

July 13, 2025

Our Lady of the Lake

ollbranson.com | [203 Vaughn Rd. Branson, MO 65616](https://www.ollbranson.com) |
office@ollbranson.com | [417-334-2928](tel:417-334-2928)



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight." - Lk 10:30b-31, 33



15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

July 12 - July 19

Events

SATURDAY July 12th

WELCOME Women Meeting
9:00 - 11:30am - Heritage Room

Sacrament of Reconciliation
3:00 - 4:30pm - Confessional

TUESDAY July 15th

Susan Castro Funeral

[Click for full obituary.](#)

10:00am- Funeral Mass
Interment - Ozarks Memorial Park Cemetery
Lunch-Parish Center

Adult Bible Study

10:00-12:00pm - Faith Formation Room

Bereavement Ministry

2:00-3:30pm - Heritage Room

Come & See

6:30-7:30pm - Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY July 16th

Stitchers

9:00am - 12:00pm - St. Francis Room

THURSDAY July 17th

OLL Games

1:00 - 3:30pm - Faith Formation Room

FRIDAY July 18th

Spanish Charismatic Group

6:00 - 9:00pm - Faith Formation Room

SATURDAY July 19th

No AM Events

Mass Times

SATURDAY

5:00pm
7:00pm (Spanish)

SUNDAY

8:00am
10:30am

MONDAY

9:00am

TUESDAY

NO 9:00am

10:00am Funeral Mass
for Susan Castro

WEDNESDAY

5:30pm

THURSDAY

9:00am

Adoration

TUESDAY

9:30am - 3pm - Chapel

THURSDAY

9:30am - 7pm - Chapel

Important Links

[click here for PARISH CALENDAR](#)

[click here for MASS INTENTIONS](#)

Mass Intentions available for August & September

[click here for FLOWER INTENTIONS](#)

Flower Intentions available for August

Mass Intentions

Sat.	7/12	5:00pm	Anna Teresa Gonzales +
Sat.	7/12	7:00pm	Taney County Parish Family (Living)
Sun.	7/13	8:00am	Wendell Burrow (Health & Healing)
Sun.	7/13	10:30am	Nan Wannithantri +
Mon.	7/14	9:00am	Eugene Leonard + (Birthday Deceased)
Tue.	7/15	10:00am	Susan Castro +
Wed.	7/16	5:30pm	Mahi & Richard LaHood (Special Intention-Living)
Thur.	7/17	9:00am	Gabrielle & Kyle Haste (Special Intention-Living)



[Click Here to Make a Prayer Request](#)

[Click Here to Donate Online](#)

[Haga clic aquí para el boletín en español](#)

[Click Here to Contact Parish Staff](#)

WORSHIP WITH US



[Click here](#) for Mass Times & Sacrament of Reconciliation



[CLICK HERE FOR DAILY MASS READINGS](#)

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Collection through July 6, 2025

Envelopes:		\$7,936.00
Plate:		\$1,500.00
Green Envelopes:		\$2,856.00
Total:		\$12,292.00



Have you thought about setting aside resources for the parish through your will or trust?

Did you know that there are ways to leave money to the parish while you are still living?

You can make these commitments to financial stewardship by:

- Naming the parish in your will.
- Purchasing an annuity to benefit the parish through the diocese.
- Naming the parish as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- Transferring ownership of stocks to the parish. This avoids taxation for the donor.
- Designating your minimum required distribution (MRD) on retirement accounts to the parish. This also avoids taxation for the donor.
- Making a substantial one time or recurring donation to the parish.

If you would like more information about designated giving, please contact the parish office.

Your gifts of financial stewardship are greatly appreciated.



COME SEE

Do you know someone who would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith?

**The 2nd
Come and See
session is this week**

Tuesday, July 15

6:30-7:30pm

**Final session
Tuesday, August 5th
6:30-7:30pm**

Sessions will be held in the Heritage Room, on the lower level of the Church. Childcare provided.

There is no decision making you have to commit to. This is simply a Q and A discussion.

**No registration required,
just show up!**

O CIA starts August 26th

Renew, Refresh, and Reignite Your Marriage

If your calendar tells the story of your life, what does it say about the importance of your marriage?

Take time to put the two of you first and schedule a weekend away to attend the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. For information, or to apply for an experience, visit www.wwme.org



Upcoming Weekends

Aug. 1-3, 2025

Drury Plaza Hotel, Cape Girardeau

Sept. 26-28, 2025

CRM Retreat Center, Carthage



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

August 1 @ 8:00 pm -

August 3 @ 4:30 pm

For more information
and to

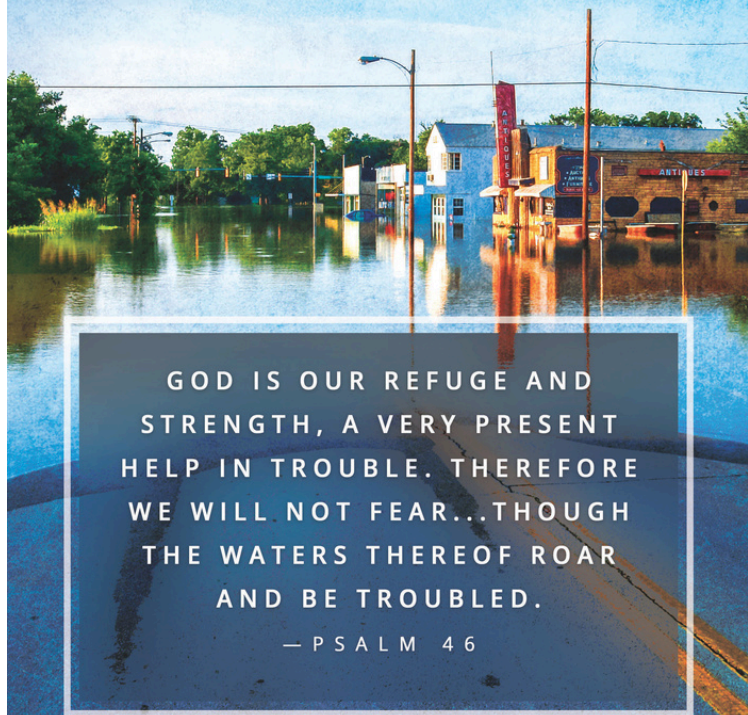
register Online: www/stl-wwme.org.
Rediscover the spark that was there on
your wedding day!

Rediscover the best friend you had when
you were first married!

Join the millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive!

The emphasis of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is on communication between husband and wife, who spend a weekend together away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life, to concentrate on each other.

Remember in your prayers
ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY RECENT FLOODING



GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND
STRENGTH, A VERY PRESENT
HELP IN TROUBLE. THEREFORE
WE WILL NOT FEAR...THOUGH
THE WATERS THEREOF ROAR
AND BE TROUBLED.

— PSALM 46

If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, in unity with those who have already given by returning a pledge card.



2025 DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

**ONE CHURCH,
Anchored in Christ**

Thank You



There's still time to
make your pledge!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT WWW.DIOSCG.ORG



The Diocese
and Church
in
Southern
Missouri
needs your
participation.

To date our parish has pledged
\$75,927.62 toward our \$79,163 goal.
Thank you!

Tuesday Morning Adult Bible Study



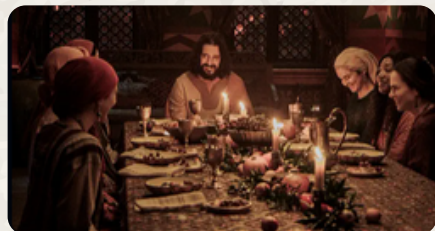
Upcoming Dates

10:00am Faith Formation Room

July 15th

*The Chosen: S5 E4
The Same Coin*

Afraid of public outcry—and further embarrassment—Caiaphas resolves to arrest Jesus quietly at night. Only one problem: no one knows how to find Him.



July 22nd

*The Chosen: S5 E5
Because of Me*

The decision to arrest Jesus leads to a fiery debate. Roman soldiers track down a troublemaking crowd. Shmuel finds help from an unexpected source.



July 29th

*The Chosen: S5 E6
Reunions*

As Jesus' followers gather for the Passover meal, His enemies assemble for a man hunt. Judas holds a secret meeting.



Hey Deacon!

By Deacon Dan Vaughn

Are you saved?

That question is often heard from well-meaning Christians who want to help others know Jesus Christ. As Catholics whose faith is centered in Him, we can appreciate their good intentions and admire their willingness to talk about God.

Most often, Christians who asks this view salvation as a past event that took place when they made a confession of faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord. This act of faith, they believe, guarantees them a place in heaven, no matter what they may do for the rest of their lives. Okay, that statement might be too general but there is the belief that once saved, always saved -- that you will not face the punishment of hell for your sins.

The teaching of the Catholic Church helps us understand that this is actually a mistaken notion of salvation. Jesus Christ came to give us much more than a kind of eternal fire insurance policy. Salvation in the fullest sense is an ongoing process that won't be complete until after we die. And in the meantime, it's still possible to turn away again from God.

If someone asks you if you are saved, perhaps the best short answer is to paraphrase Philippians 2:12 and say, "I'm doing what the apostle Paul tells us to do in the Bible: I'm 'working out' my salvation day by day."

We love Jesus and His Church, but we sometimes get intimidated when asked questions about our faith. We know that God loved us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to save us from the terrible fate of sin, so that we might have eternal life with Him. We know that Jesus' life, death and resurrection offers the hope of eternal life and an escape from eternal punishment. He reconciles us from sin, opening the door to a full restoration with Him.

Salvation, in its fullness, is God's new creation (born again). To save us, He remakes us in His likeness — a lifelong process requiring our cooperation so that we can once again think and love as He thinks and loves and aligns our will to that of the Father. This process finds its completion only in heaven, where eternal life is enjoyed in perfect harmony with Him. Those who are joined there with God forever will achieve their greatest destiny. We will become what we were made to be.

All Christians know that salvation isn't guaranteed by something we've done. The gift of free will is part of God's likeness in us. But with free will we still have the ability to turn away from God. It's a chilling possibility because there is so much temptation, so much evil in the world.

We can be confident that God desires our salvation, and He's faithful to help us. God created us for himself, for nothing less than to know, love, serve and enjoy Him in this life and the next. And if we are ever tempted to forsake Him, He'll grant us the power to resist that temptation.

Praise be Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

OFFICE OF CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION

Safe Environment Requirements for:

Clergy ◆ Employee ◆ Adult Volunteers*

*(which include the following ministries)

Knight of Columbus

OCIA

PSR

Welcome Women

Hospitality

Safety & Security

Ushers

Young Adult

Music Ministry

Help Desk

Hispanic

Eucharistic Ministers

Parish Office Volunteers

Homebound

Bible Study Leaders

Sacristans

Gift Shop Volunteers

Lectors

Funeral Ministry



Before engaging in diocesan, parish and school-sponsored activities for minors and vulnerable adults, all clergy, employees and adult volunteers are required to be in compliance with the diocesan Safe Environment Requirements which include:

- 1) A Background Screening
- 2) Safe Environment Training
- 3) Code of Conduct - **must be completed annually**

The Code of Conduct is **required annually** and is made available at the beginning of each fiscal year, **July 1**.

The Code of Conduct can be accessed through the diocesan webpage

<https://dioscg.org/child-youth-protection/>

Scroll down - towards the bottom of the page there's a *RESOURCES SECTION*

Select the Prevention and Protection tab.

The documents may be found there.

or through

VIRTUS: <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/>

Select: Springfield-Cape Girardeau, MO (Diocese)

The Code of Conduct is to be read, signed, and submitted to the local Safe Environment Coordinator at the parish - Nickie Rivera

- For **new employees and volunteers**, to begin the process, an account must **first be created in VIRTUS**.
- There the Background Screening Application will be prompted and is now completed online through their VIRTUS account.
- The training, which includes **"Protecting God's Children"** and **"Mandated and Ethical Reporting"**, are accessible through their VIRTUS account and are also completed online.

If you need assistance, please contact

Nickie Rivera

Please call, text, or email

417-251-1819 Cell

NickieRivera@ollbranson.com

Director of Formation

Any questions may be directed to the Associate Safe Environment Coordinator,

Shelly Ferry, sferry@dioscg.org or

the Director of Child and Youth Protection, Bill Holtmeyer,

billholtmeyer@dioscg.org

or at The Catholic Center, (417) 866-0841.

OLL Games



Join us on July 17th
OLL Game Day

Scores from July 3rd!!!

OLL Train - Curtis' Girls
BIG Winner is Pam -246
Curtis -295 Anne Marie -339
Julie -368
Lil' Winner is Sandy -408



Swoop - Crazy Swoopers
BIG Winner is Judy H -154
Fairly close game:
Dan -218 Sharon A -235
Margaret -242 Juliann -264
Harry -331
Lil' Winner is Sharon S -369



OLL Train - The Fire Crackers
BIG Winner is Susan -160
Everyone else was close...
Ed -291 Joe -300
Judy E -322 Eva -327
Lil' Winner was a Tie between
Remy and Marty -330



We continue under Judy's careful supervision to have a fun time of learning... good for our brains!
Steve - Joyce - Sharron - Brenda
The table is open to ALL
and we could start a second table.
Come try your luck!!!



Scores from July 10th

OLL Train - Eva's Group
BIG Winner is Eva -227
Ed - 288 Remy -300 Susan -310
Lil' Winner is Marty -419

OLL Train - Yummys
BIG Winner is Julie J -244
Joe - 259 Pam -283
Anne Marie -350
Lil' Winner is Judy 370

Swoop - Guys & Gals
BIG Winner is Julianne
Sharon A -243 Dan - 291
Sharron -293
Lil' Winner is Sharon S -423
Julie W left early -365
Joe came in late -81

Third time is a charm... we are beginning to have fun playing mahjong...
Steve, Brenda, Harry, Judy
nothing like the mahjong played on your phone or computer!!!
The table is open to ALL
and we could start a second table.
Come try your luck!!! Page 9



Save the Date:
Our Lady of the Ozarks
(Forsyth)
Fall Rummage and Bake Sale
 is scheduled for
September 25, 26 and 27th,
2025

In the past, many of our parishioners have donated items for this sale. Our Lady of the Ozarks welcomes any donations, and they have made bins available for your use.

These can be picked up at Our Lady of the Ozarks church (951 Swan Valley Drive, Forsyth) during the month of July on Monday, Wednesday, Friday during office hours or on Sunday after their 8:30 Mass.

These bins can be used to store your donated items which can be dropped off at
Our Lady of the Ozarks
 during their set up hours starting on September 8 through September 19th from 9am - 1pm.

Please note that they will not be able to pick up items as they have in the past.

Any questions can be directed to Barbara Peterson at 417-251-0041 or barbsp@protonmail.com

Blood Drive
Our Lady Of The Lake
Catholic Church

Parish Center
 202 Vaughn Drive
 Branson, MO 65616

Friday, July 25, 2025
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: OURLADYBranson to schedule an appointment.



Give blood July 15 to 31 for a Fandango Movie Reward by email to see a movie on us! rcblood.org/July



1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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"Through the intercession of Our Lady of Mount Carmel: We pray for the safety of all children during the summer vacation. And for an end to war, violence, and bloodshed."

Bishop Edward M. Rice

July
 PRAYER INTENTION

MONTH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS



“BE SOLDIERS”
**LIFE ON
MISSION**

Hello!

For those who don't know me, my name is Sam and I'm a parishioner here at Our Lady of the Lake! Many of you may know my mom, also named Sam, who works in the parish office. Yes, I know she's awesome.

I want to invite you to come and hear about the work I've been invited into by the Lord through serving as a FOCUS missionary! FOCUS is short for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students and it is a missionary apostolate that has greatly touched my heart. Our work is centered around knowing Christ deeply and making Him known on college campuses and parishes!

Please see the details for the event below! I hope you come and see!

Monday July 21, 2025 from 5:30PM to 6:30 PM

At Our Lady of the Lake Church in the Faith Formation Room

Questions? You can contact me at samantha.pichardo@focus.org

"How does St. Kateri Tekakwitha greet her turtle friends?"



"Shell-o!"



FUN FACT! St. Kateri Tekakwitha was a Native American woman whose holiness led to her canonization. Her father was a Mohawk Chief, belonging to the Turtle Clan, so she is sometimes depicted with a turtle in art.

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CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

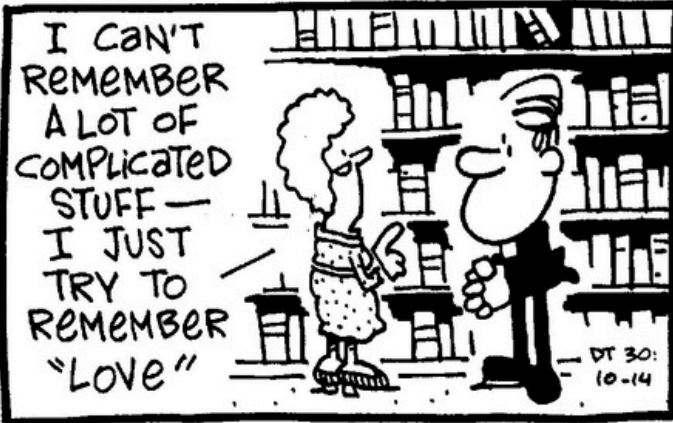
Question: Which Old Testament prophet foretold the Virgin Mary and her conception of Jesus?

Answer: The Prophet Isaiah.

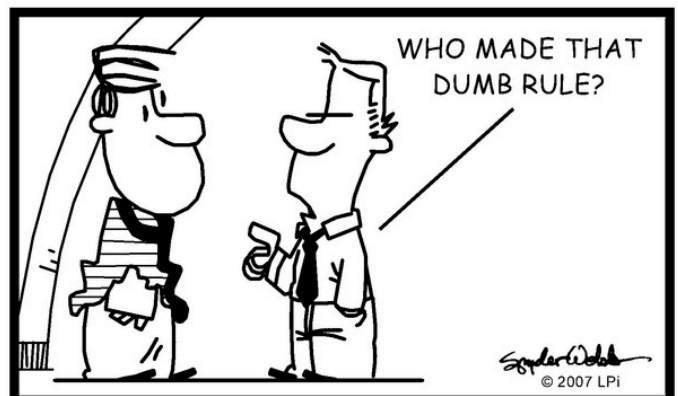
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HAVE FAITH

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



IT'S TIME FOR

Catholic Night Day

AT THE SPRINGFIELD CARDINALS!



\$12
SINGLE
TICKET

\$25
TICKET
& T-SHIRT

\$27 FOR 2X & 3X SHIRTS

UPDATED START TIME: 1:05 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 | HAMMONS FIELD


SHIRT ORDER DEADLINE: JULY 18 | TICKET DEADLINE FOR PRE EVENT PICKUP: JULY 25

All t-shirts and any tickets purchased after July 25 will be available for pickup at Hammons Field on August 3.



[CCSOMO.ORG/CATHOLIC-NIGHT-CARDINALS](https://ccsomo.org/catholic-night-cardinals)

HOSTED BY:

 Catholic Charities
of Southern Missouri



Knights of Columbus®

Knights' Corner ~ Council 6470

Seminarian Support Fund

KofC Council 6470 is starting something new, and we're inviting YOU to be a part of it.

Our Council has historically supported our diocesan seminarians with their living expenses while in seminary, but we're looking to do more.



We are establishing a KofC Seminarian Support Fund to serve as a sort of endowment to support our diocesan seminarians. Our goal is raise over \$30,000 to establish a fund that will allow us to use the interest earned to provide more than four times the support we typically have been able to give annually, and to grow the fund to continually expand our giving potential.

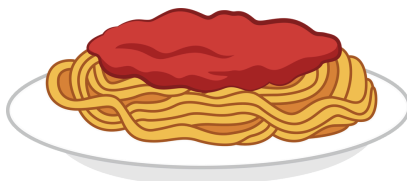
With our initial contributions from an anonymous donor and our council's own contribution, we had a \$10,000 head start. Also, our June appeal has brought in just over **\$8,000** already!

That puts us well over half way to our goal! Thank you for your support and prayers for our success as we continue to raise money to develop this fund so that we can help support more seminarians in a more impactful way, for the foreseeable future. Vivat Jesus!

Talent Show/Spaghetti Dinner - August 3rd



Watch for
Audition
information
coming soon!



Plan to come
be well
entertained
AND well fed!



Save the DATES!

More Events Coming...

Our Council has reserved the following dates for more
food and fellowship opportunities to come:

August 3rd - November 9th

Plan ahead to come and support our charitable endeavors!
Knights! Check to see how YOU can be involved and help out!

Food Drive Update



As of 6/30/25, Our Lady of the Lake has donated over
2716 lbs of food and \$2035 to the Salvation Army Food
Pantry for the Fraternal year 7/1/24 - 6/30/25.

Did you know the Salvation Army can buy food
at just \$0.18 per pound? Obviously this makes
monetary contributions more effective.

Just a reminder that for every 1000 lbs of food **AND** for
every \$500 donated, K of C donates \$100 to the pantry,
up to \$500 each from the K of C annually.

Want to make a monetary contribution to the Salvation Army Food Panty
through the Knights of Columbus to help reach the bonus gift from the K of C?

Make checks payable to:
K of C Council 6470
Memo: S. A. Food Pantry

Send checks to:
Knights of Columbus S. A. Food Pantry: Our Lady of the Lake
203 Vaughn Dr. Branson, MO. 65616

The next blood drive is scheduled
for **July 25th**
12 noon to 5:00pm
Our Lady of the Lake Parish Center
202 Vaughn Drive Branson MO. 65616

Red Cross Blood Drive

40 - units collected at the May 23rd, 2025 drive.
58 - drives successfully completed since Nov. 2015.
2899 - units of blood have been collected since Nov. 2015.

GO TO –
www.redcrossblood.org zip code 65616 to schedule appointment



Need a Digital Way to Donate?

Here's a handy dandy little QR code for
our Council's Venmo.

Just be sure to mention what it's for.
It helps to keep our financial secretary sane.

Meeting Reminder

Don't forget, our membership meetings are held every *first* Thursday in
the Faith Formation Room in the Church, Rosary starting @ 6:30pm, mtg @ 7pm.

Don't forget! The Larry Konzen Social is on after the meetings too!
Stick around after the meeting for a bit and enjoy some
fellowship and snacks with your brother knights.

Interested in becoming a Knight?

Contact the church office for contact information, or go online @
kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html

Use promo code **SHINKEBEIN** for one year free membership!

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." (Dt 30:14)

Psalm:

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. (Ps 19)

Second Reading:

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. (Col 1:15)

Gospel:

You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. (Lk 10:25)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Everyone is our neighbor — those we love and those we can't stand, the people we agree with and the people whose opinions we hate. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that we must not only see ourselves in every person we meet — we must see him, too.

Observances for the week of July 13, 2025

- Sunday:** 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
- Tuesday:** St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Wednesday:** Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- Friday:** St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, Explained!

Spiritual direction is the practice of seeking counsel from someone who is learned in the faith for the purpose of discerning the will of God in one's life.

Prayer for Charity

Give me the grace, Lord, to truly see those around me: the overlooked, the uncomfortable, the odd and disliked. Your kingdom is one of belonging, help us to be the types of neighbors who see and respond with Godly generosity. Amen.

Readings for the week of July 13, 2025

Sunday:

Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 (see 33)/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

Monday:

Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/
Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday:

Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/
Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday:

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7/
Mt 11:25-27

Thursday:

Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27/Mt 11:28-30

Friday:

Ex 11:10-12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday:

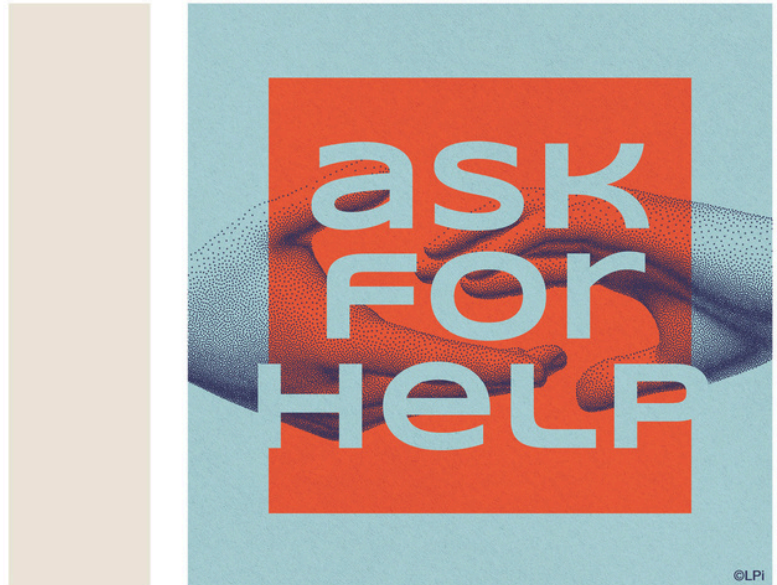
Ex 12:37-42/Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday:

Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/
Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

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. 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?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

When Jesus says, "You cannot serve both God and mammon," what does he mean? What is mammon?

Answer:

When you hear Scripture proclaimed each Sunday, remember it wasn't originally written in English. Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek — these ancient tongues were the original language of our Old and New Testaments. Most of the time, all of the words are translated into our native language. Sometimes, a word or two is left in the original language. Such is the case in this Scripture passage.

Mammon is an ancient Aramaic word referring to money, wealth, or profit. Earthly wealth isn't bad in itself, nor does it automatically exclude us from being a disciple of Jesus. But what dominates our life? To serve money — that is, to seek accumulation of wealth for its own sake and to structure our lives around it — is morally problematic. What good is our wealth if it isn't at the service of others? What good is our wealth if its pursuit leads us to selfishness, obsession, greed, envy, and comparison? There are many things that can be opposed to our service of God — power, prestige, popularity. Ultimately, something in our lives will be our master. But there is only one God worth serving.



[Jesus said,] “Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers’ victim?” He answered, “The one who treated him with mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

LUKE 10:36-37



The Passion of Compassion

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We tend to hear the parable of the Good Samaritan and place ourselves in the role of the Samaritan, thereby expected to be compassionate, as was the Samaritan. Those who heard Jesus tell the parable, however, would never have identified with the Samaritan. To them, the Samaritans were religious heretics who worshipped not in Jerusalem but at their own temple. Thus, the people of Jesus’ day would have seen themselves as the victim, the one on the side of the road. Who, then, would be the Samaritan, the surprising caregiver, the compassionate one? Because parables are about God and how God works, it would be God who is and has always been the one who heals and feeds and nurtures us back to life. The parable then surprises the hearer of Jesus’ day—God as a compassionate Samaritan!

It is God’s compassion that we bring to those seeking forgiveness as well as to those who, for whatever reason, have not yet reached the point of asking for forgiveness. It is God’s compassion that we bring to the unborn, the immigrant, the homeless, the sick in need of healing, the jobless who have lost hope. It is God’s compassion that a nation brings to anyone who has lost his or her way, as it has been noted that the greatness of a nation is in how that nation deals with and cares for the weakest among them. ●

Reflect

***When have I needed a compassionate response?
When could I have been more compassionate?***

Dear Padre,

I have a question about the prayer the priest says after the Our Father. Someone told me it's called an "embolism." Why don't we just end with "Amen" like when we say it at home?

You have correctly identified the "embolism" or "interpretation" that has been added to the Lord's Prayer during the sacred liturgy. It reads, "Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ." This addition, ancient in its use during the eucharistic liturgy, is a further explanation of the content and the intercessory nature of the prayer. It develops the last petition of the Lord's Prayer and asks for deliverance from the power of evil for the whole community of the faithful. It is an appropriate insertion, reflecting the purpose of the eucharistic gathering as spiritual but also as a celebration of the Lord's words and directions to us. In private prayer, the embolism would be out of place.

The sacred liturgy is filled with intercessory prayers, acclamations, and bits and pieces of ancient eucharistic prayers and blessings. Everything has been carefully chosen and placed within the celebration of the sacred liturgy to assist the faithful who gather to lift their minds and hearts to the Heavenly Father, through his Son Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit. ●



GOODPHOTO / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18	July 19	July 20
St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Weekday Ex 3:1-6, 9-12 Mt 11:25-27	Weekday Ex 3:13-20 Mt 11:28-30	Weekday Ex 11:10-12:14 Mt 12:1-8	Weekday Ex 12:37-42 Mt 12:14-21	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Gn 18:1-10a Col 1:24-28 Lk 10:38-42
Ex 1:8-14, 22 Mt 10:34-11:1	Ex 2:1-15a Mt 11:20-24					



RICCARDO DE LUCA - UPDATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

This is the prayer that I suggest to you today. "Lord, that I might see and have compassion just like you see me and have compassion on me"—that we might have compassion on those whom we encounter along the way, above all on those who suffer and are in need....

ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 10, 2022

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MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND

Saturday 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm (Spanish)
Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am (Live-Streamed)

WEEKDAY

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 9:00 am
Wednesday 5:30 pm
1st Friday 10:00 am

Holy Day of Obligation

Noon and 7pm (Bilingual)

RECONCILIATION

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or by Appointment (417-334-2928)

ADORATION

Tuesday 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

1st Wednesday of the month. After Mass -

Adoration, Exposition, and Benediction until 7:30pm

Thursday 9:30 am - 7:00 pm

- We will not have the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the week before, the week of, and the week after a holiday.
- All Adorers, please sign in when you come to pray before the Blessed Sacrament.
- Please get in touch with the office if you need a door code or are having trouble with your own.

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