



St. Mary's Catholic Church



15th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight." - Lk 10:33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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July 13, 2025

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Fr. Felix Nayak- Pastor
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Mass Schedule and Intentions

7-13: Malta - 10:30 A.M: For all Parishioners

Saco— 8:30 A.M. : Prayers Answered /b Diane Leibel

Dodson— 12:30 P.M. : Repose of Fr. Dan O'Rourke r/b All Parishes

7-14: Malta— 8:30 A. M. : Gloria Coombs r/b Corky & Bonnie Labrie

7-15: Malta - 8:30 A.M. : Arlene Holman r/b Darlene Cummings

7-16: Malta— 8:30 A.M. : My Families /b Lana Fortin

7-17: Malta - 8:30 A.M.: Jack Miller r/b Deb Sjostrom

7-18: Malta: - 8:30 A.M.: The ill r/b Lana Fortin

7-19: Malta -5:00 P.M.: Bonnie LaBrie r/b Corky & Family

Confession Schedule

Fr. Felix will be in the Confessional at St. Mary's Church **Friday's 9:00-10:00, Saturday from 11:00 A.M.—Noon;** and by appointment.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday from 9 to 10 AM after Daily Mass.



Contact Fr. Felix for Home Visits, Distribution of the Sacraments, Home Blessings and Counseling of any type.

Knights of Columbus
Council 2124

Parish Council of Catholic
Women

Meets **First Tuesday** of the month

Meets **Second Sunday** of the month

Daily Scripture Readings

7-13: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Deuteronomy 30:10-14; Psalms 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37; Colossians 1:15-20; Luke 10:25-37

7-14: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin; Exodus 1:8-14, 22; Psalms 124:1-8; Matthew 10:34—11:1

7-15: St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Exodus 2:1-15; Psalms 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Matthew 11:20-24

7-16: Our Lady of Mount Carmel; Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Psalms 103:1-4, 6-7; Matthew 11:25-27

7-17: Thursday in the 15th Week of Ordinary Time; Exodus 3:13-20 Psalms 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-27; Matthew 11:28-30

7-18: St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest; Exodus 11:10—12:14; Psalms 116:12-13, 15-18; Matthew 12:1-8

7-19: Saturday in the 15th Week of Ordinary Time; Exodus 12:37-42; Psalms 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15; Matthew 12:14-21

7-20: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Genesis 18:1-10; Psalms 15:2-5; Colossians 1:24-28; Luke 10:38-42

Saturday Evening - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday—Dodson—8:30 a.m.

Malta - 10:30 a.m.

Saco— 12:30 p.m.



New to the Parish?

Welcome! We're glad you will be joining us. If you would like to register with the parish, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket. You may bring it by the parish office or send it to us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

You may also use this form for a change of address. Thanks!

Sacraments

Confessions: See page 2 of this week's bulletin for schedule or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact Fr. Felix as soon as possible for anointing.

Baptism: Normally celebrated at weekend Masses. Parental sessions are required.

Marriages: Six month couple preparation period required. Please meet with Fr. Felix before scheduling marriage date.

Please Pray For

Kristi Shettle Peterson, Emily Robinson, Ramona Kienenberger, Brian Shevlin, Dianne Salsbery, Ann Enya, Darlene Kolczak, Bob Kaluza, Tammy Peterson, those from our area serving in the military.

For the repose of the souls of Jim Robinson, David Williamson, Lee Stevens, Marie Phillips, Anita Green, Helen Mears, the poor souls in purgatory and for the comfort and peace for their families.

Anyone who needs to have prayers said for someone can call Dianne Salsbery 654-4675. Names will be listed in the bulletin for one month unless specified.

Gospel Meditation

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 10:25-37

I used to be a bad neighbor. I'd get wrapped up in my life and ignore those around me. Then I found sage advice from Benjamin Franklin to this effect: to be a better neighbor, ask someone to do a favor for you. It's counterintuitive, isn't it? Tell strangers that I need their help? Yuck. I'll risk looking needy. Worse, I'll be indebted to them. But I tried it, and it works like a charm. Recently I asked my neighbor Alan for a hacksaw, and Inga for an egg. They kindly obliged, and our friendship is growing.

This week we hear a scribe of the law cynically ask Jesus, **“And who is my neighbor?” (Luke 10:29)**. Like him, we prefer to keep the list of our “neighbors” as short as possible. It requires less interruption and inconvenience. But when Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, he exposes the lonely, cold-heartedness tendency of the scribe's (and our) heart. My “neighbor” is anyone I encounter who manifests a concrete need. There isn't time to require any other credential because human need opens us

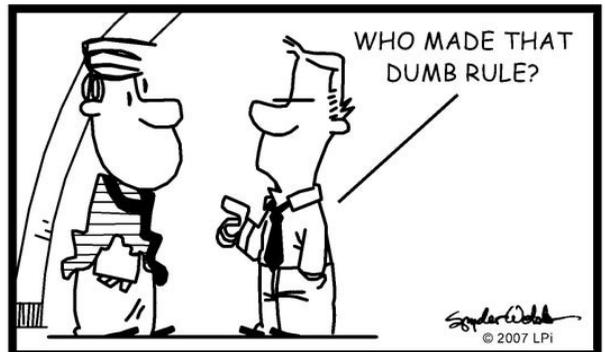
to the happy reciprocity which is love.

Jesus' words challenge us this week to ask a neighbor for help in some small way. How marvelous that God himself shows us how. He moves into our world and asks us to love Him with small deeds of love. Maybe that's where Ben Franklin got the idea.

Father John Muir



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Fr. Felix

XV Sunday (C): Dt 30:10-14, Col 1:15-20, Lk 10:25-37

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,
The theme of today's liturgy is: "Authentic love of God is lived through compassionate action toward our neighbor."

Moses, in today's first reading, speaks a liberating truth to the people of Israel: God's commandments are not distant or hidden. Rather, "the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so that you can do it." This reminds us that the will of God is not a mystery reserved for the learned. God has placed His law deep within the human heart. Each person, made in God's image, has been gifted with reason, conscience, and the interior voice of the Spirit that prompts us toward truth, compassion, and justice. In a world where we often seek complex answers, Deuteronomy calls us back to simplicity: to listen, to trust, and to act according to the truth already written in our hearts. The question is not whether we know what is right, but whether we have the courage and humility to follow it.

St. Paul, in this majestic Christological hymn, lifts our eyes to the cosmic glory of Christ. He proclaims Jesus as "the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all

creation," and the One through whom and for whom all things were created. This passage reveals the fullness of Christ's identity—not merely as teacher or healer, but as the very source and goal of creation. He is the head of the body, the Church, and the reconciler of all things through His blood on the Cross.

In our fragmented world, divided by conflict, suffering, and sin, this passage offers hope. Christ is not only the center of the universe but the One who brings unity, peace, and wholeness. He reconciles all creation, visible and invisible, to God. Therefore, our mission as the Church is to live under Christ's lordship, to be signs of reconciliation in a broken world, and to draw all people into the peace that flows from the Cross. In Him, all things hold together.

Today's Gospel offers one of the most beloved and challenging parables of Jesus—the story of the Good Samaritan. It begins with a legal expert asking, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus affirms the two-fold commandment: "Love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself." But then comes the real question: "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus

answers with a story that turns social expectations upside down. The victim, robbed and left half-dead, is ignored by a priest and a Levite—figures of religious responsibility. It is the despised Samaritan, an outsider, who shows compassion, tends wounds, and provides care beyond obligation.

Here, Jesus reveals that love is not theoretical. It is not confined by religious status, ethnic identity, or legal boundaries. Love is measured by compassion in action. The neighbor is not just the one near us, but the one in need and we are called to be

neighbors universally. This parable also reflects the heart of Christ Himself, the Divine Samaritan. He saw humanity wounded by sin and did not pass by. He drew near, bound our wounds, and paid the price for our healing. In Christ, we see perfect neighborly love.

So today, let us ask: whom have we passed by? Are we willing to cross boundaries for love's sake? The path to eternal life begins here—on the road where compassion meets action, and where the love of God is made visible in love of neighbor, Amen.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Giving to our parish endowment through an IRA charitable rollover is a financially wise way to help our church forever! If you own an IRA and are age 70 ½ or older, you may donate any amount (up to \$100,000) this year, tax-free, directly from your IRA. If you have an RMD, your gift can satisfy that requirement, too. For more information or assistance in making a gift for our church directly from your IRA, please contact Judy Held, President, at the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana at (406) 315-1765 or judy@catholicfoundationmt.org.



Endowing the Future of Our Faith

Announcements for July 13 , 2025

- Vacation Bible School will be July 14-17. All campers will need to check in at the Lutheran church at 9:00 to sign in, bring a sack lunch and a water bottle. Snacks will be provided.



*Pray
For
Rain*

UPCOMING 2025 EVENTS – St. Mary’s

DATE	Event/Details	Contact
July 14-17	Vacation Bible School	Brenda Rummel

Mass Intentions

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of having Masses celebrated for those we offer up in prayer. The Mass is the ultimate form of prayer, and each Mass is celebrated for an intention. We ask \$10.00 per mass intention.

Please consider having Masses celebrated

for family and friends on special occasions and anniversaries, as well as those who are in need of prayers. Masses are also encouraged in memory of those loved ones who have died, especially on the anniversaries of their deaths. Please contact Fr. Felix for more information.

Offering

Sacrificial Giving for 7-6-2025

7-6-2025

Malta:	\$1,024.00
Dodson:	\$N/A
Saco:	\$1,935.00

Finance Council

Deb Sjostrom 406-654-1451, sjostrom@itstriangle.com.

Lance Hould 406-539-5772, lanceh_99@hotmail.com

Mike Ereaux 406-658-2613 (H), 406-654-7803 (C), mfe7195@itstriangle.com

Scott King 406-654-7302, sbking1959@gmail.com

Shyla Sunford 406-399-1484, shylasunford@gmail.com

Bonnie Lankford 406-390-2276, Bonnie4339@hotmail.com

Please send bulletin announcements to brenda@SaintMarysMalta.org by Wednesday evening. Thanks!

(Practicing) Catholic

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Mini reflection: As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading. But do we approach the victims that we see? Or do we draw away from the suffering of others in fear and confusion, thinking: "That's not my problem"?

Crossing the Street

It takes a cold, hard, godless heart to step over a wounded man on the street.

But in the parable of the Good Samaritan, the priest and the Levite didn't step over the half-dead traveler. I think we picture them doing so, in our collective imagining of this well-known story, but the words of the Gospel are quite clear. "When he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side," Jesus says of both.

So they saw him. They saw his need. It made them uncomfortable; it confused them — many scholars have said that Judaic law concerning the touching of dead bodies might have made them reluctant to approach — and so they decided the simplest way to file this situation in the Not My Problem category was to cross the street.

But that still leaves a half-dead guy on the road. ©LPI

And we all, 2,000 years later, still think of the priest and the Levite as cold and hard and godless — even if they didn't want to be, even if they didn't think of themselves that way — because the bottom line is, they didn't see the half-dead guy as their problem.

As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading.

Well, I don't know about you, but I find myself crossing the street a lot more than I should.

There is so much pain and suffering in the world. We certainly can't begin to alleviate it all. But we have to start with the pain and the suffering that we see, that's right in front of us — even if it's something we really, really want to ignore. Even if we find it inconvenient or confusing or scary or weird.

The heroism of the Good Samaritan wasn't in his selfless actions, although those were certainly commendable. It was in his courage. "He approached the victim," Jesus said.

Can we approach the victims we see? Do we have that courage?

Parish Council

Alora Snider— 399-1675, alora_lynn_09@hotmail.com (Malta)

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Nancy Ereaux—658-2613 (H),

Jeff Jeff Van Heel—406-266-1133

Joy DePuydt—674-5560, joyful@itstriangle.com (Saco)

Leona Kienenberger—383-4459, leona_kienenberger@yahoo.com (Dodson)

Everyday Stewardship

What Jesus Doesn't Say

“If Jesus wanted us to (fill in the blank), he would have said so.”

We hear this argument applied to every controversial topic under the sun — and even some not-so-controversial topics, too. Whenever someone is trying to make a case for a decision they have already made, they call in Jesus' scriptural silence on the matter as their expert, unimpeachable witness.

And sure, there's much Jesus doesn't talk about in the Gospels. But by this logic, we would have to assume that Jesus doesn't care, for instance, if we drive well over the speed limit (he doesn't discuss cars and highways in the Bible) or what we do online (he never mentions the Internet or websites at all!), when we know that certainly is just not the case.

Like the scholar of the Jewish law who challenges Jesus to define who exactly his

“neighbor” is, we can argue semantics all we want. But if we rest in prayer and look deep into our hearts, we know what path we need to take, and it's usually not the easy one.

I find that I do this plenty in ways that are far more subtle. I lament that the situation facing me is not sufficiently “black and white.” I become frustrated by the shades of moral grey and toss up my hands, claiming I don't know what the right answer is, insisting that I can't be blamed for the ramifications of whatever decision I make.

What I need to be doing in these situations is asking God for His guidance, even if it makes me nervous. I need to be like the scholar. He was brave enough to ask, even though I think he knew he wouldn't particularly like the answer. Let's strive for that same courage.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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This Week on Formed

Week of July 13, 2025



St. Kateri Tekakwitha | God's Princesses

Follow along with Sister Imelda as she tells of the inspiring journey of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, a young Mohawk girl who comes to know the Gospel with the help of pioneering priests. Choosing to follow Jesus, Kateri is faced with great challenges as she does her best to bring God's love to her own people! A fun and inspiring example of not giving up!



St. Bonaventure | Catholic Saints

A Franciscan cardinal-bishop and contemporary of St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Bonaventure is an excellent example of saintly humility. Known as the "Seraphic Doctor," St. Bonaventure loved God above all else. Join Dr. Chris Mooney and Mary McGeehan as they explore the life of this great saint.



Carmelite Spirituality

On July 16, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Learn more about Carmelite Spirituality and how you can live it in this incredible series on Formed.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.