



CHRIST THE KING PARISH

Saint Athanasius Church
300 Haverhill Street
Reading, MA

Saint Agnes Church
186 Woburn Street
Reading, MA

September 10, 2023



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"For where two or three are gathered together in
my name, there am I in the midst of them."*

Matthew 18:20

Grateful Discipleship

Grateful Discipleship, what does this mean? Last year, you may recall, we initiated an effort asking each of us to prayerfully consider how we share our Time, Talent and Treasure in our Parish Community. Grateful Discipleship is an opportunity for all of us to be an active part of our faith community, and for each

parishioner to practice the principles of stewardship: giving back a portion of our blessings to God.

Remember, giving opportunities come in many forms - not just financial. Give of yourself as a volunteer. Set aside time for prayer and spiritual growth. You could commit a portion of your time to saying the Rosary or attending daily Mass. You could commit a portion of your talents to volunteering in the Parish. You could commit to a nominal increase to your regular offertory. In the next two weeks, we are asked to consider how we prioritize our time, talent, and treasure. May we contemplate our blessings and prayerfully consider setting aside the "first fruits of our labors" by making a commitment to our church to further our goal of being a vibrant, active, faith-filled community.

Will you help work toward this goal? The weekend of September 23/24 is our Parish's annual Grateful Discipleship kick-off. On that weekend information packets will be on hand at both churches, containing an information on Grateful Discipleship and the 2023 Annual Grateful Discipleship Commitment form. After you discuss your current situation with your family, we ask that you indicate how you might be able to help our parish in the coming year and return the Commitment form by Discipleship Weekend which is October 7th and 8th. All parishioners will be asked to make their decisions by that day.

Some of the Fruits of the 2022 Grateful Discipleship Expansion of the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Prep Team; Newly created Bereavement Ministry to offer comfort cards to grieving family members; Expanded Consolation Ministry to accompany families in planning the Funeral Mass; Newly created Parish Office Volunteer Team

Over these next weeks, please keep your love of Jesus and the needs of our Parish in prayer.

OUTDOOR MASS, ST. ATHANASIUS - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 10:30 AM

Join us for our Community's 10:30 AM Outdoor Mass on Sunday, September 17th, at St. Athanasius. Following Mass we will have a picnic - a wonderful way for us to come together as One Body In Christ - to Worship and share fellowship. If you are attending another Mass, join us for the picnic at 11:30 AM!

(NOTE: No 10:00 AM or 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, September 17)

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

to help: pre-day Event set up; set up on Event day; break down after event; and Liturgical Ministers. Scan QR-code below to let us know you're coming on to help in this community-wide celebration.



From the Parochial Vicar

Dear Parishioners and Extended Family Members,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Next weekend we will keep in mind the retired priests of the Archdiocese, especially their need for healthcare. Father Ed depends on this collection since he is retired and, therefore, does not have a parish to support him. Please be as generous as you possibly can to this opportunity to give at each of the Masses next weekend.

I have now been your parochial vicar for all of seven months. Time certainly flies! With the help of the parish's staff, I look with anticipation to, once again, "getting up to speed." I am looking forward to celebrating the church's calendar with you, the parishioners, and all that goes with it.

I am looking forward to seeing the increase in Mass attendance as we all return from our respective summers with the accompanying stories to tell. I look forward to hearing our choirs and cantors. I am looking forward to the Faith Formation Program to begin, whether it be the returning students, those who will be attending for the first time, or those Confirmation students in their second year anticipating receiving the Sacrament in the Spring of 2024! It will be a wonderful feeling to greet them as they prepare to learn about our loving and merciful God. I am looking forward to giving children's homilies, as well as hearing the children's answers to my questions. Finally, I look forward to becoming even more familiar with our parish, both with you as individuals and as a community. The Parish Picnic at St. Athanasius next weekend is designed to not only give me the opportunity to do this, but also for everyone who attends.

Next month, our parish will be starting Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 9 AM Mass. We look forward to the first one on Sunday, October 1st. With a new season about to begin in Parish life, and with (God-willing) a feeling of returning to some sense of "normalcy", it is with an air of freshness and a feeling of excitement that we offer a Children's Liturgy of the Word. We are committed to beginning a process that affords uplifting engaging liturgies for the whole family and look forward with anticipation to where this may lead our Parish Community! I would ask that you join us in prayer and support as we embark upon this effort of engagement and support for families raising children. With God's grace we have come to this point, and with God's grace we will continue. Please scan the QR code for Children's Liturgy of the Word details (see page 5). At this time, I, along with the Staff, would like to thank Jess Garrity for her efforts regarding this initiative.

As we "start the parish up" once again, I ask you to please consider your belonging to the parish as part of your identity and as an opportunity to be a part of a community that is united in Christ Jesus. We need each other as signs of hope and encouragement. May God bless you through your faithfulness to the parish.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Fr. Z

This Week in Church Signs:

God answers all knee mail.

Bringing hope and healing through encounters with the Living Christ.

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP SMALL GROUPS - OPENING KICK-OFF IS WEDNESDAY, SEPT 27TH

Faith and Fellowship Small Groups is kicking off it's fall season! Please consider this your personal invitation to join or rejoin.

• Wednesday, September 27 - OPENING CELEBRATION FOR THE NEW SEASON!

7:00 PM Mass at St. Agnes, followed by fellowship at the Parish Center

Learn more about the Faith & Fellowship Small groups at the Outdoor Mass/Picnic on Sunday, September 17th. Find our sign up table, ask questions, join a group!

This session's discussion book, *"Start with Jesus"* by Julianne Stanz - aims to help regular people be transformed from the inside out by growing in relationship with Jesus Christ - and each other - through individual and group experiences, thus transforming our parish communities. The book's true strength lies in its value for the countless Catholics longing for peace, healing, and hope in the context of our parish communities. It will be an inspiration to Catholics who come to Mass each week, parents trying to instill the faith in their children, leaders searching for an effective and sustainable approach to parish renewal, and to all who are curious about developing a relationship with Jesus.

Join a Faith & Fellowship group; it is never too late to *Start With Jesus!*



ARCHDIOCESE SPECIAL COLLECTION: CLERGY TRUST, SEPTEMBER 16/17

Next week's second collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests in good standing throughout the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, please visit www.clergytrust.org

PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS

Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service. Amen.

| | Priests | Seminarians/Deacons |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 10-Sep | Fr. Joseph Rossi | Joe Jasinski |
| 11-Sep | Fr. Charles Hughes | Tim Walsh |
| 12-Sep | All Marists | Brian Daley |
| 13-Sep | Fr. John Currie | Brian Delaney |
| 14-Sep | Fr. Patrick Armano | Triumph of the Holy |
| 15-Sep | Fr. Bruce Flannagan | Dong Pham |
| 16-Sep | Fr. Brian Flynn | Ulises Diaz |



Addressing the food and personal care needs of our neighbors through high quality, respectful service in a welcoming environment, with a goal of enhancing wellbeing in our community.

READING FOOD PANTRY COULD USE YOUR HELP

~ ITEMS IN NEED ARE:

- Laundry Detergent
- Decaf Coffee (reg. & instant)
- Crackers
- Granola Bars
- Cake Mix

A project of the Entire Reading Community, housed at Old South Church, on Reading Common, 6 Salem Street, Reading

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN FOR ADULTS

Protecting God's Children for Adults is an awareness and prevention training for *all parish volunteers involved in any Parish Ministry, aged 18 and older*. This is a 3-hour, one-time only training.

If you have not taken this training, please register for this session.

DATE: Tuesday, September 19, 6:00PM to 9:00PM

LOCATION: St. Agnes Parish Center 2nd Floor

TO REGISTER FOR Protecting God's Children:

Go to <https://www.virtusonline.org/>

Click on "First-Time Registrant"

Click on "Begin the registration Process"

From the pull-down menu, choose "Boston, MA (Archdiocese)," ONLY

Follow the rest of the prompts

Choose date

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

A Children's Liturgy of the Word is a time to hear God's Word at an appropriate level. Children's Liturgy of the Word is not "school", but rather a celebration of the Word proclaimed at Mass in the reading of the Gospel.

We will have Children's Liturgy of the Word on the First Sunday of each month, at the 9:00 AM Mass, beginning Sunday, October 1st.

Please scan the QR-Code for more details, and how you can volunteer to be a part of this.



CATECHIST PLANNING MEETING FOR GRADES 1-8: NEW TEXTBOOKS!

Classes for the 2023/2024 Faith Formation year will kick off in October! As part of the planning, we will have our Catechist Planning Meeting to introduce and go over the materials for this year.

Catechists, NEW and RETURNING: Please plan to attend one of the two scheduled meetings:

- ◆ Tuesday, September 26, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, St. Agnes Parish Center
- ◆ Saturday, September 30, 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM, St. Agnes Parish Center

Are you still deciding if you will volunteer as a Catechist? Or perhaps you know someone who is thinking about becoming a catechist? Contact Paula Colpitts or let us know online at: ChristTheKingReading.org/catechists

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER JOINING A FANTASTIC GROUP OF CATECHISTS.



SEEKING CATECHISTS FOR 2023/2024 !!

Classes meet at the St. Agnes Parish Center, beginning October 2023.

Grade 1 or 2 - Sundays, 10AM or Wednesdays 3:45 PM

Grade 3 - Tuesdays, 3:45 PM

Grade 5 - Mondays, 3:45 PM

Confirmation 1 Prep - Sundays at 4:00 PM

Grade 4 - Tuesdays, 5:00 PM

Grade 6, 7, 8 - Mondays, 5 PM

Confirmation 2 Prep - Sundays at 6:30 PM

TODAY'S READINGS

The readings for this weekend focus on a conversion of heart. We are encouraged to overcome sinfulness and to go beyond merely following the letter of the law and to truly love. And we are to support each other along the path to holiness and help each other overcome our sinfulness.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

Today's Gospel, Matthew 18:15-20, addresses a brother's sin privately, involving witnesses if necessary, and engaging the church if needed. The Spiritual Works of Mercy aid in supporting one another on our faith journey. These works of charity encompass various acts through which we express our love. There are practical ways to practice these works, such as instructing the ignorant, counseling the doubtful, admonishing the sinner, comforting the sorrowful, forgiving injuries, bearing wrongs patiently, and praying for those who frustrate us. This aligns well with today's gospel.

SOURCE: <https://young-catholics.com/>



Nothing is quite as exciting to a young child as being part of a big change in the family. Whether it is a new sibling on the way or picking out a new car, or planning a move or a trip, kids especially love to be involved and be successful. We want to be part of something good and it is a great thing when we can succeed with those we love.

Every family needs a plan for success. This is not a financial plan, or an educational plan or even a career plan—all of which are important. This is a family plan, the way in which the family becomes a community of faith, hope and love. Everyone needs to be involved if the family is to succeed. We help each other and, in turn, help ourselves.

Any good plan of faith includes prayer. When we pray together, we make God an integral part of our identity as a family. Praying together strengthens our efforts and focuses our goals. We can more easily overcome temptation and choose good. The practice of virtue and kindness takes on a new meaning and importance because we do it for God and for each other.

~James Gaffney © Pilot Bulletins



Every classroom in our school posted the rules for learning. They included listening to others, being kind, being prepared and respecting both visitors and classmates. Every student knew what was expected and what was necessary for a successful academic year.

The Gospel presents a short guide for spiritual success, a set of rules for living a spiritual life in a community of faith. As the master teacher, Jesus gives us the steps to correct each other and keep a straight path to holiness. The most important step is prayer, which joins us with each other in the loving Presence of God. Success is assured.

Working and praying together are the steps we need to build the Kingdom of God on earth. Grace strengthens our efforts and prayer guides our decisions as we discern God's Will. Together we can accomplish so much when we include God in our lives. The spiritual life is about our response to grace, our choice to love and our willingness to sacrifice. We imitate the work and the life of Jesus when we seek the Father and love others. Those are the rules posted in our hearts, rules necessary for spiritual success.

~James Gaffney © Pilot Bulletins

MASS St. Athanasius: Vigil 4:00PM, 10:00AM | St. Agnes: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM
SCHEDULE 9:00 AM Weekdays: Mon, Wed, Fri at St. Agnes | Tues, Thurs at St. Athanasius
 1st Saturday 9:00 AM Mass at St. Athanasius | Livestream Masses: 4:00PM Vigil, 11:00AM
CONFESSION St. Athanasius: Saturday, 2:45PM - 3:45PM; or by appointment
ADORATION St. Agnes: Tuesday, 7:00 PM & Friday, 9:30AM | St. Athanasius: Thursday, 7:00 PM

**PLEASE PRAY
FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN IN
MILITARY SERVICE**

God of compassion, we pray for our loved ones in the military, who offer themselves for the sake of others and who are separated from family and loved ones. Grant them courage, compassion, strength, and all they need for the living of these days.

Sustain them through their every trial.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen

Please pray for all service members, especially for:

Capt. Jared Peledge (US Army),
 Capt. Jeffrey Peledge (US Army),
 Spc. William T. Fisher (US Army),
 LCPL Dean Lepore, Timothy Thomas (US Army),
 Cpl. Daniel Gonzales (US Marine Corps),
 Capt. Nicholas Staffier (US Army),
 Capt. Luke Beaulieu (US Army), Cpl. Brenden Amico,
 Justin Whitmarsh, Chaplain Tom Whiteman,
 USMC Major Zachary Johnson,
 1st Lts. Ryan & Nolan Johnson (US Army)
 PFC Christopher Lewis, USMC Capt. Katie Sliwoski,
 Frank J. Pendergast (USMC), LT Kevin Plumer (Navy),
 Jackson Nicolo (US Army Rangers),
 Capt. Stephen Campo (USMC),
 PV2 Mikey Woods (US Army),
 Spc4 Zachary Thomas, US Army,
 2nd LT Keegan Coulter, US Army

MASS INTENTIONS - In light of the limited Masses at our Parish, and the volume of requested Mass Intentions at any given Mass, we are taking Mass Intention requests only up to four months out (in August can schedule up until Dec 2023; in September can schedule up until Jan 2024, etc). In this effort, we hope to afford more people the opportunity to have a Mass said for a loved one, and we thank all our parishioners for your patience, understanding, and prayers.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

4:00 PM - John Zerfas - Memorial
 - Richard Marasa - Anniversary

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 - TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:00 AM - May Rubbico
 11:00 AM - James Wilcox - 1st Anniversary

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00 AM - Emilio Marotta, Sr. - Birthday Memorial
 - Jack Hart

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9:00 AM - Jim Babineau

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 AM - Michael DiPasquale - 24th Anniversary

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

9:00 AM - Gail and Ralph O'Brien

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

4:00 PM - Rose Feudo

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 - TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:30 AM - Gloria McNerney

OUTDOOR MASS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

We will celebrate our Parish's Annual Outdoor Mass on Sunday, September 17, at 10:30 AM at St. Athanasius Church. Reminder that we will not have the 10:00 AM or the 11:00 AM regularly scheduled Sunday Masses on this day. Picnic will follow the Outdoor Mass.



*St. Athanasius
Sanctuary Candle*

In loving memory of
Michael DiPasquale

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 • FAX: 781-944-4403 • <https://ChristTheKingReading.org> • Contact@ChristTheKingReading.org

CLERGY

PASTOR

Very Rev. Stephen B. Rock, x220
 email: FrSteve@ChristTheKingReading.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Stephen Zukas, x224
 email: FrZ@ChristTheKingReading.org

SENIOR PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Edward T. Malone, x211
 email: FrEd@ChristTheKingReading.org

DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Bill Reidy
 email: DeaconBill@ChristTheKingReading.org

Rev. Mr. Neil Sumner
 email: NSumner@verizon.net

LAY STAFF

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JDavidson-Dee@ChristTheKingReading.org

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Flannerys91@gmail.com
 Thomas Jones, St. Agnes
TJones@ChristTheKingReading.org

PARISH COUNCIL, ParishCouncil@ChristTheKingReading.org
 Fr. Steve Rock, Bob Baynes, Stacey Bertocchi, Dana Chesnulovitch, James Fitzgerald, Karen Fotino, Ron Fotino, Alicia Gallagher, Michelle Goldner, Marge Pearson, Ron Taupier, Frank Tran

HOW DO I BECOME A LECTOR? HOW DO I BECOME A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER?

If you would like to join this ministry:
 website: ChristTheKingReading.org/serve
 email: Contact@ChristTheKingReading.org
 Call the Parish Office for more information; talk to clergy

HOW DO I BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER?

If you would like to join this ministry:
 website: ChristTheKingReading.org/altar-server
 email: chelle1127@msn.com
 Call Michelle Goldner, 508-942-9788

MUSIC MINISTRY, DAVID COLPITTS, DIRECTOR

Email inquiry to: DColpitts@ChristTheKingReading.org

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Interested in becoming Catholic? Baptized but not Confirmed? Call us, we are here to answer your questions!

GLUTEN ISSUES - Please see a Priest or Deacon before Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday, 7PM-8PM at St. Agnes Church - with Rosary
 Thursday 7:00pm at St. Athanasius Church with Rosary
 Friday 9:30am-12Noon at St. Agnes Church

MASS AND SANCTUARY LIGHT INTENTIONS, MASS CARDS

Call the Parish Office to schedule

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Call the Parish Office or submit online at:

ChristTheKingReading.org/prayer-request

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 781-258-8767

In need? Worldwide organization of lay Catholics, following Christ's call to serve the poor, the suffering, and the deprived.

WINCHESTER HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN 781.756.2295, Mary Beth Moran

PARISH REGISTRATION: ChristTheKingReading.org/register-with-parish

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Monday 12Noon; for print in the upcoming weekend's bulletin. Email to: Bulletin@ChristTheKingReading.org

FINANCE COUNCIL, FinanceCouncil@ChristTheKingReading.org
 Jim Bedingfield, Bob Finigan, Ron Fotino, Martha Jane Gagnon, Steve Goldner, Ellen Kearns, Bill Lucey, Freddy Santosuosso

SACRAMENTS

† **BAPTISM:** Maximum of 6 babies at each service
 We hold a Baptism Service twice a month on Sunday at 1:00 PM. Submit your request for baptism at: ChristTheKingReading.org/baptism
 The Parish Office will contact you to schedule the baptism date. Please call Office if you wish to have child baptized at Mass.

† **BAPTISM PARENT MEETING:** *attend prior to the baptism. Meetings are held on the 1st Friday of every month at 7:00PM, at the St. Athanasius PAC*

† MARRIAGE:

Arrangements are made with a priest at least six months in advance.

† RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays, 2:45PM - 3:45PM at St. Athanasius or by appointment with Clergy

† **ANointing OF THE SICK:** Call the Parish Office to request. Extraordinary Ministers are also available to bring the Eucharist to the homebound.

† **FUNERALS:** ChristTheKingReading.org/funerals or call the Parish Office, 781-944-0490



QUIZ

Can you choose the correct endings?

- God appointed the prophet Ezekiel as:
(a) a watchman for Israel (b) the future king
(c) a bearer of good tidings?
- We are the people whom God:
(a) punishes (b) shepherds (c) seeks?
- He who loves his neighbor:
(a) has many friends (b) has fulfilled the law
(c) will prosper?
- If your brother should commit some wrong against you:
(a) ignore him (b) do the same to him
(c) point out his fault?
- Where two or three are gathered in Jesus' name:
(a) Jesus is there (b) they should be friends
(c) there is a community?

ANSWERS

The correct answers are: 1(a); 2(b); 3(b); 4(c); 5(a)

WORDSEARCH

Can you find and circle the words listed below?

HOUSE SING WON
WARN PSALMS CHURCH
WICKED KNEEL PRAY
DIE LOVE LISTEN
GUILT WRONG WORD

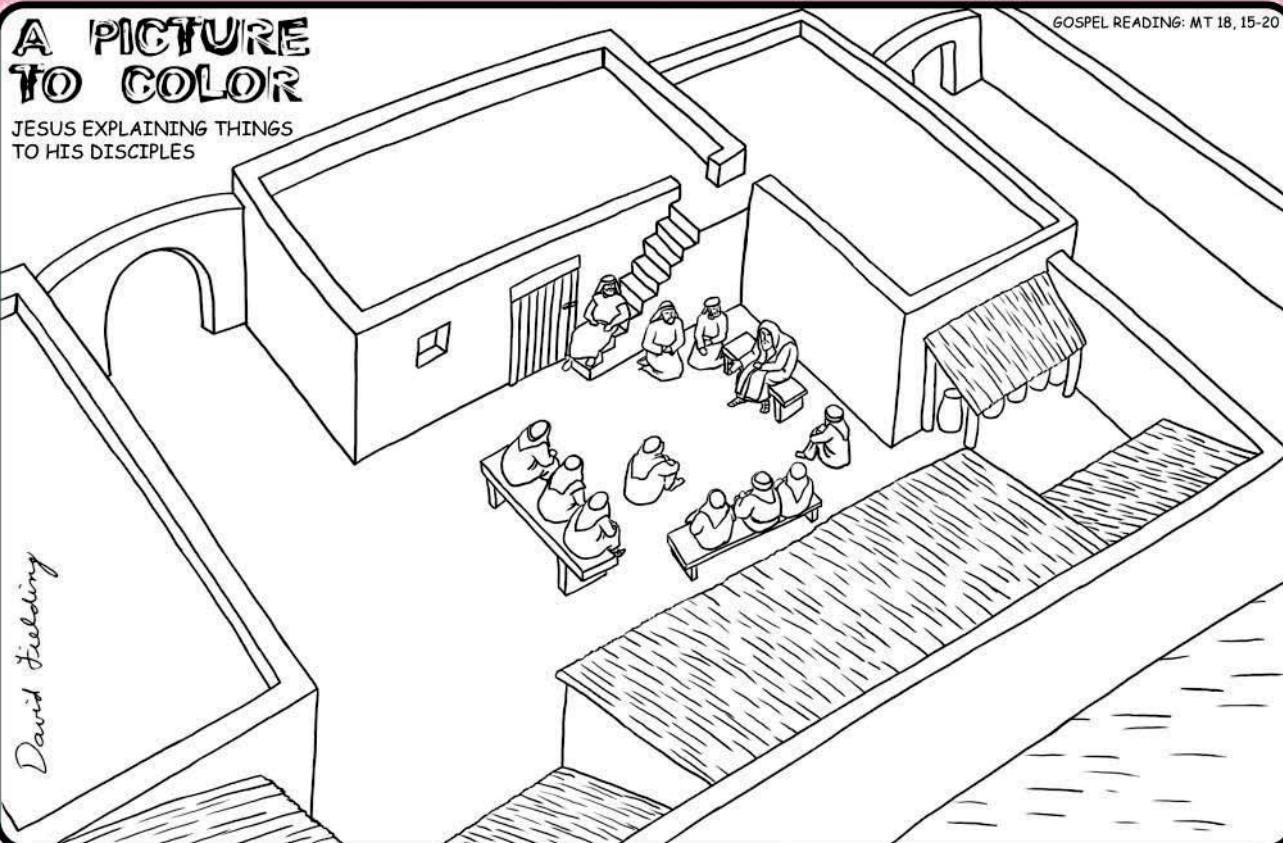
Solution to last week's crossword



A PICTURE TO COLOR

JESUS EXPLAINING THINGS TO HIS DISCIPLES

GOSPEL READING: MT 18, 15-20



Sunday Funday © Pilot Bulletins



WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITHOUT NEUROPATHY PAIN?

"I had a project going in the garage. I told my wife it would be the last one and that I was ready to die. My peripheral neuropathy pain had gotten unbearable and my balance was very unsteady. Then I started treatment at Acupuncture & Wellness Clinic. Needless to say I'm looking for a new project. - Gary

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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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"Be a Servant"
Matthew 20:26



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