

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## **St. Mary's Catholic Church**

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## **St. Mary's Catholic School**

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## **SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR JULY 11<sup>th</sup> - JULY 19<sup>th</sup>**

### **ST. MARY'S**

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Fr. Justin Monaghan
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	No Mass	
Friday	No Mass	
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Maury McDunner
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Laura Rose Severs Birthday Remembrance

### **ST. AGNES**

Tues. No Mass  
Thurs. No Mass  
Sun. 10:30 a.m.

## **EVENTS OF THE WEEK:**

Thursday, July 16

Memorial of our Lady of Mount Carmel

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Monday, July 20

Rosary and Communion Service

Wednesday, July 22

Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

8:15 a.m. Mass

No St. Mary's School Board Meeting

8:15 a.m. Mass

Friday, July 24

Feast of St. James, Apostle

Saturday, July 25

## **OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in July:**

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 4107.00

To date our parish has contributed \$14,78.00, representing 73 donors. Our goal is \$22,882.00. Thank you! If you have not yet made your pledge, please prayerfully consider a gift in the amount you are able to contribute.

Across the diocese, \$1,363,239 has been pledged toward the \$2,650,000 goal. The diocese and Church in southern Missouri ask for your participation and prayers.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** Charlotte Sloan, Louis Bellm and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

**THANK YOU:** Monett Community Food Pantry thanks you for giving us your egg cartons all year! Distribution of eggs and food to area families each week is such a blessing.

**THE GYM WILL BE CLOSED** starting June 22<sup>nd</sup> to strip and wax the floor. It will reopen on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **PRAYER**

In families striving to stay intact through adversity. Let us see Christ.

In the poor and lowly of the world. Let us see Christ.

In those forced to leave their homes because of war or famine. Let us see Christ

In children who go to bed hungry and who cannot attend school. Let us see Christ.

In those who are living with HIV/AIDS and other diseases. Let us see Christ.

In immigrants and refugees seeking freedom and hope. Let us see Christ.

In those who are orphaned or abandoned. Let us see Christ.

In the elderly who are forgotten. Let us see Christ.

In those who struggle to find meaningful work. Let us see Christ.

In those who work for justice and peace for all people. Let us see Christ.

Let us pray. Jesus, teach us to recognize your presence in those who are in need. May we give of ourselves in service to them and so hasten the coming of the Kingdom you have promised, where you live with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:10-11  
Ps 65:10-14 (Lk 8:8)  
Romans 8:18-23  
Matthew 13:1-23

### Monday July 13

Isaiah 1:10-17  
Ps 50:8-9,16bc-17,21,23  
Matthew 10:34 – 11:1

### Tuesday July 14

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha**  
Isaiah 7:1-9  
Ps 48:2-8  
Matthew 11:20-24

### Wednesday July 15

**St. Bonaventure**  
Isaiah 10:5-7,13b-16  
Ps 94:5-10,14-15  
Matthew 11:25-27

### Thursday July 16

**Our Lady of Mt Carmel**  
Isaiah 26:7-9,11,16-19  
Ps 102:13-21  
Matthew 11:28-30

### Friday July 17

Isaiah 38:1-6,21-22,7-8  
Isaiah 38:10-12,16  
Matthew 12:1-8

### Saturday July 18

Micah 2:1-5  
Ps 10:1-4,7-8,14  
Matthew 12:14-21

Sunday's readings are about sowing seeds. The important thing to remember about seed sowing is that the effort is worthless if the seeds are not changed by being cast to the ground. Each seed must give up its former self, dying in the dirt while new life stirs within it. Only then can it send out a tender, first root, which will multiply and grow stronger and deeper to support upward growth. Even so, it has to be properly nourished to survive.

If all this takes place, the end result is a plant that looks nothing like the seed, which as it grows develops the ever-more important mission of benefitting the wider world of Nature beyond itself.

As we listen to Jesus explain the parable, we say yes, we want to be seeds that become fruitful lives. But desiring it does not automatically trans-

form us. What is it that makes the soil of our lives rich and growth-producing?

The reading from Isaiah tells us that it is God himself who is the rich soil – God and his Word. Saint Paul reminds us in the second reading that suffering is part of creation (seeds must fall in the dirt and die in order to produce a fruitful life). Redemption grows from suffering and death.



We will never feel truly fulfilled until we've surrendered to the soil and have allowed God to nourish our growth.

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. What tender, new roots do you have that are sprouting from times of suffering and loss?
2. What blessings are springing up from them?
3. What ministry (what benefit to others) could be a fruitful gift of these blessings?
4. Share with your family or faith sharing group what it means to give up your former self to allow new life to stir and grow.
5. What is the will of God (what does the Word say) regarding the end result? Give examples from your life or from the lives of others.