



Our Lady of the Sierra Parish

Our Lady of the Sierra Church | St Dominic Mission | St. Joseph Mission

Sunday, July 13, 2025, Vol. 226

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Deut 30.10-14; Col 1.15-20

Luke 10.25-37 – The Parable of the Good Samaritan



Focus: The Good Samaritan

The law of God is not so far away that it is difficult to find, or so dense that it takes a learned person to be able to understand and practice it. Rather as Moses tells the people in the first reading, the law of the Lord is already in our hearts; all it takes is carrying it out. Everything that we need to know about what it takes to do God's will and build up the kingdom of God here on earth is written by God in our hearts!

Yet knowing the law is only half the battle, what we do as a response to the law is what makes us disciples of Jesus. Jesus was aware of this when sharing the parable of the good Samaritan. In the parable, the priest and Levite who passed the beaten-up traveler were not evil people. Both these men were men of God, and they knew that in the case this traveler was dead, by touching him the Jewish purity laws would make them unclean, and they didn't want to take that risk. What made the Samaritan the hero in the parable is the fact that he was willing to take a chance and put himself on the line for the sake of the other. The Samaritan was not choosy with whom he helped and acted out of genuine love.

As stewards, when we share the gifts of our time and talent with others, are we like the Samaritan by being generous with our gifts and showing no partiality, or like the priest and Levite in the parable, do we only act when it is out of our best interest? Is there a way in which we are being called by God to share our gifts, but we hold back? If we find that we are not truly giving our best to the Lord, let us repent and try to give to the Lord the best of what we can offer, whether it be through prayer, or volunteering our time with our parish.

SUMMARY

Everything that we need to know about doing the will of God, building up his kingdom and following God's law is written by God on our hearts. The parable of the Good Samaritan reminds us how it is easy to know the right thing to do but it is harder to act on this knowledge and to act out of love. As God's stewards, let us strive to be like to Good Samaritan, who gave completely of himself for the well-being of the other and seeking nothing in return.

SELF-EXAMINATION

The Samaritan does not hesitate to offer generous help to the suffering neighbor in his path. How do you respond to the suffering you come across? How might Jesus be inviting you to a more wholehearted response?

It is significant that the first Christians were called "disciples of the Way" (cf. Acts 9:2). In fact, the believer strongly resembles the Samaritan – like him, the believer is on a journey, is a wayfarer. The believer knows they have not "arrived", but wants to learn each day, following the Lord Jesus who said: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (Jn 14:6), "I am the way". The disciple of Christ walks along following Him and thus becomes a "disciple of the Way". He or she goes behind the Lord, is not sedentary, no, but is always on the way. Along the way, he or she meets people, heals the sick, visits villages and cities. This is what the Lord did, he was always on the move. (Pope Francis, 15th OT, Year C)

Vision Statement: Journeying together in our quest for holiness.

Mission Statement: To become intentional disciples of Jesus Christ, nurtured by the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Patron, and accompanied by the shepherds, coordinators and people of our Church

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DISCIPLESHIP: A JOURNEY OF FOLLOWING AND TRANSFORMATION (continuation)

Key Characteristics of a Disciple



- ♦ **FOLLOWING JESUS:** A disciple consciously chooses to follow Jesus, leaving behind anything that hinders this commitment. This involves radical obedience to his teachings, even when it's inconvenient or challenging.
- ♦ **BEING CHANGED BY JESUS:** Discipleship is a process of internal change, *allowing the Holy Spirit to mold and shape us into the image of Christ*. This transformation produces the fruit of the Spirit, such as love, joy, peace, and patience.
- ♦ **COMMITTED TO JESUS' MISSION:** Disciples are called to "go and make disciples". This involves sharing the gospel, helping other believers grow in their faith, and being actively engaged in God's work in the world.

DISCIPLESHIP IN PRACTICE

Discipleship can happen in various ways:

- ♦ **Mentorship:** Having someone who is more mature in faith guide, encourage, and hold you accountable.
- ♦ **Community:** Engaging with other believers in meaningful relationships, supporting each other and growing together.
- ♦ **Daily Habits:** Cultivating spiritual disciplines like prayer, Bible study, and service. *(to be continued)*



July 13 Religious Education
July 27 Maintenance Fund

VBS "Camp Catholic" Off to a Great Start!

Day 1—already a blast for children in Vacation Bible School as they experience Faith, Fellowship, Fun, and Food. **F**aith-Bible (Genesis), prayers, trek to the sanctuary; **F**ellowship-meeting, sharing, talking; **F**un—crafts, laughing, playing, singing, jokes; **F**ood—healthy snacks, drinks, lunch.



MASS INTENTIONS

15 Tue	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham	19 Sat 4 PM	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham
16 Wed	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham	20 Sun 8 AM	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham
17 Thu	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham	9:30 AM	RM—Patricia Bougoino By Donna Wolfer
18 Fri	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham	11:30 AM	11:30 AM Pro Populo
		6:30 PM	RM—Prospero Gonzales By Norma Gonzales

RM – Requiem Mass; **T**—Thanks-giving **BD** – Biday **SI** – Spec. Intent.

CALENDAR & SCHEDULES

July 14 to 20 WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

14 Mon	Office Closed
15 Tue	8:00 AM Rosary & Mass 9:00 St. Joseph Devotion
16 Wed	8:00 AM Rosary & Mass 9:00 Devotion to St. Joseph
17 Thu	8:00AM Divine Mercy & Mass 9:00 Devotion to Padre Pio 9AM-12PM REL ED WRITING MTG 10:00 LITURGY MIN. MTG 1:00 PM FINANCE CNCL. MTG
18 Fri	8:00AM Rosary & Mass 9:00 to 12 Noon Sacred Heart 9AM-12PM REL ED WRITING MTG ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
19 Sat	3:00 PM Confessions 4:00 PM Mass
20 Sun	8:00 AM Mass-St Joseph 9:30 AM Mass-St Dominic 11:30 AM Mass-OLS

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

14 Mon	(M) St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin Ex 1:8-14, 22/Mt 10:34—11:
15 Tue	(M) St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor, Ex 2:1-15a/Mt 11:20-24
16 Wed	Wednesday, 15th Week in OT (m) Our Lady of Mt. Carmel) Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Mt 11:25-27
17 Thu	Thursday, 15th Week in OT Ex 3:13-20/Mt 11:28-30
18 Fri	Friday, 15th Week in OT (m) Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest] Ex 11:10—12:14/Mt 12:1-8
19 Sat	Saturday, 15th Week in OT Ex 12:37-42/Mt 12:14-21
20 Sun	16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Gn 18:1-10a/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Closed

Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM

Closed for lunch: 12:30 to 1:00 PM

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