

Saint Mary's Church

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

July 9, 2023 ~ The 14th 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

Tuesday 2:00 PM—3:00 PM St Mary

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

Rebecca Chicklon / dre@saintmarysmarne.org
616.677.5065

Director of R.C.I.A: Jill 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, Todd Kline,
Scott Lampe, Mel Northup

Martha League: Parish Office: 616.677.3934
(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 July 8

4:30PM † Fred Gorton by The Knights of Columbus #11581 ... **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday July 9

8:30AM † Phyllis Gross by Dave & Sharon Carlson **MI**
10:30AM † Pat O'Connor by M/M Joe Jirous **MA**
4:30PM † Elaine Schoenborn by John & Ann Schoenborn **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

Monday July 10 No Mass

Tuesday July 11

† Betty Oziemkiewicz by M/M John Grotenrath.....**MA**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Mary

Wednesday July 12

† John VanDenBrink by Ted, Janice & Matt Crowley..... **MI**
Adoration begins after Mass until 2pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 2:00 PM—3:00 PM - St. Michael

Thursday July 13

9:00AM † Bob Bacon By Marilyn Korhorn **MA**

Friday July 14

9:00AM † Al Spencer by Winnie Spencer **MI**

Saturday July 15

4:30PM † Alice Goll by Mary VanDenBrink **MA**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary

Sunday July 16

8:30AM † Louis & Rose Goosen by Dave & Pat Goosen **MI**
10:30AM † Monica Zahm by Vivian Kosheba **MA**
4:30PM † Steven Rohen by Family **MI**
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Michael

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

For the Week of July 9, 2023

Sunday Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

Monday Gn 28:10-22a; Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Benedict, Abbot
Gn 32:23-33; Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b & 15; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a; 17-24a; Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday Memorial of Saint. Henry
Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt 10:7-15

Friday Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Ps 105: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7; Mt 10:24-33

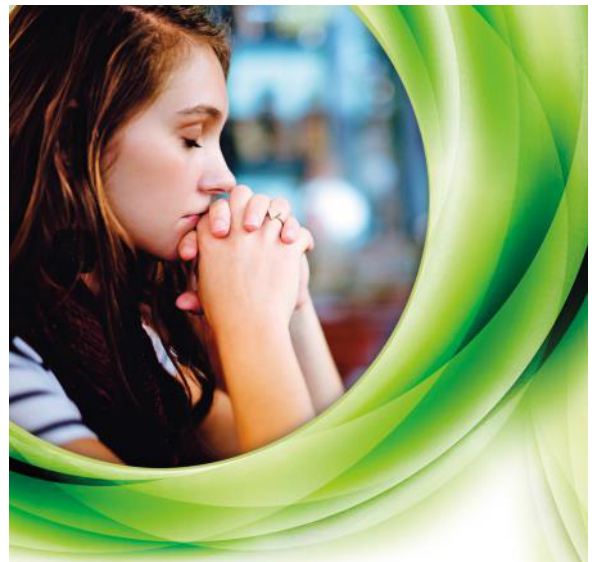
Sunday Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or Mt 13:1-9

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers

	July 16 / 8:30 AM	July 16 / 4:30 PM
Altar Servers	Melena Lindberg Clare Taylor	NEED TWO
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Tom Jennifer DeMull Denise Nelson Mark Phillips Debbie Veneklas Paul Schmidt Joe Hitchings	NEED TWO
Lector	Dennis Zimmer	Carol Reens
Sacristan	Jane Vitunskas	NEED ONE
Ushers	Wade Lindberg Jim Ponshair Ed Irwin NEED ONE	NEED TWO
Music	Craig Bleckley	Craig Bleckley

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers

	July 15 - 4:30PM	July 16 - 10:30AM
Sacristan	Need One	Gary Karr
Altar Servers	Kassidy Britt MaKaelyn Britt	Ty Ricord Lauren LeMieux
Precious Body	Lori Rander Rob Rander Deb Hapon	Deacon Tom Christina Withers Paul Madura
Precious Blood	Matt Karr Austin Lampe Michelle Lampe Mary Kirkwood	Janette Ney Becky Warners Jim Fritz Geary Farrell
Hospitality	Megan Greenland Katie Greenland Need Two	Leonard Horter Bruce Kamp Marcia Kamp Need One
Lector	Steve Lampe	Rita Carmody
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko



14th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

Cluster News and Community News and Events

Help Wanted

Catholic schools, parishes, affiliated organizations, and the diocese are hiring! Visit the diocesan website to see available opportunities, and check back regularly for new openings: <https://grdiocese.org/employment/>

Baby & Toddler Summer Clothing Needed

Catholic Charities West Michigan's St. Gianna Baby and Toddler Pantries in Muskegon and Grand Rapids need summer baby and toddler clothing in all sizes. Clothing can be new or gently used. Please contact Karol Maurer at kmaurer@ccwestmi.org if you would like to make a donation!

Volunteer to Support Kids in Foster Care

Join Catholic Charities West Michigan (CCWM) in supporting children in foster care during their Confident Kids back to school hair care event Aug. 19! Confident Kids is a day where children in foster care can celebrate their unique identities, their diversity, and feel truly special. At the event, CCWM will be providing all children in their foster care program with haircuts, styles, braiding, and back to school supplies. Many volunteer opportunities are still available! Pre-registration is required to volunteer. When: August 19, 1-4 PM Where: Grand Rapids Visit <https://www.volunteereasy.com/Site/CCWestMI/ViewOpportunity/98158#/> to sign up or contact Davina Bryan at dbryan@ccwestmi.org.

Made for More Event

Join us for a very well done nationally known event called, Made for More. Made for More is about Theology of the Body. Guest Speaker; Christopher West. This event is for all adults but is also good for families with teens. St. Mary and St. Michael are co-hosting this event with St. Mary, Spring Lake, MI. For more information please contact Rebecca Chicklon or Debbie Veneklasen Debbie: 616-384-4026 or childrensministry@stmichaels.us



Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry (6-12 Grade) Summer Activities for Youth

Youth may engage in a Mission Trip, Steubenville Trip, help with Vacation Bible School, Michigan Adventure Trip and engage in Parish service projects and other fun day trips! Some of these options are for High School aged Youth and some are for Middle School Youth and some are for both. Dates and times have been sent out in email. If you're not on the Youth Ministry email and would like to be, please contact Rebecca. After May 21, Middle School Youth are those entering 6-8 grade next fall and High School Youth are those entering 9th grade through 12 grade next fall, as well as, those newly graduated. For more information and/or dates please contact Rebecca.



Questions or comments

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

Fr. Mike's Musings



Although it may sound flippant to put it this way it must be acknowledged that when the subject of A hallmark of priestly life is celibacy, the living in a state of not marrying and of abstaining from sexual activity. The roots of celibacy are found in the New Testament. Christ Himself lived in celibacy. Jesus spoke of those who "...renounced marriage for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 19:12) Paul praised celibacy as a means of fully focusing on "...the things of the Lord." (1 Corinthians 7:32-34) In 1139 the Second Lateran Council made celibacy mandatory for priests of the Latin/Western Rite of the Church. Those priests of the Greek/Eastern Rite Catholic Church who are married or those of other faiths who have converted and have been ordained to the priesthood may remain married but cannot remarry if their spouse precedes them in death. This rule concerning marriage and remarriage is what is currently applied to Deacons in the Latin Rite Church.

Celibacy offers an opportunity to imitate the celibate life of the Lord and it frees priests from many earthly concerns (family obligations) allowing them to devote themselves to the service of Christ and His people. Celibacy is a positive surrender of oneself, not a negative renunciation of "pleasure", this is like matrimony which is a positive choosing of the good of one's spouse, not just a simple renunciation of other partners or companions. The celibate life is a constant reminder to the priest that Jesus Christ is first in his heart and the source of his strength. Celibacy creates a need that can only be filled by Jesus as it demands a strong prayer relationship between the priest and Christ, just as marriage demands frequent communication between the husband and wife.

A life of celibacy also allows the priest to interact and relate to the many families in his care, and it is a way for Jesus to fulfill His promise:

"Amen, I say to you, there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands for my sake and for the sake of the Gospel who will not receive a hundred times more now in the present age...and eternal life in the age to come." (Mark 10:29-30)

Catholic priests are traditionally addressed as "Father". This popular title suggests a familial relationship between the priest and the laity, as well as the attitude of sacrifice and generosity with which a priest should serve his people. Some people criticize Catholics for using the title "Father", stating that Jesus forbade when He admonished His followers to "...call no one on earth your father." (Matthew 23:9) But given the context it is clear that Jesus is speaking against false attitudes of pride and presumed superiority. If this passage were to be taken literally, the term "father" could not even be used in reference to one's own male parent.

In the end the life of the Catholic priest is not about titles or honors, but rather it is about the sacrifices a man is willing to make for the sake of Christ and His Church. While celibacy precludes entry into marriage, the priest is in a sense married. In scripture Christ is the symbol of a bridegroom taking the Church as His bride and as such our relationship with Him mirrors that of a married couple. The people/laity are by virtue of their baptism have become the embodiment of the "bride", and as the priest serves the Church 'in persona Christi' (in the person of/ representing Christ) he therefore assumes the role as the "bridegroom" of the Church. Like any marriage there are the proverbial bumps-in-the-road, but when both parties are earnestly living and working for the good of one another those bumps will be overcome and, as is sung in the familiar hymn, charity and love will prevail and God will be found.

Please Pray for our Engaged Couples

Joe Heminger & Laura Wierman.....July 22, 2023 (St Michael)
Wyatt VanDyke & Olivia Killebrew..... July 29, 2023 (St Michael)
Christian Hall & Kayleigh Kutchin August 25, 2023 (St Michael)
Marissa McDonald & Christopher Barczak.....October 7, 2023 (St Mary)
Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen

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View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

St. Mary's Parish News

Religious Education

Religious Education meets on Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m. and will resume in September.

Children's Liturgy of the Word meets during the 10:30 a.m. Mass and will resume in the fall.

Questions or comments:

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

High School Youth Ministry

See Cluster Page for more information.



School Supply Drive

Our Lady of Fatima Guild is hosting their annual school supply drive. Donations of backpacks, lunch boxes, pencils, notebooks, markers, and other school supplies would be appreciated. *Donations will be collected July 22- through Aug 14.* There will be a box in the Narthex to place your donations.



Parish Picnic ~ September 10

St Mary's annual Parish Picnic is scheduled for September 11, beginning with outdoor Mass at the cemetery chapel at 10:30AM. (weather pending) If you would like to help with the planning of the picnic, or volunteer at the event, please contact the parish office.



Save the Dates

July - Aug	School Supply Drive
August 4	Mass of Hope, Health and Healing-7PM
August 22	Back to School Bash-Vets Park 5PM
Sep 10	Parish Picnic (watch for more info)
Sept 12-16	Parish Directory Pictures- Watch for Sign Ups and more Info.
October 8	Knights of Columbus Councils Breakfast & Blood Drive

Catholic Service Appeal 2023

Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal!
Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Remember that any amount collected over the goal will stay in the parish. If you have not responded, please do so as soon as possible. Learn more at GRdiocese.org/CSA
CSA 2023 Pledge Goal: \$51,834.00
Total Pledges Made: \$37,760.00 (73%)
Balance: \$14,074.00
Participation: 104 of 292 Active Households (35%)
Totals as of June 30, 2023
Thank you for your stewardship



Knights of Columbus #11581 News

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A KNIGHT:

We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models and to put charity and community first.

Becoming a Knight of Columbus can transform your life. As a Knight, you have the opportunity to support your parish, give back to your community, grow in your faith and gain exclusive access to our top-rated insurance program to protect your family. Charity is the first principle of the Knights of Columbus. Knights are men who get things done. We volunteer our time to serve our parishes and our communities.

The Knights of Columbus is not just a fraternity in name. It is a brotherhood of Catholic men who each play a part in improving the world around them, one community at a time. They stand together in faith, dedicated to uphold the principles they cherish while lending their support and strength to parish, home and fellow Knight.

To learn more about the Knights of Columbus' activities and what they do to support our parish community, the surrounding area and the world, please contact Grand Knight: Rob Rander at: roblander82@gmail.com or come to a General Membership Meeting. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in St Mary's Parish Hall.

Due to the Holiday and The Berlin Fair the July Meeting will be moved to July 13 at 7PM at the Parish Hall.

Save the Date: October 8

Community Breakfast and Blood Drive Register here: https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/rive_schedule/149333



New Parish Cluster Directory

We are making plans for a new parish directory. Watch for more details and photography dates and time slots. In the meantime, Be sure to update the parish office with your current contact information.



Meal Train for Fr Mike

Fr Mike has been enjoying his weekly homemade meals from our Parish Family. THANK YOU to everyone that has prepared a meal for him. It is very much appreciated. We have TWO open dates in July. Can you take one of them? It really is as easy as making an extra serving of whatever you are making for dinner. Put it in a microwavable container and drop it off at the Parish Office on our way to (or home) from work.. (Sign up online: or call the parish office) <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n>



Giving Back to God

	July 1/2	July 1/2
Regular Contributions		
Capital Improvement		
Online Contributions		
Children's C		
Total		

Will Update Next Week

St. Mary's Sponsor of the Week

CHULSKI'S SALT SERVICE

616.677.1700 ~ www.chulskisaltservice.com

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

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

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News— Scrip totals will be updated next week.

2023 Vacation Bible School — STELLAR: SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

July 24-28th, from 6-8:30 pm.

Registration forms are in the narthex and on parish website. Many volunteers are needed! If interested please contact Debbie Veneklas with any questions. (616)384-4026. We are looking for donations for VBS. If you are willing to make a donation for teen snacks, please contact Debbie at 616-384-4026.



CSA 2023 — Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Our parish goal for 2023 is \$59,280.00 and 100% participation, which means every parishioner should return their pledge card. To date, we have pledged \$40,125.00 (or 67.69%) toward our goal. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.



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 experience 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. Now enrolling for the 2023-24 school year!



St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Our program is now on summer break. CLW will resume in September.

Elementary Faith Formation: Grades 1-5 are now on Summer Break. Classes will resume in September.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 are on Summer Break. Classes will resume in September.

St. Michael's Parish Family

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

St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +John VanDenBrink
by his wife



Finance Council —

The Finance Council has an opening that needs to be filled. If you are interested in this position, please contact the Business Manager, Cindy Lindberg, at (616) 384-4026 or bsmgr@saintmichaels.us.

You may contact Cindy or Fr. Mike if you have any questions or would like to discuss the opening.



Parish Directory — We will be updating our parish directory this year, and we want you to be included! Stay tuned for more details to come on our photo-taking schedule!



St. Michael's Chicken Dinner

Come one, come all. Our parish festival is August 27, 2023! We will have big raffle, chicken dinner, mini-affle, kid's tent, grocery wheel . . . something for all ages! We will need many volunteers to help out. This year, we are looking for a lead chairperson for the large raffle. There will be a festival meeting on Sunday, July 16, after 8:30 AM Mass. Please contact our co-chairs, Cindy Lindberg (616-822-1213) or Jenny Lindberg (616-862-3588), to see how you can volunteer to make this year's festival a huge success!



Giving Back to God

Giving Back to God	
Adult Envelopes	
Loose Cash	
Children's Envelopes	
Totals	
Building Fund	
Financial Assistance	
Thank you for your continued support!	

Will Update Next Week

July 9, 2023 ~ The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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"Come to Me..."

What, in a sentence, is the mission of the Church, of the parish? What did Jesus come to do?

Saint Paul says God's plan is "to gather up all things in [Christ], things in heaven and things on earth" (Ephesians 1:10). Yes, Jesus came to establish peace between us and God, peace among individuals, races and nations. But the source and support of this peace is one thing alone: *knowing God*, being united in mind, heart and will with God. Jesus came to reveal his own heart to us so that we might know God and, by knowing him, love God and one another as Jesus does. "[L]earn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

The problem is, no one can know the heart of Jesus except God. "No one knows who the Son is except the Father..." or "who the Father is except the Son..." (Luke 10:22). Only God can know God completely, totally. The mystery of the Christian religion, and all of its power, rests in this one fact: that through the gift of grace God has made us all *fili in Filia*, "sons in the Son," sharers in the divine life of Jesus Christ, participants in his own divine act of knowing and loving God and therefore able to be one in mind, will and heart with him. The mission of Jesus and the Church is to bring every mind, heart and will in heaven and on earth together into unity through union with the mind and heart of Christ.

This is peace: "[L]earn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Ironically, we look to governments and armies to maintain peace by making war. But God taught us to look to a king, a true savior, who comes "triumphant

JULY 9, 2023

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Zechariah 9:9-10; Romans 8:9, 11-13;
Matthew 11:25-30

and victorious" by coming to us "humble and riding on a donkey." He will banish the war chariot and the war horse; the battle bow will be cut off. "[A]nd he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea... to the ends of the earth." If we learn from Jesus, who is gentle and humble in heart, we will find rest for our souls. We will find peace.

If we live "according to the flesh," Saint Paul says—that is, according to the spirit of this world, the preju-

dices of our upbringing, the natural tendency which is in us all to fight fire with fire, to take an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, to defend ourselves by retaliation and threat of even more violent retaliation—then quite simply, "we will die." The way of the world is death. The way of violence is death. The way of dependence on arms is death. The way of defending our lives by dealing death to others is already death to our

souls. "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25). Take it or leave it: spirit or flesh, the way of life or the way of death. We can follow the darkness of this world into violence and death or we can

*Our mission is to help
each other recognize
Jesus, who is "gentle
and humble in heart"...*



learn from Jesus who is “gentle and humble in heart” and we find rest for our souls.

Are we fulfilling our mission as Church when we encourage children to play “killer” with toy guns, to play “war” with toy soldiers, tanks and planes? When we let our hearts approve the violence of the “good guy” who kills the “bad guy” on TV? When we applaud troops who commit themselves to kill on command anyone an officer or a president points to as a “bad guy” who threatens our country?

The mission of the Church is to unite every heart on earth with the heart of Christ. But we are the Church. Every Christian family is the Church assembled on the level of the home. Every group of Christian friends is the Church assembled for recreation or celebration. Every business or office where there are Christians is the Church assembled for service to the world. In every place and situation, at home and in the city, at work and at play, our mission is to help each other recognize Jesus, who is “gentle and humble in heart,” so that we may all find rest for our souls.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Fourteenth Week of the Year

***Pray daily:** Father, the sufferings your Son endured restored hope to a fallen world. Let the illusion of power never ensnare us with empty promises of passing peace. Make us one with you in gentleness and humility of heart so that our security may come from you and our love may give life, not destroy it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Monday: Matthew 9:18-26. The woman said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” If just touching Jesus can heal, what power comes from being united with him in mind and heart?

Tuesday: Matthew 9:32-38. Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Are you willing to work for peace? What step can you take today?

Wednesday: Matthew 10:1-7. Jesus gave his disciples authority to cast out unclean spirits and to heal every disease and every infirmity. What power do we as Church have today to cast evil out of the world and heal suffering? How can you share in this work?

Thursday: Matthew 10:7-15. “Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts.” Do you really need money, power, earthly resources in order to live a Christian life?

Friday: Matthew 10:16-23. “See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.” Do you rely on intimidation and force to defend yourself? Or do you use your mind to discover peaceful means to reconciliation through reflection and prayer?

Saturday: Matthew 10:24-33. “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master.” If Jesus did not use force or violence, should you?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Ask what in your life does or could show that you rely on Jesus as the only true Savior of human life on earth.

As Disciple: Check your gut reactions to war news and to the “good guys” violence on TV. Compare this with specific words of Jesus that seem to address the issue.

As Prophet: Check to see how many things in your home explicitly or implicitly glorify or condone violence. Begin making everything in your life bear witness to Jesus, man of peace.

As Priest: Try to “turn the other cheek” consciously once a day, not just in passive endurance but as a positive expression of redeeming love.

As King: Think of some gentle, peaceful step you could take to start changing something in your environment that is not in accord with the mind and heart of Christ.

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