

Parish News

Here is your weekly update. There are also attachments for this week.

Our Parish had 9 students receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this past Tuesday. Below is the group picture of them with Bishop Cunningham, Fr. Mark and Deacon Kirk.



I will be on vacation next Sunday to the following Sunday. There will be no newsletter for the next 2 weeks

Parish Festival

Parish Festival is set for August 2-4
There will be the flea market for 3 days
As well as the basket raffle
Polish Kitchen -Sunday August 4th
Fried Dough, Outdoor grill and regular raffle

The garages will be open July 1 for your flea market treasure. Details to follow

Question? Call Chris 315 768 4803

Stewardship-

Operating expenses for the Parish on a weekly basis are \$6,200.00
Collection.

Stewardship for June 2 Ordinary \$6470.00 Fuel \$1465.00

Hope Appeal

2nd Collection at weekend Masses is for the Hope Appeal and will continue in order for the Parish to reach the 2024 Goal
Goal \$38,468.00 Received to date \$27,538.02

Parish Giving-

The Parish is pleased to introduce "Enhancing Stewardship through Electronic Funds Transfer. It is convenient no more searching for a checkbook or Sunday morning stops at the ATM. To excess simply Log on the parish website www.sacredheart-saintmary.org and click on the Parish Giving Log and follow the easy registration instructions. It is Secure.

Formation for ministry/Deacon Formation 2024

Sacred Heart/St Mary's

Information Session June 9^h 1:00PM-3:30 PM

To register: formationformministrysyr.org or

Call 315-470-1479

Events at other Parishes in our area

Please remember we are all a Catholic Community and need to support each other.

Totus Tuus

Mary Mother Savior Parish

July 21-26

Day Program 1st grade to 6th Grade

9am-3pm

Cost is \$45 per child

You can register on line@ [https://Totustuus-2024-marymotherofoursavior -
dayprogram.eventbrite.com](https://Totustuus-2024-marymotherofoursavior-dayprogram.eventbrite.com)

Evening Program

Sunday to Thursday 7pm-9pm

7th-12th Grade

Cost \$20 per teen

You can register on line@ [https://Totustuus-2024-marymotherofoursavior -
dayprogram.eventbrite.com](https://Totustuus-2024-marymotherofoursavior-dayprogram.eventbrite.com)

Youth Ministry Nights

Mary Mother Savior Parish

June 10th and 17th

6:30-8pm In Lawler Hall-Lourdes Campus.

Save the Date

St. Anthony and St Agnes Festival

June 7-8pm

Catholic Food for thought





Please remember that your child faith formation does not end with a year's program. Share your faith with your children until the 2024-2025 year begins in September. Attending Mass is a wonderful way to continue your family faith journey.

Remember God does not take a vacation.

The Faith Formation Program is looking for teachers assistants for the following grades, 1st Grade and 2nd Grade. If you wish to help share your faith with the children of the Parish, please give a call. Anyone who will help will require Virtus training. Lynn 315 527 8399



Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday @3:15PM prior to Mass

Saturday 4pm

Sunday's

7:30am 9AM and 11AM

Weekdays 12:15 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Friday.

There will no Mass on Thursday

Let's remember that as Catholics, the importance of attending Sunday Mass. At Mass we stand at mystically at the foot of the cross and witness for ourselves the same self-sacrifice of Jesus, in an unbloody manner. Mass is a celebration of this sacrifice. It is the active participation of all that come together in the place of worship.

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: GN 3:9-15

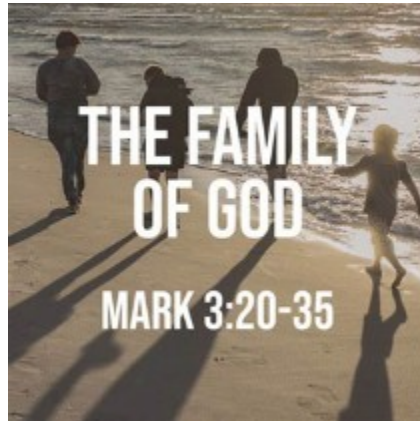
Responsorial Psalms: 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

2nd Reading: 2 Cor 4:13-5:1

Gospel: Mk 3:20-35

While these are wonderful reflections, please remember that they are not to be a substitute for the wonderful sermons of Father or Deacon Kirk at Mass.

As always, I try to find wonderful reflections for this week's Gospel reading. I let the Holy Spirit guide me. While this one is a bit long, the Holy Spirit leads me to share with everyone. Powerful



Have you ever done something that made other people wonder if you have lost your mind? If so, you can probably understand what is going on in Mark 3:20-35.

This takes place early in Jesus' ministry when word of his teachings and miracles is starting to spread. This was a homecoming-Jesus' homecoming. Our instincts and associations of home and family shape our expectations about how this event will unfold.

Jesus' earthly family and friends didn't understand his ministry. They didn't understand that He was the Son of God. To the people of Nazareth, he was just the son of Mary and Joseph-earthly parents. We are the same. Sometimes we can't understand Jesus and his ministry. Sometimes it's hard for us to understand who Jesus is, what he does and why he does what he does. Often we make a rash judgment about Jesus. We need to ask God what his will is for our lives. We need to ask God why he is doing what he is doing in our lives.

At this stage of His ministry, not even Jesus' own people-His own family-believed He was the Messiah, the Chosen One of God. He also faced opposition from His own disciples, not just from the religious teachers and His political enemies. Still, He never wavered from His mission.

Because the Pharisees did not understand what Jesus was doing, they accused him of being possessed by the devil. They wanted to discredit Jesus in the eyes of the people, but their claim had one big flaw. How could the devil defeat the devil? Jesus challenged the way the religious leaders were calling God's work

the work of the devil. The devil and his angels are of equal strength, so evil can't defeat evil. A strong man can only be defeated by someone who is stronger. Since good is always stronger than evil, good will always defeat evil. Jesus is the champion of everything that is good, so he will always defeat evil. By labelling His healings and exorcisms as works of the devil, Jesus' opponents tried to portray His miracles as counterfeit wonders designed to lead people away from God. His miracles commonly led people to praise God rather than blaspheme Him—further proving that Jesus' kingdom is a heavenly one.

Truth-tellers make us uncomfortable. They disturb our creeds, customs and stubborn peculiarities. The apostle Paul said not to get weary in doing good deeds. Truth and doing good deeds are not always appreciated. We can't handle them. Those who challenge the status quo are dangerous. They threaten to upset everything. Jesus was dangerous in the eyes of both the Pharisees and His biological family. We as Christians are in the same situation today. If we challenge the way things are or the way things are done, we may be seen as insane or dangerous, and we may be persecuted.

So what's going on? How has Jesus' ministry of preaching and teaching and healing created such controversy and accusation? The answer is actually fairly simple: Jesus is so totally what the religious authorities don't expect that they have absolutely no idea what to make of him. He doesn't fit their categories, and what doesn't fit our categories we typically label abnormal, or deviant, or crazy, or possessed. We assume that what we know, have experienced, and hold to be true is normal, natural, and God-ordained, and that becomes the standard by which we measure — and judge — the thoughts and actions of others. And that's what going on here.

Jesus' whole ministry thus far has been about announcing both a new vision of God and a new way of relating to God. And at the heart of that vision and way is the conviction that God is love, that God desires the health and healing of all God's creation, that God stands both with us and for us, that God is determined to love and redeem us no matter what the cost, and that this God chooses to be accessible to us, to all of us — indeed, to anyone and everyone.

This is why Jesus sets himself against all the powers that would rob humanity and creation of the abundant life God intends — whether those powers be unclean spirits; disease that ravages the mind, body or spirit; illness that isolates and separates those who suffer from community; or whatever. Jesus introduces a new vision of God and a new way to relate to God...and it's not what any of us religious folk would expect.

Jesus frequently prefaced His parables with either a thought-provoking question or straightforward teaching points in order to frame His stories properly. These were effective ways to help people see their faulty reasoning and their need for a Saviour. If Satan really was behind Jesus' miracles, then the devil would be defeating himself, which doesn't make any sense. Jesus defeated Satan because He is more powerful than Satan.

Normally, when there is a champion of any type-sports, politics, etc. — most people will follow the champion. In other words, many people will “jump on the bandwagon”, but there will still be some opponents. There is a similar situation in this passage. By accusing Jesus of using the devil's power to cast out demons, the Pharisees rejected the work of the Holy Spirit. They willingly rejected Christ as their Saviour because they did not want to give up their power, prestige, authority, etc. Because they chose not to believe, they refused to accept forgiveness for their sins. Refusing to accept the Holy Spirit is the only sin that cannot be forgiven-and not blasphemy as most believers would think.

How many people in our modern world have refused to accept Christ because it would mean giving up an earthly way of life that is more important to them? The list is endless, but it includes the famous and not so famous. It includes people such as actor John Belushi and singers Whitney Houston, Amy Winehouse and Michael Jackson-people whose desire for the good things of this earthly life led to their downfall and death from drug and alcohol abuse (even though Whitney Houston was raised in a strong Christian church and with a strong Christian faith).

Jesus' family wanted to charge him with insanity. The Pharisees wanted to charge Him with working for Satan. Jesus answered these charges with riddles, and they make sense to us. They call on us to consider how Jesus might have

to do with how we imagine our world and the ways of God and His creation.
What is God calling us to see and hear in Jesus?

Jesus' earthly family was concerned about his physical and mental health, but Jesus was more concerned about the spiritual health of the people he dealt with. True "family" is not a matter of biological relationship, but of kinship in obedience to God, and that kinship begins when God through his grace adopts us into his family. God wants to have a family, but if we want to join His family, we have to detach ourselves from our old families. In a world where there is so much opposition to the Christian faith, and where our homes and families demand so much of our time, our one priority is to love one another wherever we are, and with every breath of our being.

Jesus defied the norms about who's in and who's out. People possessed by demons and those who were maimed or born with a physical limitation or defect were often assumed to be cursed, to be not natural, or to have sinned or to be suffering from the sins of their parents. Jesus forgives and heals all who are in need-no exceptions. If people weren't sure about this before, Jesus pushed his point unbelievably and quite literally home when he says that anyone and everyone who does the work of God is his true brother and sister and mother. He redefined what constitutes a family at a time when family was everything.

Although Jesus honoured His mother as the law commanded in John 19:26-27, Jesus did not allow even His own flesh and blood to prevent Him from doing the will of God. A closer bond exists between brothers and sisters in the faith than among biological siblings because of their spiritual relationship. This is why Jesus later said that believers who must part ways with their family of origin because of their faith gain a much larger and more closely-knit family. When Christ is the focus of our lives, faith becomes stronger than family.

For Jesus, action in response to the call of God marks what it means to be a member of God's family. Relationships in God's family are couched in terms of doing God's will. At this point in the story, the will of God is not defined. Jesus offers another invitation of hospitality that is about meeting people where they are, accepting anyone who is interested in God's kingdom and responding to need no matter who is asking or when or how they ask. We have to trust Jesus

and the invitation to join him and believe that together we will take part in spreading the Good News of God's kingdom.

Instead of asking why Jesus got so much flack, we should ask ourselves why we aren't getting more flack. Why aren't we pushing the boundaries of what is socially and religiously acceptable in order to reach more folks with the always surprising, often upsetting, unimaginably gracious and ridiculous love of Jesus?

If that's the kind of love we want to offer, we must ask ourselves if we are communicating that message in our words and our deeds loudly and clearly, both in the church and in the community.

Those who accept the Holy Spirit will do the will of God and thereby become part of the new concept of family that Jesus creates. That is, they will become part of the family of God. This is not meant to exclude our biological family unless they refuse to accept the Holy Spirit and therefore refuse to do God's will.

When we allow the Holy Spirit in our lives, nothing can stop us. We have a power that can overcome everything the devil throws in our way-even the opposition of our earthly family. That power is the awesome power of God!

When we unite with fellow believers, the power is even greater

This week's Saints of the week:

The saints are models of human excellence, perfected by the life of Christ and the communication of his Spirit. They demonstrate in their lives how to really live and how to really die. They consistently point to the horizon of love which leads to the fulfillment of all human desire: eternal communion with the Holy Trinity.

June 11-Memorial of St Barnabas, Apostle; June 13-Memorial of St Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church



While there is no faith formation until September. Below are reflections for the children until they return to the program in fall.

We are the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

Object

Song: "The Family of God"

Scripture

"Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!"

Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother." Mark 3:33-35

(NIV)

What is a family? One definition I found in the dictionary said a family is "A group consisting of parents and children living together in a household." That is, no doubt, one way to define a family, but a family can be much more than that, can't it? A family can be any group that is brought together by common interests, beliefs, and love for one another. One of the best examples of this

kind of family is the Church. The Church is a family bound together by love for God, their Heavenly Father, and for one another. There is a song written by Bill and Gloria Gaither that describes the Church as the family of God.

"The Family of God"

I'm so glad I'm a part of the Family of God,
I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,
For I'm part of the family,
The Family of God.

You will notice we say "brother and sister" 'round here,
It's because we're a family and these are so near;
When one has a heartache, we all share the tears,
And rejoice in each victory in this family so dear.

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus was together with his disciples in a house.
When Jesus' mother and brothers arrived at the house, they sent someone inside to look for him. They told Jesus, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

Jesus looked around at the people seated around him and answered, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

Did Jesus love his real mother and brothers? Of course he did, but he also realized that he had another family. It was a family made up of those who loved his Heavenly Father and wanted to do his will.

You and I love our families, but we also have a wonderful family of faith made up of brothers and sisters who love God and love one another. It is wonderful to be a part of "The Family of God."

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our families and we thank you for our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Weekly Prayers

It is hard to believe that June is here and summer starts soon.





Diocese of Syracuse

3) From the Catholic Schools Office:

Save the Date: On Monday, June 17, 2024 we will hold our **3rd Annual Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament at [Turning Stone Resort](#)**. This exciting event benefits Catholic Schools scholarships. We strive to raise much needed funds for our Light a Child's Future Scholarship program, which enables economically disadvantaged students to attend Catholic Schools in our diocese.

Did you know that 65% of our students rely on financial aid or scholarship support to attend our schools? Your support will directly aid underprivileged students, ensuring their participation in a faith-centered community focused on promoting academic excellence.

Please join us:

- [Serve as a Sponsor](#) or [Register as an individual or foursome team\(s\)](#)

Sponsorships begin at \$500 - Click [here](#) for a complete list

- **Promote the Golf Tournament in your Parish**

See attached flyer for bulletin boards and Parish website

Event Details:

Light A Child's Future Charity Golf Tournament.

Monday, June 17 2024

Shenandoah Golf Club, Verona NY

18 holes of golf, rain or shine

11:00-1:00 Registration and grab-and-go lunch

1:00 Shotgun start

5:30 Cocktail hour
6:30-9:00 Celebration Dinner

From the Office of Adolescent Catechesis & Discipleship:

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER PILGRIMAGE

August 10, 2024 - Niagara Falls, New York

Middle school youth are invited to visit Niagara Falls and the Fatima Shrine, ride the Maid of the Mist, and finish the day with Laser tag and pizza and wings at LASERTRON! This all-day event is open to youth entering grades 6 through 8. The cost of the trip is \$65 per participant and includes all activities, a t-shirt, and dinner.

[Click here to register your group!](#)

Contact Mary Angela Fisher at 315-470-1402 or mafisher@syrdio.org for more information.

Young Adult Hike with Bishop Lucia

Saturday, June 29, 2024

Highland Forest County Park, Fabius, NY

\$25 per ticket

Young adults (ages 18-39) from across the Diocese of Syracuse are invited to join Bishop Douglas Lucia on the fourth annual summer hike! The hike will begin at Highland Forest, Fabius, New York. Following the hike, the bishop will celebrate a private Vigil Mass for the following Sunday. The evening will conclude with dinner and drinks, catered by Dinosaur BBQ, and the opportunity to socialize.

(The ticket cost covers dinner, beverages, and dessert)

Lynn M. Springer
Director of Faith Formation
Sacred Heart/St Mary's
315 527 8399