

Parish News

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

Stewardship-

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

Stewardship for August 18 Ordinary \$6080.00
Assumption (Holy Day) \$1567.00

Online Giving

Hope Appeal

Fr. Mark has announced that the Parish has met the goal for last year. The Dioceses will announce the assessment for the Parish in September for 2025

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.

Events at other Parishes in our area

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

Mary Mother Savior Parish

Save the Date-Annual Parish Bazaar

Labor Day Weekend

August 29th-30th

Holy Trinity Church Annual Parish Festival

1206 Lincoln Ave-Utica

11am-3pm

Sunday Sept 8th from 11am-3pm

Doors open @ 11 am

Dinner served 12 noon

Basket and Gift Raffle, 50/50, music, children activities and Authentic Polish dinner

(Pierogi, Golablki, Kielbasa, Wedding Cabbage, mixed ve, Rye Bread and dessert)

\$20 per person , \$50 for family

Historic Old St. John's -Utica

Annual Sister Mary Theresa Charity Bazaar

Saturday Sept 7th 12Pm-6pm

Sunday Sept 8th 10am-4pm

Ethnic Foods, Kids Games, Raffles, Crafts, Marketplace and more

St Anthony/St Agnes Church-Utica

Feast of Sts. Cosmas & Damian

Saturday Sept 28 -Mass @4:30pm in the Church

6pm @ outdoor shire & benedictions to follow 6pm Mass-LaBanda Rossa will perform @8pm and Sunday Sept 29th -Mass @ 9:30 am -Outshire @ 11AM

Grand Procession will begin @ 12ms

Blessing of the Sick offered @ 1:30pm @ the outdoor Shrine

Food, Beer & Wine, Pizza Fritta, Italian Novelties and Religious Articles

Available.

Saturday 5-10pm, Sunday 8am-3pm

Mary, Mother of our Savior Parish invites all teens in the Greater Utica Area to join us for Youth Ministry Nights:

Who: Teens in grades 7 thru 12 from the Greater Utica Area

Where: Mary Mother Of Our Savior Parish, Seton Center, 2 Barton Ave, Utica
(look for the welcome flag)

When: Monday evenings 6:30PM-8:00PM
(following the school calendar)

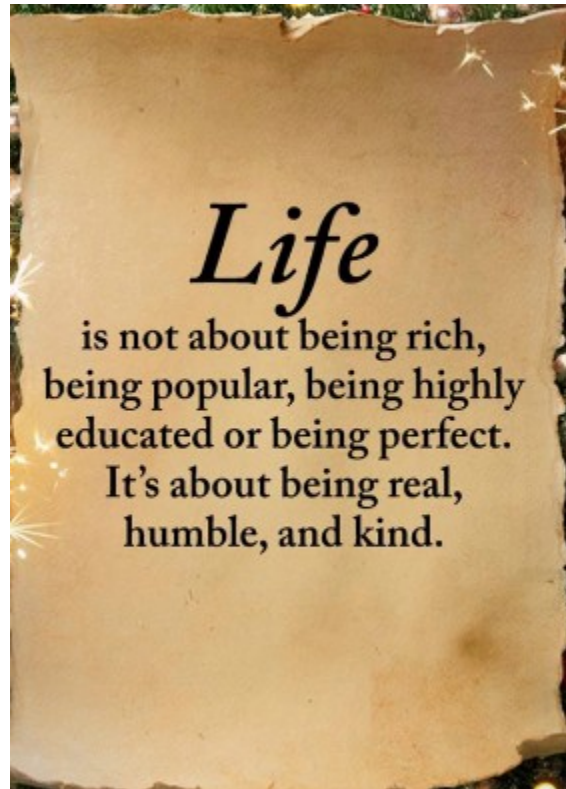
Youth Ministry Kickoff will take place on Monday, September 30th
www.motherofoursavior.org

What are Youth Ministry Nights?

Our Youth Ministry Nights (YMN) consist of games and snacks, followed by a short faith message. Then the teens form small groups to talk about that topic in a safe, honest, authentic way with their peers. This is a highlight of the night, to hear from peers about the faith, to share doubts and questions and to be lifted up and encouraged in their faith in God, all guided by an adult core team member. Then we go to the chapel for a short prayer service and end with an awesome dinner! We also make sure to include social nights once a month. Social Nights may include: Movie Nights, Camp Fires, Holiday Parties, Trips/Teen Outings like GetAir, Retreats, Service Opportunities and more...

For information please reach out to Brittany Wilcox: bwilcox@syrdio.org

Food for thought





Registration for the Faith Formation 2024-2025

Attached is the program for Pre-8 grade
& Block for 9-10 Confirmation.

Fee of \$25 for 1 child and \$45 per family

If you wish to pre-register your family for the program, please contact me directly at 315-527-8399.

Our Parish follows the Diocese of Syracuse for the **Sacrament of First Communion and Confirmation** which is the same in all Parishes in the Utica area. The Sacrament of First Communion and Confirmation is a 2 year program in order to receive the sacraments. This is a requirement for both sacraments.

If your child is making one of these 2 Sacraments and your child was not Baptised at the Parish, a copy of the Baptismal Certification is required.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

The 9th & 10th Grade-Confirmation will be a block program offered thru the Greater Utica Area - Unlike last year where registration was on 1 form for all Parishes, this year, students will be required to sign up for 9th & 10th Grade Confirmation at the Parish.

Here are the parent meeting dates that we invite only 9 and 10 th grade teens and parents to attend. They **MUST** attend one meeting that is convenient for them in order to hear the block explanation and register for which classes they want. This is 9&10 only

1. Sunday sept 15 at Seton center at MMOOS at 6pm
2. Monday sept 16 at St. John the evangelist at 630

3. Sunday sept 22 at st pat/st Anthony Chadwick's at 12:15pm
4. Sunday sept 22 at st Mary's Clinton at 6pm
5. Sunday sept 29 at seton center at MMOOS at 6pm

Mark your calendars

PCA Collaborate Event -December 8th
St. Pauls, Sacred Heart/St Mary's/ Holy Trinity and Mary Mother of Savior Parish
St Paul's Whitesboro
From 2-4pm Activities
Grades Pre-K to 6th and Parents



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

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4PM

Sunday: 8am 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.

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

Responsorial Psalms: Ps 15: 2-3, 3-4, 4-5

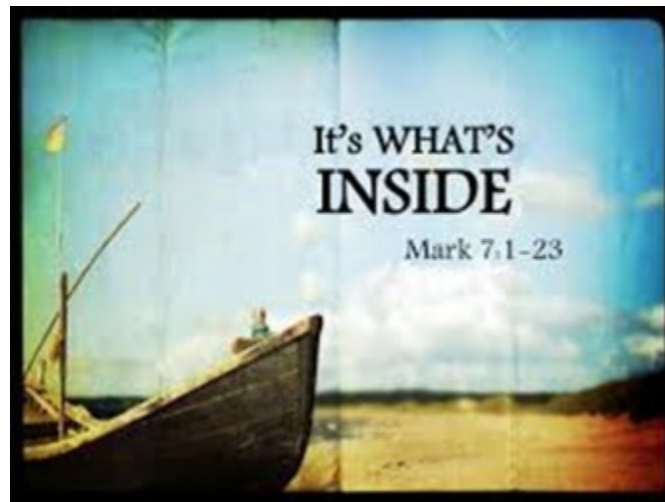
2nd Reading: Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22,27

Gospel: Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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.

This week's reflection comes from Fr. Terrance Klein from the Diocese of Dodge City.



There is a great distance between heart and lips. The Prophet Isaiah said as much, and our Lord, observing the reception of his teaching, must sadly cite him. "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me" (Mk 7:6).

We can say all sorts of things that lie far from what we truly feel. Even the truest words, expressions of real love, can find a hard entrance into the heart. It is so easily broken, so strongly guarded.

Words alone are not enough. I cannot remember my father telling me that he loved me. Being a man of few words—as we say—it is not something that he would have often said, though, often enough that I do not remember any particular instance. But I do remember the first time I felt loved by my father. It came at the close of the day.

The Sundays of my childhood were spent visiting our grandparents, both sets of whom lived a little less than an hour away. The day began with early Mass, followed by a morning drive to the home of my father's parents. In the afternoon, we transferred to my mother's family. A long day with lots of cousins would drain us kids, and we were fast asleep by the time we reached home after dark.

Do you remember falling asleep in the back seat of your family car? You were not quite comfortable, but you were out cold. I often crawled into the window well above our car's back seat. They were more spacious then, and child safety had not yet become an issue. I would fall asleep up there, counting immovable stars as the highway slid by beneath us.

I would not awake until the car doors swung open and cold air filled the cabin. We were all so groggy! Dad did not expect us to awake and walk inside. Instead, he picked each of us up, carrying us, singly or in two, into our bedrooms. That is my earliest memory of feeling loved: my father's arms carrying me to bed.

Why do words have such trouble reaching the heart? Why will the heart not be convinced? That is the power of sin in our lives. Not sin as the transgression of some commandment but its deeper meaning: sin as isolation and illusion. We do not live in God; we have lost our way.

Here are some telling examples of words that have yet to make their way into the heart. How many of us believe, deep within our hearts, the teaching that we came forth from a God who loves us and that we can rely on the same love to bring us home?

Who deeply knows in the heart what we say so often with our lips, that God gave his Son to die, washing away our failures? Words on the lips can be true and still lack roots in the heart. We have learned to say them, but do we trust them?

Consider the audacious words we so glibly repeat at every Mass. How many of them seep into our hearts? Listen to them again. Try to recapture, for a fleeting moment, what they truly mean.

“The Lord be with you.”

“The Word of the Lord.”

“Maker of heaven and earth, of all things, visible and invisible.”

“Lift up your hearts.”

“This is my body, which will be given up for you.”

“The Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

How differently would we live if these words could find root in our hearts? What is the trick, the grace, that would allow them to enter that closed chamber? Is the truth too good to be believed? That the universe is not only on our side? That it became flesh and blood to show us, to convince us that we are loved?

Such a great distance between lips and heart! We need to be lifted into God’s arms because words are not enough. And in this life, we do that by the grace of imaginative prayer. Christ came as a man of flesh and blood so that some could remember and all those who came after could imagine being held in his arms.

The Good Lord knew that love could not speak once and stay silent. Hence the Eucharist. It allows him to speak again, to show, as he dies upon the cross, that

“This is my body, which will be given for you.”

And so, we return each Sunday, a family on the way home. We see the folk and we hear the words of love and concern. We take him into our hands, into our flesh. Hopefully someday—hopefully not just our last day on earth—his words on our lips will break down the walls of the heart. That is the grace we need, the grace we long for, week after week.

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.

Sept 3rd St Gregory the Great, Pope 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.

Theme

Jesus' admonition to the Pharisees that outer appearances don't matter as much as what's within - Yr. B, 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Object

An x-ray

Scripture

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (NIV)

How many of you have ever gone to the dentist? (ask for a show of hands) Ask the children what happens at the dentist's office. Affirm that the dentist checks their teeth, cleans their teeth, and may apply sealants. Then show the children a dental x-ray. Ask them what it is. Probably at least some of the children will know that x-rays are taken to see if the teeth have any hidden cavities. Talk about how teeth can have decay that isn't noticeable on the outside, where everything can look fine, but if we don't fix the cavity, more problems can occur.

Now talk with the children about how we can look fine from the outside but our heart is not pure. We can hide feelings in our heart that make Jesus sad, like wanting what other people have (envy or jealousy), like thinking we are better than others (pride), or wanting harm to come to other people (hate). Explain that Jesus knows what is in our hearts, and that if we have feelings like this, he wants to help us to become pure again, like we were when we were baptized. Let the children know that it is better to deal with our feelings when the problems

are small (like little cavities) than to wait until the problems are bigger (like having to pull the tooth because the cavity is just too big).

Let the children know that Jesus doesn't want anything to separate us from him. He wants us to stick by him closer than a brother. Jesus gives us parents and our church and the Bible to help us to remain pure and to get our feelings and thoughts right with God. When our feelings are not pure, we get far away from God and this causes us to be sad, and even causes God to be sad.

Dear Jesus, thank you for knowing us as we really are, on the inside as well as on the outside, and loving us anyway. Help us to want to know you more and to love others as much as we love ourselves. Give us thankfulness for our blessings and help us to love and help others who could use our help. Amen.

Weekly Prayer



Lynn M. Springer
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Sacred Heart/St Mary's
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