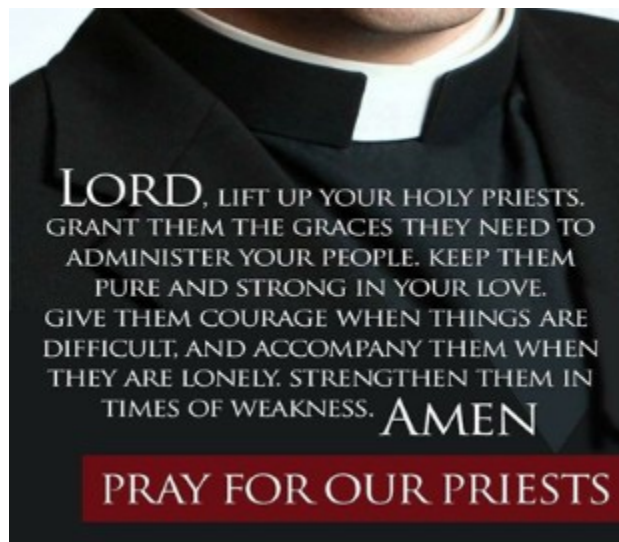


Parish News

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

This Sunday September 29th we celebrate Priesthood Sunday. It is a special opportunity to honor the vital roles of the Priest in the life of the Church. Let us remember our Pastor Fr. Mark and the other priests that service in our greater Utica area as well as past pastors of our Parish.



Mark you calendars for the annual Falling Leaves and Friendship 8th Annual Polish dinner
In support of Hope House
Saturday Oct 8th from 5-7pm
Tickets \$30

Stewardship-

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

Stewardship for Sept 1 Ordinary \$5086.00 Fuel \$1412.00

2n Collection -Retirement Fund \$1115.00

Sept 8th Ordinary \$5467.50 ; Catholic University of America \$340.00

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.

Holy Name Society

Sunday Sept 22 from Noon to sold out
Drive Thru-Pork BBQ
\$13.00

Events at other Parishes in our area

Red Mass has long been associated with the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, invoking God's blessings and the Holy Spirit to guide the life and work of the legal profession in the coming year. This year's masses for the Diocese of Syracuse are listed below:

Monday, October 7th at 12:10 pm
Historic Old St. John Church
240 Bleeker Street
Utica, NY 13501

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

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
Foof, Beer & Wine, Pizza Fritta, Italian Novelties and Religious Articles Available.
Saturday 5-10pm, Sunday 8am-3pm

Ignite Catholic Men's Conference

Eastern Region Men's Retreat
Mary Mother of Savior Parish @ Lourdes
Featuring the 2 newly Ordained Priest
Fr. Ben Schrantz and Fr.Pawel Zmijia
7am to 12pm
Saturday October 19th 2024

Register @ www.ignitecatholicmen.org

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@syrдио.org

Utica Newman Catholic

Christian Fellowship

For registered College Students/Utica Area

For questions Contact Campus Minister, Pat Gillick @

Uticanewmandoutreach@syrдио.org

Free Pizza and Wing Dinner after every 4pm Sunday Evening Mass

Our Lady of the Rosary Campus

Food for thought

"Spending time with God is the key to our strength and success in all areas of life. Be sure that you never try to work God into your schedule but always work your schedule around Him."



Registration for the Faith Formation 2024-2025

Faith Formation starts this Sunday. If you have not registered your child (ren) it's not too late.

You may register your family tomorrow.

Attached is the program for Pre-K -8 grade

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

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,Mary Mother of Savior Parish and joining us will be Blessed Sacrament/Mt Carmel

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-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Wis 2: 12, 17-20

Responsorial Psalms: Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6, and 8

2nd Reading: Jas 3:16-4:3

Gospel: Mk 9:30-37

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.



"If anyone
wishes to
be first, he
shall be the
last of all
and the
servant of
all." –
Jesus
(Mark 9:35)

www.mjdasma.blogspot.com

This week's reflection comes from Fr. John Bartunek

T

I DESIRE TO LOVE YOU, O MY GOD, WITH A LOVE THAT IS PATIENT, WITH A LOVE THAT ABANDONS ITSELF WHOLLY TO YOU, WITH A LOVE THAT ACTS, AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, WITH A LOVE THAT PERSEVERES." – ST. THERESA MARGARET OF THE SACRED HEART

MARK 9:30-37: AFTER LEAVING THAT PLACE THEY MADE THEIR WAY THROUGH GALILEE; AND HE DID NOT WANT ANYONE TO KNOW, BECAUSE HE WAS INSTRUCTING HIS DISCIPLES; HE WAS TELLING THEM, 'THE SON OF MAN WILL BE DELIVERED INTO THE HANDS OF MEN; THEY WILL PUT HIM TO DEATH; AND THREE DAYS AFTER HE HAS BEEN PUT TO DEATH HE WILL RISE AGAIN.' BUT THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT HE SAID AND WERE AFRAID TO ASK HIM. THEY CAME TO [CAPERNAUM](#), AND WHEN HE WAS IN THE HOUSE HE ASKED THEM, 'WHAT WERE YOU ARGUING ABOUT ON THE ROAD?' THEY SAID NOTHING BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN ARGUING WHICH OF THEM WAS THE GREATEST. SO HE SAT DOWN, CALLED THE TWELVE TO HIM AND SAID, 'IF ANYONE WANTS TO BE FIRST, HE MUST MAKE HIMSELF LAST OF ALL AND SERVANT OF ALL.' HE THEN TOOK A LITTLE CHILD, SET HIM IN FRONT OF THEM, PUT HIS ARMS ROUND HIM, AND SAID TO THEM, 'ANYONE WHO WELCOMES ONE OF THESE LITTLE CHILDREN IN MY NAME, WELCOMES ME; AND ANYONE WHO WELCOMES ME WELCOMES NOT ME BUT THE ONE WHO SENT ME.'

CHRIST THE LORD THE LESSON JESUS HAS BEEN TEACHING BY HIS EXAMPLE SINCE THE VERY START OF THE INCARNATION HE NOW TEACHES WITH WORDS. THE CHRISTIAN LEADER LEADS IN THE SAME WAY THAT CHRIST DID – BY SERVING, BY TAKING CARE OF THOSE WHO ARE WEAK AND HELPLESS, THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED, LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN. GREATNESS IN CHRIST'S KINGDOM IS EQUATED WITH HUMILITY, AN ATTITUDE THAT PUTS THE GOOD OF OTHERS AHEAD OF ONE'S OWN

PREFERENCES. BY DEFINING CHRISTIAN GREATNESS IN THIS WAY, THE INNATE HUMAN DESIRE TO EXCEL AND ACHIEVE IS NOT STIFLED, BUT CHanneLED. HE DOESN'T TELL HIS APOSTLES, "YOU SHOULDN'T STRIVE TO BE GREAT, TO ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS," BUT HE DOES POINT OUT WHERE TRUE, LASTING, FULFILLING GREATNESS LIES – IN LOVING ONE'S NEIGHBOR AS CHRIST HAS LOVED THEM. JESUS IS THE SERVANT-LORD; HIS GREATEST DISCIPLES FOLLOW IN THOSE DEMANDING FOOTSTEPS.

THAT CHILDREN WERE SO COMFORTABLE AROUND JESUS SHOWS YET ANOTHER ASPECT OF HIS PERSONALITY. JESUS TOO HAD BEEN A CHILD, AND HE NEVER FORGOT OR DISDAINED THE SENSITIVITY AND ENTHUSIASM THAT CHARACTERIZE CHILDREN. HE NEVER STIFLED THEIR INNATE ZEST FOR LIFE. THE LORD ALWAYS KNEW HOW TO MEET EVERYONE EXACTLY WHERE THEY WERE, INVITING THEM TO TAKE A STEP CLOSER TO HIS KINGDOM.

CHRIST THE TEACHER JESUS IS ONCE AGAIN TRYING TO EXPLAIN TO HIS DISCIPLES THE TRUE NATURE OF HIS KINGDOM. THEY ARE STILL HOPING FOR JESUS TO TAKE ISRAEL'S THRONE AS DAVID DID IN THE OLD DAYS, AND BRING POLITICAL FREEDOM AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY BACK TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE, WHO WERE SUFFERING UNDER OPPRESSIVE ROMAN OCCUPATION. AND THEY IMAGINED THAT THEY WOULD BE RIGHT THERE WITH HIM, HIS CLOSEST COMPANIONS AND MOST TRUSTED ADVISORS (THEY WERE ARGUING ABOUT EXACTLY THAT – WHICH OF THEM WOULD BE PRIME MINISTER, WHICH WOULD BE DEFENSE MINISTER, ETC...).

BUT CHRIST KNOWS THAT HIS KINGDOM IS NOT LIKE ALL THE OTHER KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD; IT IS THE REIGN OF GOD'S WILL IN THE HEARTS OF HIS FOLLOWERS, WHICH INVOLVES SELF-DENIAL AND THE CROSS (A TOPIC THAT CONTINUES TO PUZZLE THE APOSTLES); IT IS A SPIRITUAL KINGDOM THAT WILL ACT LIKE A LEAVEN WITHIN THE EARTHLY KINGDOM, BRINGING SOULS BACK INTO COMMUNION WITH THE GOD WHO LOVES THEM AND SETTING THEM ON THE ROAD TO HEAVEN, THE RESURRECTION, AND ETERNAL LIFE. THEY JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND IT. EVEN NOW, AFTER TWENTY CENTURIES OF DEMONSTRABLE PROOF, MANY TIMES WE STILL DON'T GET IT EITHER; MANY TIMES WE WANT TO EXPERIENCE THE PURE JOYS OF HEAVEN WHILE WE'RE STILL ON EARTH, AND WE RESENT IT WHEN GOD KEEPS INSISTING ON THE CROSS. ISN'T THE FATHER WISE? SHOULDN'T WE TRUST HIM? JESUS DID, AND GOOD FRIDAY PAVED THE WAY TO EASTER SUNDAY.

CHRIST THE FRIEND CHILDREN ARE BASICALLY ENERGETIC BALLS OF NEEDS. THEY CAN'T SURVIVE ON THEIR OWN; THEY NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE CARE OF THEM, TO WATCH OVER THEM, TO TEACH THEM – ALL THE TIME. BY SETTING A CHILD IN THE MIDST OF HIS DISCIPLES AND TELLING THEM THAT WHEN THEY ACCEPT A CHILD THEY ARE WELCOMING HIM, CHRIST IS EXPLAINING THAT THE CHRISTIAN HEART REACHES OUT TO OTHERS WHO ARE IN NEED. IT STRIVES NOT PRIMARILY FOR ITS OWN ADVANCEMENT, BUT LOOKS FOR WAYS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OTHERS, BE THEY PHYSICAL OR SPIRITUAL. JUST AS CHRIST SAW US WALLOWING IN THE CONFUSION AND HELPLESSNESS OF SIN, AND CAME TO SAVE US, SO CHRISTIANS ARE CALLED TO REACH OUT TO THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND THEM.

JESUS: IT IS EASY TO SERVE OTHERS WHEN THEY CAN OFFER SOMETHING IN RETURN. BUT THAT'S NOT MY WAY. AFTER ALL, WHAT COULD A FALLEN HUMANITY OFFER TO AN INFINITELY PERFECT GOD? I CAME TO RESCUE YOU WHO WERE MORE HELPLESS IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM THAN EVEN A CHILD IS IN THE PHYSICAL REALM. I WANT ALL MY FOLLOWERS TO DO LIKEWISE, WHETHER BY GIVING THE UNPOPULAR COLLEAGUE A SAMPLE OF CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY, OR BY MAKING THE SAVING TRUTHS OF CHRIST PALATABLE TO PEERS WHO PREFER THE TASTE OF IMMORALITY AND FALSE DOCTRINES, OR IN WHATEVER WAY MY HOLY SPIRIT INSPIRES YOU. WHEN YOU WELCOME THOSE IN NEED, YOU WELCOME ME.

CHRIST IN MY LIFE I DON'T KNOW WHY HUMILITY IS SO HARD FOR ME, LORD. IT SEEMS THAT THE DOMINANT DÉCOR OF MY HEART IS A SELF-PORTRAIT. WHY DON'T YOU CHANGE ME? LORD JESUS, I KNOW YOU ARE CHANGING ME. BUT YOU WANT ME TO EXERCISE MY LOVE AND MY VIRTUE BY MAKING WHAT LITTLE EFFORT I CAN. OKAY, HELP ME TO DO IT: HELP ME TO PUT OTHERS BEFORE MYSELF. JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU...

YOU INSIST SO MUCH ON THE CROSS. THE WORLD I LIVE IN HATES THE CROSS. I HAVE TO ADMIT, LORD; THE WORLD RUBS OFF ON ME. REACH INTO MY MIND AND MY HEART AND TEACH ME THE MYSTERIOUS WISDOM OF THE CROSS. IN SELF-FORGETFUL LOVE LIES THE FULLNESS OF LIFE AND MEANING. I BELIEVE IT, LORD JESUS, BECAUSE YOU TEACH IT. INCREASE MY FAITH...

YOU WERE ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT THOSE AROUND YOU. TEACH ME TO DO THE SAME. YOU PROMISE TO GIVE ME THE SATISFACTION I CAN NEVER FIND IN A FRENZIED SEARCH FOR ULTIMATE SELF-INDULGENCE IF I FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE OF SELF-FORGETFUL LOVE. THANK YOU, JESUS, FOR GUIDING AND STRENGTHENING ME. NEVER TAKE YOUR EYES OFF OF ME; SHOW ME THE WAY TO GO...

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 23- Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest; Sept 27th- Memorial of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions Martyrs



For those who are too young to attend our Faith Formation Program, I like to share this week's Gospel for those children.

Theme

We all need rest and relaxation.

Object

Vacation photos

Scripture

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

How many of you have taken a vacation? (Invite the children to share where they went and what they did. As children share, point out aspects of rest in each child's story.) I've been on vacation too. I brought some pictures that I took while I was on vacation. (Briefly describe where you went and something you did to relax.)

We all need to get away sometimes. Even Jesus said that we sometimes need to take some time off to get caught up on our rest. The Bible tells about a time the disciples went to Jesus and told Him how busy they had been teaching and ministering to the needs of people. "There have been so many people coming and going that we didn't even have time to stop and eat," they told Jesus. (Have kids pretend to eat and then stop abruptly.)

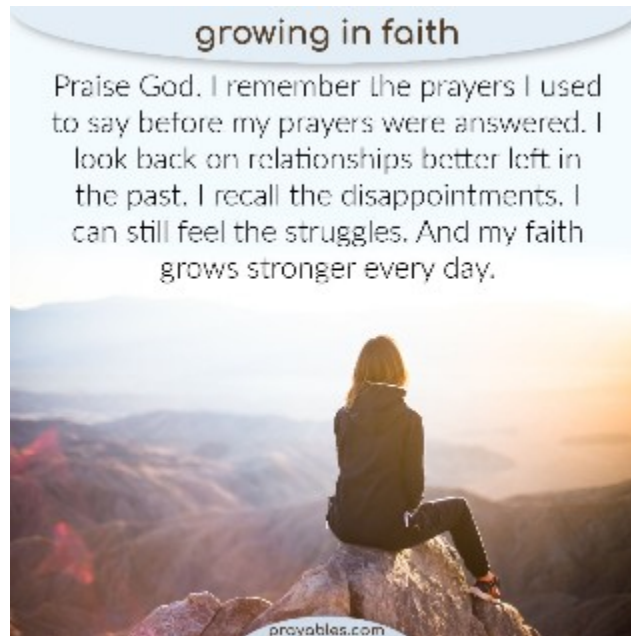
"Come with me to a quiet place so that you can get some rest," Jesus said to the disciples. (Have kids pretend to sleep.) So the Bible tells us that they got in a boat. (Have kids pretend to row a boat.) And they went away with Jesus to a quiet place.

Yes, we all need a time to get away, even Jesus and His friends needed to rest!

Dear God, thank You for work, for play, and for school. We also thank You for those times when we can get away from it all and get some rest. In Jesus' name, amen.

Weekly Prayer

As the children continue their faith journey, let us pray their faith grows stronger





Diocese of Syracuse

From the Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Discipleship

Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference-The greater Utica area will participating in this event. Last year a number of students went and experienced a great and spiritual time.

REGISTRATION OPEN!

Date: Saturday, November 23, 2024

Location: Sacred Heart Church - Cicero, New York

Youth from across the diocese are invited to join Bishop Douglas Lucia for this Diocesan Youth Conference! Featuring keynote speaker Ennie Hickman and worship leader John Paul von Arx! Participate in Mass, games, talks, lunch, and Adoration.

Open to youth in grades 7-12. \$20 per participant.

2 From the Diocesan Women's Commission

The Women's Commission of the Diocese of Syracuse is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the fall conference to be held on October 26, 2024 at the Oncenter in Syracuse. Parish packets with all of the registration information are being mailed this week. Attached is a digital version of the conference flyer and registration form. If you have any questions. Please email swc@syrdio.org or visit our website at <https://www.syracusecatholicwomen.org>

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