio Velásquez Roblero*

*Yostin Francisco Arreaga Morales*

*Jaquelin Morales Hernandez*

*Jimmy Benigno Velasquez-Bartolon*

*Brody Michael Munson*

*Ellie Addison Parsley*

*Dax Sydney Parsley*

*Cade Walker Parsley*

*Aidan Francis Rizzo*

*Brynleigh McKenna Martinez*

*Eric Matthew Kirkman*

*Yakelin Rocío Velasquez Velasquez*

*Carter Felts Castro*



When Venerable Augustus Tolton was born, his parents were enslaved in Missouri. His mom took Augustus and his siblings and escaped to Illinois. Augustus wanted to become a priest, but faced racism throughout his education. Eventually he travelled to Rome to go to a seminary and became a priest! When he came back to serve as a priest in the United States, some people weren't willing to listen. However, Venerable Augustus continued to serve and pray.



**Catholic Kids** Bulletin

June 18, 2023  
Ordinary Time  
Color: Green

JLKEJWWIPOIKJAREOWAHISOE

Б.ЖКОЕВ | ОЧКЕОУКАР

We are His  
people, the  
sheep of His  
flock.

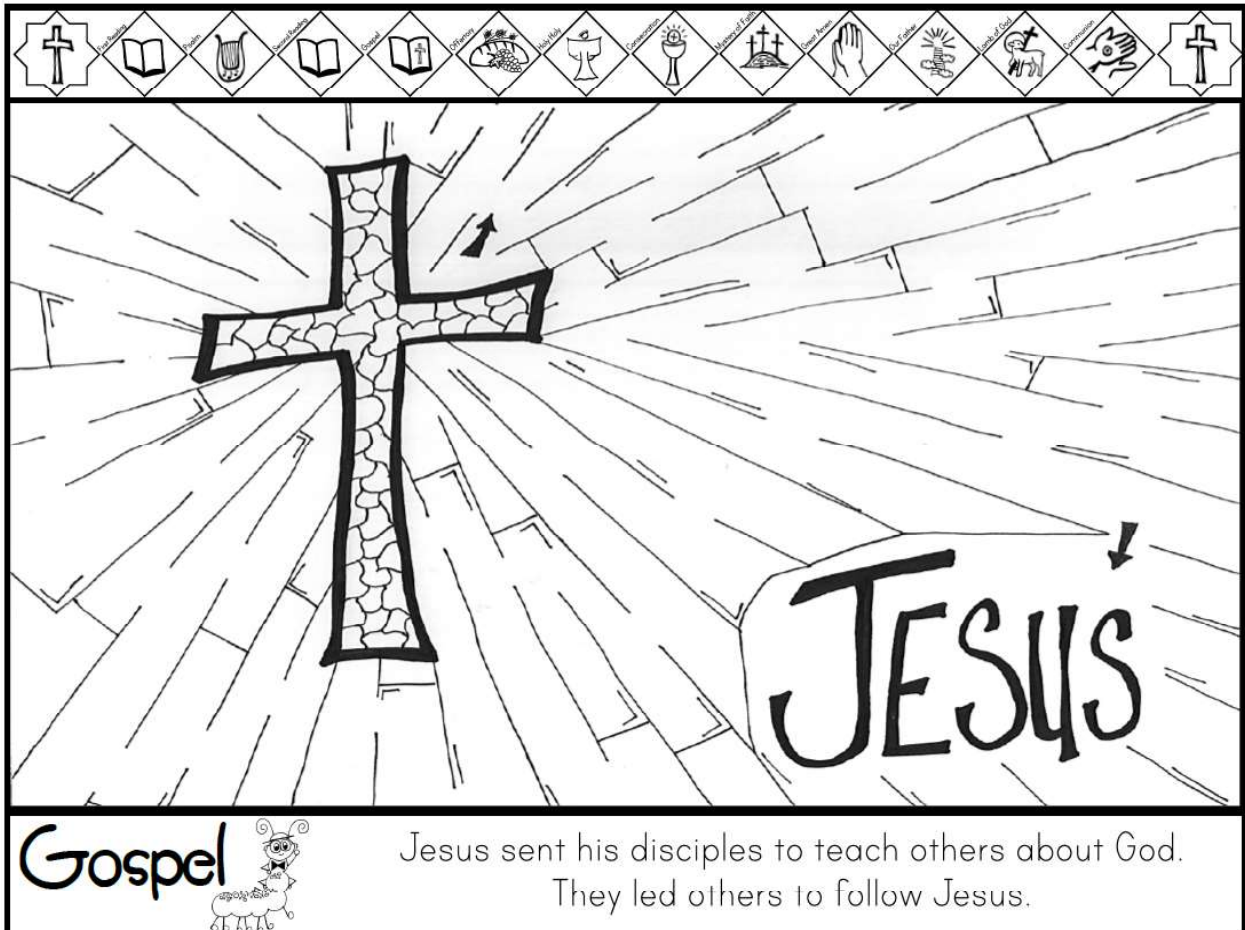
WEAPOPLEKWO THEIW

BLWEKHSHEEPPFOFPAJHISOWKE



How can you be a disciple  
and teach others about  
Jesus?

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## ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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On the Gospel of this day ; St. Matthew 9 :36 , 10 :8

**“Jesus had compassion for them.”** Who were the "crowds" on whom he had compassion? Among them were tax-collectors who cheated, robbers who robbed, murderers who murdered, harlots who lived lives of unchastity, adulterers who violated their marriage vows, nominal believers in God who never went to the temple or honored God in private. These may have been a minority, but there was no town or district in Palestine of that time in which some, or all such sinners, could not be found. Yet Jesus, who read their innermost minds, had pity on them for he saw that most, if not all of these sinners, acted through ignorance and through lack of instruction. They were lost sheep because they had no shepherd to lead them. The exalted opinion of their own sanctity that their official teachers had, caused them to shun the people, lest they be contaminated.

Christ said the harvest of such poor, misguided souls was plentiful and he needed more harvesters. That, indeed, was true in his day, but it is a hundred percent truer today. Any of our modern larger cities today has a population greater than the whole of Palestine in Christ's day. And the percentage of sinners in these cities would be greater, not less, than the percentage of sinners then in Palestine.

Christ too is unchanged. He still has compassion for today's sinners and wants them to be saved, not lost. But for this he needs "harvesters," apostles, who will help him. Here is where all good Christians, all who really love God and their neighbor, must help. He is not asking us to give up our present occupation, or to leave home and family to become priests or missionaries. The work we can do and which he is asking us to do is on our very doorsteps. In some cases it is inside—in our own homes.

The first movement towards this apostolate to our fellow men is to show the good example of a truly Christian life. In the home and in our place of employment, example may go unnoticed or sometimes even be ridiculed by the very ones who need it, but with the grace of God, which always accompanies it, it will eventually produce good fruit. There are thousands of men and women in heaven today who owe their salvation, under God, to the good example of a sincere Christian neighbor. After good example, comes good advice. A suggestion, a hint, an encouragement, kindly and charitably offered, may often turn a neighbor from evil ways. This good advice must always be humbly and charitably given. Nobody, a sinner least of all, wants to be lectured or "preached at." St. Francis de Sales, the gentlest of apostles, said that one will catch more flies with a spoonful of honey than with a barrel of vinegar. There are pious Christians who abhor sin so much that they abhor and repel the sinner, as well. In this, they are more pharisaical than Christlike. He abhorred sin, but he still loved the sinner and wanted him saved.

The harvest is plentiful; indeed it is huge. But let not its huge size frighten us. If everyone reaps his own corner, we shall all meet in the center of the harvest-field some day.