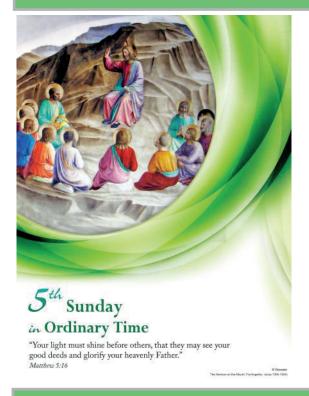
Saint Mary's Church

15164 Juniper Dr. Marne, MI 49435 / 616.677.3934 / www.saintmarysmarne.org February 5, $2023 \sim The\ Fifth\ Sunday\ in\ Ordinary\ Time$



Weekend Mass Schedule:

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

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Tuesday 9AM St Mary

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Wednesday 9AM - St Michael

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Thursday 9:00 AM St Mary Friday 9:00 AM St Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:30 PM—4:15PM-St Mary

Sunday 3:00PM -4:00PM St Michael

Wednesday 2:00 PM—3:00 PM St Michael (or anytime by appt. please call parish office)

St. Mary Parish Office

Monday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Tuesday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Wednesday - 8:00AM - 11:30AM

Thursday - 8:00AM to 4:30PM

St Mary's Mission Statement: We, the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, by our baptism have become the People of God, dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are a community built on faith and the sharing of individual talents, abilities and skills for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by prayer and the sacraments, we continue the mission of Jesus to reveal God's presence in all of human life.

Pastor:

Rev. Michael Hodges / frmhodges@grpriests.org 616.677.3934

For emergency please call: 616.745.1409

Deacon:

Deacon Tom Roberts / troberts@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.3934

Business Manager:

Todd Kline / businessmanager@saintmarysmarne.org

Parish Secretary:

Cathie VanGessel / secretary@saintmarysmarne.org

Director of Religious Education:

Rebecca Chicklon / dre@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.5065

Youth Minister—Life Teen grades 9-12

Rebecca Chicklon / dre@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.5065

Director of R.C.I.A: Iill Brown-616.677.3934

Maintenance/Custodian: Jim & Marian Looks: 677.3934

Liturgical Minister:

Gary Karr / 616.677.3934 / gkarr@saintmarysmarne.org

Music Director:

Dr. Bernie Stanko 616.490.3836 / berniestanko@hotmail.com

Pastoral Council:

Sharon Davis, Becky Warners, Vito Dolci, Geary Farrell, Doug Frantz

Finance Council:

Lisa Bradley, Jose Gomez, Ruth Kasul, Todd Kline, Scott Lampe, Mel Northup

Martha League: Parish Office: 16.677.3934 (assistance with meals during illness or injury)

Prayer Line:

Parish Office 616.677.3934 or Linda at 677.3269 for evening requests call Darlene 616.453.0157 or email: bfa1414@yahoo.com

Our Cluster Parish:

St Michael's - 17150 - 88th Avenue Coopersville, MI 49404 616.384.4026 www.saintmichaels.us

Mass Intentions

Saturday February 4 4:30PM † Jeff LeMieux by M/M Vince SchoenbornMA		
Sunday Februa 8:30AM 10:30AM 4:30PM	† John VanDenBrink by Curt & Sue DeVosMI † Rick Lothschutz by M/M Larry AntcliffMA † Chuck Albrecht by Curt & Joan KutchinMI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—4:00 PM - St Michael	
Monday Februa	ary 6 NO MASS	
Tuesday Februa 9:00AM	† Fr. George Fekete by Knights of Columbus #11581MA Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm	
Wednesday Fel 9:000AM	bruary 8 † Margaret Jonio by the O'Bradovich FamilyMI Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM	
Thursday Febru 9:00AM	tary 9 † Bob Bacon by Joe MartinMA	
Friday Februar 9:00AM	ry 10 † Jamie Thomas by Arno & Judy DriedgerMI	
Saturday Febru 4:30PM	† Arlyn Madura by FamilyMA	
Sunday Februa 8:30AM 10:30AM 4:30PM	† John VanDenBrink by Curt & Sue DeVosMI † Jeff LeMieux by M/M Joe LothschutzMA † Chuck Albrecht by Curt & Joan KutchinMI Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00 PM—4:00 PM - St Michael	

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

Please Note: When there is inclement weather (where Coopersville Public Schools or Kenowa Hills Public Schools are closed) The Parish Offices will be closed and all events scheduled for that day will be cancelled. Daily Mass will also be cancelled. The Mass intention for that day will be rescheduled at our earliest opportunity. Additionally, when a Funeral Mass has been scheduled, Daily Mass will be cancelled

For the Week of February 5, 2023

Sunday	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
•	Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16
Monday	Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
	Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 & 12, 24 & 35c; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday	Gn 1:20 - 2:4a; Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday	Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Mk 7:24-30
Friday	Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin
	Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday	Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10
Sunday	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
•	Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt
	5:17-37

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers		
	Feb 12 / 8:30 AM	Feb 12 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Bryson Lindberg Peter Nielsen Melena Lindberg	NEED TWO
Eucharistic Ministers	Denise Parish Sharon Carlson Amber Nelson Denise Nelson Rosemary Weigel	Greg Helsen NEED ONE
Lector	Jeff Johnson	Mark Phillips
CLW	Jenny L. & Cheri B.	NO CLW
Sacristan	Judy Driedger	NEED ONE
Ushers	Curt DeVos Wade Lindberg Joe Meerman Ray Maka	Greg Helsen NEED ONE
Music	Jennifer Mapes	Craig Bleckley

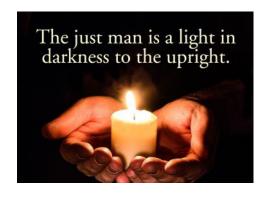
St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers		
	February II 4:30PM	February 12 10:30 AM
Sacristan	Joe Gomez	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Bryson Potts MJ Potts	Noah Davis Hannah Davis
Host	Deacon Tom Sara Patterson Geary Farrell	Geary Farrell Becky Warners Need One
Cup	Deb Hapon Keith Anderson	Margie Jirous Need One
Hospitality Ministers	Katie Greenland Megan Greenland Scott Lampe Matt Karr	Leonard Horter Need Three
Lector	Doug Frantz	Rita Carmody
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko

Prayer for our Volunteers & Ministers

Thank you for serving. We appreciate you.

God of Glory, your beloved Son has shown us that true worship comes from humble and contrite hearts. Bless our brothers and sisters, who have responded to the needs of our parish and wish to commit themselves to your service. Grant that their ministry may be fruitful and our worship pleasing in your sight. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

If you would like more information on becoming a Liturgical Minister, please contact the parish office. We always have a need for Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Sacristans, Hospitality and Musicians.



Cluster News and Community News and Events

40 Days for Life ~ March 2, 2023

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 27th campaign in Grand Rapids, and it will take place in front of Heritage Clinic for Women at 320 East Fulton Street. This is the only free-standing surgical abortion facility still operating in our community. Dozens of area churches have adopted a day of prayer. Our parish family has chosen Thursday, March 2, 2023~ Would you be willing to pray for one hour to fill in the time slots to pray to end abortion and close the Heritage abortion clinic in Grand Rapids? Contact Lisa Potts 616-723-3213 or potts.lisa99@gmail.com to sign up or for more information. 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! www.40daysforlife.com/GrandRapids

Please Note: Fr Mike will be leading the Rosary at I IAM for our prayer group on March 2.



Explore Priesthood Discernment Group

The Explore Priesthood Group is a discernment opportunity sponsored by the diocesan Office of Priestly Vocations. Each month, young men (ages 16 – 35) are invited to gather and discern God's will for their lives.

Time for prayer and reflection will be held monthly at St. Stephen Parish in East Grand Rapids from

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. This year's discernment opportunities are offered on the following Sundays: Feb. 12, March 12, and Apr. 23.

Questions? Please email Fr. Stephen Durkee, director of priestly vocations, sdurkee@grdiocese.org



Knights of Columbus News

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus #11581

The St Mary's Knights meet on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. For more info please contact Grand Knight Rob Rander:



at: robrander82@gmail.com or visit:

https://www.saintmarysmarne.org/knights-of-columbus

Next Breakfast & Blood Drive: February 12 & October 8

St. Michael's Knights of Columbus #9909

The St. Michael's Knights meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. For more information, visit https://saintmichaels.us/knights-of-columbus-9909

Fr. Mike's Musings

The spirit and action of giving is one of the most important spiritual practices a disciple of Jesus can claim. The attitude we have toward our money and finances directly influences the condition of our relationship with Jesus. How we feel about tithing and sharing our finances can also reflect the level of giving in other areas of our lives. Generosity is contagious, as it spreads from our money to our time, our talents, our



abilities, and our presence. Our lack of generosity and the willingness to share is also contagious. We know as Christians we are taught to share what has been given to us with those who have less. We must share all of our gifts; talents, time, treasure, and ourselves.

We should not give because we think God needs our gifts in order to be God, or that the Church needs our money to be the Church. We give to the Him. We give back to God what is God's so that through our gifts the love of God can become a tangible reality in our world. Our giving is a reminder of the blessings God gives us and continues to give to us through Jesus Christ.

We find in John 3:16 three thoughts that should be the foundation of our giving. God's motivation for giving was love; He gave Himself in the person of Jesus; and God gave in response to our needs—physical and spiritual. As we use this example for the basis of our giving, we realize that the only giving God recognizes is giving out of love. In I Corinthians 13:3, St. Paul writes; "If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing."

Giving is not by defined by the size of our gifts, but by the condition of the heart from which the gifts are given. For Jesus and for us, motivation is everything when it comes to giving. A disciple of Jesus will give because of their gratitude for God's gifts so freely given. To paraphrase John F. Kennedy; "Ask not what God can do for us, but what we can do for Him." What we do is to love one another with the gifts that He has given to us for that very purpose.

"...if you bestow your bread on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted; then light shall rise for you in the darkness." (Isaiah 58:10)

Touched by Mercy ~ March 4

"It is a profound spiritual experience to contemplate our loved one with the eyes of God and to see Christ in them." Joy of Love. The Franciscan Life Process Center invites all who have been affected by suicide to Touched by Mercy on March 4 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. The day will include reflection, sharing, and prayer led by Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, FSE, MA. Lunch and Mass included. Cost: \$65. Go to www.lifeprocesscenter.org

Coopersville Cares 9th Annual Winter Benefit Sale

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 . 7 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

at the Coopersville Community Center, 182 East Street, Coopersville. All proceeds go to Coopersville Cares.

High School Youth Ministry

<u>High School Youth Ministry</u> Gatherings are offered on most Sundays and some Saturdays. Additional events are offered on occasion too. For information about Youth Ministry gatherings, trips or events, please contact Rebecca.

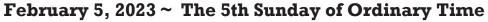
Spiritual Stock Fundraiser:

Thank you to all who have already made a donation! We really appreciate your donation and we are closer to our goal.

We are still in need of more donations and hope you will consider supporting Youth Ministry by investing in our Youth. Spiritual Stock envelopes are in the back of Church. You may donate with check or cash. Please make check out to St. Michael Youth Ministry. If you have questions or would like any help making your donation please feel free to contact Rebecca Chicklon. Your support is much appreciated!

Questions or comments

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at 616-677-5065 or dre@saintmarysmarne.org



St. Mary's Parish News

Religious Education

This Sunday's Gospel Reflection:

When someone makes us comfortable, doesn't put on any false pretenses, and values simplicity, we often refer to them as "salt of the earth." Salt is basic. It preserves food and helps sus-



tain us. Salt adds flavor. Think of what it adds to popcorn! Salt can also be used to help heal us, like gargling with salt and water when you have a sore throat.

Our personal salt or flavor is what makes each of us different and distinguishable from one another. God wants us to sprinkle humanity with our uniqueness.

Along with the flavor of our diversity, Jesus encouraged us to celebrate our talents and gifts. We are supposed to let our light, our special abilities, shine. Shining doesn't mean we are always in the spotlight. It means if I have the special gift of laughter, that I use that gift to help cheer others up. The gift of kindness toward others may inspire them to shine and pass the kindness on.

Jesus doesn't ask us to be flashy. Jesus calls us to develop, hone, and share the talents and characteristic we possess, to flavor the world with our selves, and to illuminate the world with our loving deeds. Let us go into our sessions and help one another find ways to be "salt" and "light."

Reflection Q's:

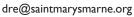
What does it mean to let your light shine? Why does Jesus want us to let our light shine? What are ways we can do that?

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

dismisses and meets during 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Questions or comments

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at 616-677-5065 or





High School Youth Ministry
SEE CLUSTER PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS

2022 Church Contributions

2022 Contribution
Statements are available in
the Narthex. Please pick up
after Mass or during parish
open office hours. If you
would like yours mailed or
emailed, please call the par-



ish office. Thank You. Please Note: In an effort to save money on postage we will only mail statements if requested.

St Mary Parish Prayer Line

If you would like to request a prayer for our parish prayer line please contact the parish office or Linda at 677.3269. For evening requests call Darlene 453.0157 or email: bfa1414@yahoo.com Please continue to pray for all of our sick, hospitalized & homebound parishioners and all of the personal intentions that St Mary's Parish parishioners hold close to their hearts.

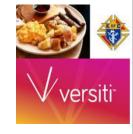
Knight's of Columbus #11581 News Breakfast & Blood Drive ~ Feb 12, 2023

- Breakfast will be served 9AM till noon. The price will be \$8 for adults. \$6 for seniors and \$4 for kids 5-11. Come out and support our Knights!
- Blood Drive will be from 8:30 to 1:00

Register Here: https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/144764

Or watch for sign up forms available in the Narthex.

For more info please contact Grand Knight: Rob Rander: robrander82@gmail.com



Lent & Easter Church Decorating Volunteers Needed

Would you like to help create a prayerful environment here in our church worship space? We need help with decorating during Lent, Holy Week and Easter. No experience required. You would be responsible for setting up and watering the flowers through out Lent, Holy Week and Easter. You would also help with Putting up Lent and Easter Banners as needed. All members of our faith community, high school age or older, are eligible to be a part of this ministry. Please call the Parish Office if you are interested in helping.



Save the Dates		
Feb 12	Knights of Columbus #11581 Community Breakfast and Blood Drive 8AM St Mary	
Feb 22	Ash Wednesday 9AM Mass St Michael / 7PM Mass St Mary	
Feb 24	Stations of the Cross 7PM St Mary / 7PM St Michael	
March 2	40 Days for Life- Cluster Day of Prayer 7AM-7PM Heritage Clinic for Women at 320 East Fulton Street	
March 3,10, 7, 24	Stations of the Cross 7PM St Mary / 7PM St Michael	
March 23	The Light is On for You, An Evening of Penance (Diocese Wide) 5:00PM to 8:00PM St Mary	
March 25	Soup Supper 5:30PM St Mary Parish Hall. (Join us for 4:30PM Mass prior)	
March 31	OUTSIDE Stations of the Cross at The St Mary Meditation Path Hosted by the Knights of Columbus Councils #11581 & 9909)	

Giving Back to God	
	Jan 27/28
Regular Contributions	\$2900.00
Capital Improvement	\$100.00
Online Contributions	\$2736.00
Children's Contributions	\$12.00
Total	\$5748.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week SOBIE MEATS

Tim & Teresa Sobie ~ 616.453.7201 ~ 3450 Remembrance Rd. NW

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News— Thank you to our 8 families who purchased Scrip this week. Our total profit was \$46.00.

A Fun Night of Trivia —

At St. Michael's, on Feb. 11, 7-9 PM. Teams of 8 or less, please bring a snack to share and your own drink. Signup in the glass hallway.



Festival Planning Meeting — There will be an informational/planning meeting for 2023's Annual Festival, on Sunday, February 26, after 8:30 AM Mass, in the church. If you are interested in chairing an event this year, or adding input to the planning process, we would love to see you there! Please save the date for this year's festival: Sunday, August 27!



Knights of Columbus News

The Knights of Columbus welcome and value Catholic men seeking community and ways to put their faith into action. If you would like to join the Knights of Columbus, it is a very simple application process. You can go online to KofC.org/joinus and fill out the information requested, putting in our Council #9909 where asked. We will have Knights available in the back of church after both Masses on Sunday, February 12th, to assist you. Come and see us for more information!

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: this program is offered during Sunday morning 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. In today's Gospel Jesus said we are like salt. Salt helps bring out the good flavor in foods. When we let God's goodness shine in us, we help bring out the goodness in others. Like a lamp shines light for everyone, we shine God's goodness on others when we are loving and kind.

Elementary Faith Formation: This program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30 pm.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 will meet on Sundays after the 8:30am Mass, from 9:45 to 11:15 in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation during that time. Please keep our Confirmation candidates in your prayers as they continue to prepare for Confirmation.

St. Michael's Parish Family

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



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Paula Raczkiewicz-Kelly by Pam Raczkiewicz

St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St.
Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should!
Come see what a great experi-



ence St. Michael's Preschool can provide. Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—11:45 am (Mon. 8:45am-2:30pm for 4-year-olds). For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026.

TV's For Sale — St. Michael's has two "barely used" big screen TV's for sale, \$50 each. (Not smart TV's.) Call the Parish Office for info.

Parish Prayer Line—

If you would like to request a prayer for our parish prayer line please contact Chris Albrecht at 616-403-7110. We are also looking for more parishioners to help with our prayer line phone chain. If you are willing to help call others with prayer requests that come into our prayer line, please contact Chris at the number listed above.



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

What CAN	What CANNOT
go in the bins?	go in the bins?
Newsprint	Paperboard
Catalogs/Magazines	(Grocery Item boxes)
Junk Mail	Plastic
Phone Books	Metal
Office/School paper	Trash
ard and soft cover books	Glass
	Cardboard

Giving Back to God		
January 29, 2023		
Adult Envelopes	\$13,750.00	
Loose Cash	\$118.00	
Children's Envelopes	\$39.25	
Holy Day	\$25.00	
Total	\$13,932.25	
Building Fund	\$25.00	
Thank you for your continued support!		



Mercy and light

The physical help

and spiritual help

we give others

makes our

faith credible.

saiah tells his listeners to share their bread and shelter the homeless. "Then your light shall break I forth like the dawn." And not only light, but help will come from God: "Your healing shall spring up quickly. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer..." This light is not only for us but for the whole world. Isaiah goes on to give the promise which the Church quotes on Epiphany: "For darkness shall cover the earth, but the LORD will arise upon you... Nations shall come to your light. " (Isaiah 60:3).

Jesus said to us, "You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." This command brings us back to the works of mercy. If we share, shelter, clothe and help all those in need, God's light will shine in us and through us through our actions as well as in our words.

This was the power of Saint Paul's preaching. He did not rely on "plausible words of wisdom" but on the

evidence of spiritual power, "so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God." And what was this power? Paul describes it as the power of the cross; he decided to know nothing among them "except Jesus Christ, and him crucified." In other words, it was the power of love revealed, made visible, expressing itself in human flesh for the world's salvation. The power behind Paul's preaching was the mercy of God.

What will bring us, what will bring our faith community, to that level of life we desire and which God desires to give us? What will make the "light rise for us" and "break forth like the FEBRUARY 5, 2023

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 58:7-10: I Corinthians 2:1-5: Matthew 5:13-16

dawn" to give light to all around us? Mercy. Works of mercy. Living the light in action. Sharing our bread, sheltering the homeless.

gry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and those in prison, sheltering the homeless, burying the dead. The "spiritual" works

> of mercy-though all are ing every offense, praying for the living and the dead.

The physical help and spiritual help we give others makes our faith credible. We cannot expect people to "come to our light"

unless they see us first living in it.

Each parish is responsible not just for its own members but in a special way for everyone within its

We need to think in terms of the works of mercy. The "corporal" (physical) ones are: feeding the hun-

> spiritual acts—are being honest with people about their sins, sharing knowledge with those who are ignorant, working with people in doubt, comforting those who feel emotional distress, loving even when wrong is done to us, forgiv-

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boundaries. How many people live within your parish boundaries? How many are lonely? How many are elderly? What is the ethnic mix? What are their special needs and how is your parish addressing them? These especially are the ones we must think of when we read Isaiah's warning "not to turn your back on your kin."

Who will lead us in addressing these needs? The Holy Spirit, if we ask. Through whom? Not just through the pastor! Through anyone in the parish open to the Spirit's voice. We are the Church; we are the parish, all of us. No one of us is more called to the works of mercy than another is. So, what do we do?

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Fifth Week of the Year

Pray daily: Lord, you came to make us the salt of the earth, the light of the world. And you have sent us to heal the wounds of the world, so that all people may walk in the gladness of your light. Have mercy and make me your mercy to all I meet. Amen

Monday: Mark 6:53-56. "People rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was." When there is a talk or reconciliation service in your parish, do you go looking for someone to invite to it?

Tuesday: Mark 7:1-13. Jesus said, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites...'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." Do you pray at Mass for anything that you are reluctant to act on after Mass?

Wednesday: Mark 7:14-23. "There is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." Can thoughts or feelings that just come to you defile you? Why is it that free choices come only from within a person?

Thursday: Mark 7:24-30. She replied, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." How much of what is offered to you in the Church, in your parish, do you leave untouched?

Friday: Mark 7:31-37. Jesus "said to him, '*Ephphatha*,' that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly." The word *Ephphatha* was probably spoken over you at Baptism. Do you know what prayer was said for you then?

Saturday: Mark 8:1-10. When a great crowd of people had nothing to eat, Jesus called the disciples and said, "I have compassion for the crowd...." When you think of people without Eucharist, do you think of Jesus saying this?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Light a candle where you pray or put a container of salt where you work to remind you that Jesus calls you to be the light and salt of the earth.

As Disciple: Every day for a week write down one way in which you are closed to the teaching of Jesus. Make appropriate changes.

As Prophet: Look at one detail of your lifestyle and ask, "Is this how the salt of the earth acts? How does this give light to the world?"

As Priest: Identify one person who may be tempted not to believe in God because of some personal or family difficulty. Try to minister respectfully to that person.

As King: Each time you make a decision, ask yourself, "What value or attitude is guiding this decision?" Then look at the decision in the light of Christ's teaching and change it if necessary.

at

Harmony

Floral & Plant Designs Krystal Brown, Owner

270 Main St. 616-837-8525 Mycoopersvillefloral.com



Lori & Mark Weyers, Parishioners 2642 S Division (2 Blks. N of 28th St.) 241-0506 • info@QPCo.com

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