Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field.”

Matthew 13:24
Save the Date
Our 11th Annual 5K Run/Walk
and 1 Mile Youth Race
August 26, 2017

Registration for 5K is $30.00 pre-race
$35.00 day of race
Registration for Youth Race is $15.00
Online registration opens up on July 13, 2017

How can you help?
Consider being a sponsor for the event
and/or volunteering. Contact Christine Collins at:
christinecollins@yahoo.com for more information.
Today’s readings remind us of the fact that it is God who guides us, and it is God who influences our decisions through the Holy Spirit. Today’s Gospel is again a series of parables shared by our Lord Jesus to teach us and to explain Holy Scripture.

Jesus tells the Parable of the Weeds and the Wheat, which is relatively clear to us in terms of the facts. However, there is an important point within it that we must acknowledge. When the decision is made to allow the weeds to grow with the wheat, it is clear the separation will occur later, not at that moment. When the decision is made as to what will be harvested and kept and what will be destroyed, that is a decision made by God.

It is somewhat a reflection of another point made in scripture. Today’s Gospel comes to us from the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 13; however, in just a few chapters prior to that (Chapter 7) we are told “Stop judging, that you may not be judged...for as you judge, so will you be judged.” There is no question that there are “weeds” among the flock, but it is not our place to identify them and sort them out. That is the work of God.

As Catholics and Christians we must take care not to be self righteous and judgmental. Before we call into question someone else’s walk with God, we need to scrutinize and take care of our own. Stewardship is what we do, not what we necessarily think others should do.

Why is the Old Testament part of our Christian worship?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says it best: “The Old Testament is an indispensable part of Sacred Scripture. Its books are divinely inspired and retain a permanent value, for the Old Covenant has never been revoked” (121).

When you stop to think about it, the Old Testament, also referred to as the Hebrew Scriptures, is the only Bible Jesus ever knew. That, in itself, is an important reason to try to understand these Scriptures. The Pentateuch, the Prophets, the Book of Psalms, and the Wisdom writings all had a profound impact on Jesus as he grew in wisdom, age, and grace. His image of God as Father, his preaching, his parables, and his proclamation of the reign of God were all influenced by the Hebrew Scriptures.

It is true that his preaching also goes beyond the Old Testament. At times he substitutes what the Law has to say with an even more demanding requirement (for example, in the Sermon on the Mount). In general, however, the Old Testament forms a context for understanding what Jesus was doing. His passion and death made no sense to his first followers except in light of the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament. (See Isaiah 52:13—53:12.) There are many more examples like this one. Thus the Catechism says that “the Old Testament bears witness to the whole divine pedagogy of God’s saving love” (122).

I think that many people are unfamiliar with the world described in the Old Testament. They judge it a strange and complex world that has little bearing on contemporary life, except in an academic way. I can understand this, but I don’t agree with the conclusion to reject or ignore the Old Testament. The Hebrew Scriptures are God’s Word to us as much as the New Testament. If I don’t understand particular words, I may have to study this part of the Bible in greater depth.

Father William J. Parker, C.Ss.R.
It has been a busy summer around our Saint Mary of Gostyn Campus. Here is a brief listing of projects completed. These projects are possible because of your continued generosity.

- A FOB system (similar to a keycard) has been installed at the Parish Rectory, Parish Center, and Gathering Place areas as a step into improving security around campus. In the weeks ahead, LeAnne will be in contact with group and ministry heads who use our campus for meeting spaces with new procedures.

- The landscaping at our Wilson Street entrance has been dramatically improved. New sod was installed on the apron part of our property which now makes it in uniform with the rest of the block. The large window well areas have also been cleaned out.

- The sod that was installed by Nicor earlier this summer at the corner of Wilson and Douglas will be addressed with them as it did not take well.

- Deacon Al and Deacon Bob have moved to a new office on the main level of the Parish Center (where the Parish Library use to be). The phone extensions to both of them remain the same.

- From the data collected by the Facilities Strategic Plan, the Ministry Center Chapel space now doubles as both a prayer space and meeting space. Furniture was moved around to accommodate the use of both spaces.

-Kelly Johnson, our Adult Formation Coordinator, now has an office on the second floor of the Parish Center. Another office space is available as well for when a new Youth Minister is hired. Having both Kelly and the Youth Ministry offices on the second floor will keep all of our parish faith formation together on the second floor.

May God continue to bless you in all that you do this week.
Vince Zaprzal
Operations Director

**Stewardship**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weekly Collection 7/16/2017</strong></td>
<td>$ 29,822.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weekly Goal (Fiscal Year 17-18)</strong></td>
<td>$29,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Goal to Date</strong></td>
<td>$87,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Collections to Date</strong></td>
<td>$80,395.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (Short of) Goals to Date</strong></td>
<td>($6,604.91)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your continuing support and generosity.

In today’s second reading, Saint Paul bids us to take comfort in knowing that when God invites us to pray to him, he knows our true needs, even if we do not. The Holy Spirit intercedes and prays for us even if we can’t come up with appropriate words; even when we don’t have a clue what to ask for. We are not left alone. Good stewards know that prayer is an important part of living a life in Christ. The important thing is to make space for God. Do we let God into our hearts? Do we make room for the Holy Spirit to pray within us?
Reverent reception of the Body of Christ goes far beyond kneeling vs. standing or tongue vs. hand. I’ve seen people receive reverently and irreverently in every way imaginable. Attitude is everything. Catechesis matters. So does local custom.

But whatever you do, don’t do this:

1. Don’t hold out your hand if you don’t want to receive in the hand. This happened to me recently. The guy in the communion line nearly fell over trying to bend down and get the host with his mouth before it landed on his hand. I had to stop him. “What do you want to do?,” I asked. He sheepishly grinned and held out his hand. “Sorry,” he whispered.

2. If you receive in the hand, no gloves.

3. If you receive on the tongue, no biting; open you mouth and extend your tongue. Please.

4. No mints, gum or lozenges during Mass. I’ve given communion to people on the tongue and couldn’t help but notice what appeared to be colorful stains left by cough drops.

5. Remember: you are receiving communion, not taking it. Don’t reach up and grab the host. (A priest I know refers to these communicants as “The Body Snatchers.”)

And do:

1. While in line, reflect on what you are doing and why—and whom you are about to receive.

2. Make yourself open to awe. Let’s face it: this is awesome.

3. Consume the Body of Christ then and there. Don’t grab and go. I’ve lost count of the number of people I’ve had to stop because they walked away with the host before consuming it.

4. Allow yourself to be changed—and to grow in grace. A familiar hymn says “we become what we receive.” Think about that. (Again: this is awesome.)

5. Never forget: People died so we could do this. Others around the world are dying for doing it. Still more yearn to be able to do it and, for any number of reasons, can’t. This can’t be overstated: what we receive is a miracle and a gift. We should never take it casually, ever. Eucharist, after all, means “thanksgiving.” So give thanks—and give glory to The One who has made this humbling gift of grace possible.

Finally: No matter how you receive, receive what has been given with wonder and love and joy. At the moment we receive communion, we welcome Christ into our world—just as Mary, the shepherds and the wise men did. The same feelings that warmed that stable in Bethlehem all those centuries ago should illuminate our hearts every time we welcome Christ here and now.

Every Mass is Calvary. But every reception of the Eucharist is, in a sense, Bethlehem: the “house of bread,” the place where God enters into our lives, our history, our hearts, our bodies. We should cherish that when we step forward to receive Communion. As God first visited the world and dwelled among us as a baby, so he comes to us now, in a fragile and humble form of a piece of bread.

Behold the Lamb of God! O come, let us adore!

- Deacon Greg Kandra
MONDAY, JULY 24, 2017
6:15 AM - Patricia D. Skippet req. Lucy Wilczynski
8:00 AM - Robert Noonan req. Mike & Mary Signer

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2017
6:15 AM - Lorraine Ann Laurenkus req. Dorothy Laman
8:00 AM - Ron Rodi req. Holmes Family

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2017
6:15 AM - Maurice Tramblay req. Aument Family
8:00 AM - Jim Maley req. Lucado Family
Patrick Gray req. Sanderson Family

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2017
6:15 AM - Anthony Glowicki
8:00 AM - Robert Noonan req. Massura Family
Fr. Angelo Biancalana MCCJ req. Mike & Mary Signer

Friday, July 28, 2017
6:15 AM - Mary Ann Lang
8:00 AM - Philip Pieczynski req. Burke Family

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2017
8:00 AM - Kathleen Shea req. Pardo Family
4:30 PM - Thomas Mikulski req. Sanderson Family
Ron Rodi req. Dianne & Frank Czopek

SUNDAY, JULY 30, 2017
8:00 AM - David Craven req. Dianne & Frank Czopek
10:00 AM - Ann & Jim Mudra req. Karen & Emil Mudra
12:00 PM - People of the Parish
6:00 PM - Deacon Paul Brachle

TODAY'S READINGS
First Reading - You taught your people that those who are just must likewise be kind (Wisdom 12:13, 16-19).
Psalm - Lord, you are good and forgiving (Psalm 86).
Second Reading - The Spirit comes to aid us in our weakness (Romans 8:26-27).
Gospel - Jesus proposes parables to the crowds, teaching them of the reign of God (Matthew 13:24-43).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday:  Ex 14:5-18; Ex 15:1bc-6; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday:  2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-6; Mt 20:20-28
Wednesday:  Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78:18-19, 23-28; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Thursday:  Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Dn 3:52-56; Mt 13:10-17
Friday:  Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 13:18-23
Saturday:  Ex 24:3-8; Ps 34:2-11; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Sunday:  1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

Page 6  Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
ALTAR FLOWERS
Are you celebrating an anniversary or special occasion? Would you like to memorialize a loved one?

Why not consider donating flowers to enhance our altar during Ordinary Time? Please call Pat Noonan, 964-4529, at least 2-3 weeks prior to your special event so an acknowledgement can be placed in the bulletin.

Baptism
St. Mary of Gostyn Parish Family welcomed the following children to the Catholic Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism recently:
Penelope Joan Brown,
daughter of Michael & Tammy Brown
Lourdes Binh Malicay Tran,
daughter of Frank & Margaret Tran

Planned Giving
Wills and bequests are essential components of estate planning – the process of managing your accumulated assets and determining what legacy you will leave through them, including your legacy of faith. Your will and other estate planning documents provide an ideal opportunity to make a statement of your faith and to give resources that will support St. Mary of Gostyn Church or School for years to come.

Charitable bequests, for example, can be written into your will. The bequest can be a stated amount, a percentage of your estate or a residual amount after other expenses have been deducted, left to St. Mary’s or any charitable beneficiary you identify.

2017-2018
Religious Education Registration
Phase III Now Open
All parish families who have children attending the public school and want to involve them in Religious Education are encouraged to complete a Registration Form as soon as possible. Forms are available online at the parish website, or at the Parish Center Offices located on 445 Prairie Ave. We look forward to sharing our faith together. 630-960-3565.

Awaken Our Hearts
Coming to Downers Grove
October 14 - 18
The following persons have requested prayers from our parish community:

Nicholas T. Almeida
Kathy Berg
Felicia Bubula
Jessica Davy
Diane Goyette
Bobby Johnson
Robert Lehner
Dolores Mendoza
Fr. Ernie Norbeck
Cynthia Petro
Yoshie Snider
Laine Van Houton
Peggy Davis
Patti Schmittgens
Mary Featherstone
Louis Bach
Sharon Binter
Ann Clark
Jim Donovan
Donna Karlinski
Diane Main
Kate Moss
Ken Norman
Char Ryan
Joey Stekka
Audrey Waechtler
John Rossi
Hope Hathaway
Vito Ursini
Anna Bandur
Frances Boland
Margaret Corbett
Dennis Finn
Gen Hadamik
Joseph Karlinski
Virginia Mates
James Murawski
Daniel Oliver
Tom Salansky
Joan Tagglonia
Loretta Wies
Judith Abella
Jim Scales
Gabriella Beime
Bill Brown
Helen Czulak
Becca Gorman
Darlene Hammer
Kenny Kern
Eddie Mayerik
Andrea Mutton
Mary Ann Papievis
Kay Selfridge
Sharon Tallerico
Ashley Woltman
Roger Burnside
Ann Smith
Abby Beranek
Tom Brown
Frank Davis
Mark Gowgie
Robert Hayes
Doreen Lehner
Spencer Mehr
Rob Noonan
Eleanor Pecka
Eliza Skipworth
Hugh Toner
Sal Madonia
Mark Trout
Gertrude Arndt

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families of
Darlene Hammer, mother of Cheryl Weinreis
Elizabeth Mayhall, aunt of Karen Mudra & Janet Marks
Marilyn Zubak, mother of Mary Graczyk

Pray for our Military

Let us pray for all of our military personnel, especially the men and women of our parish who are serving in harm’s way:

Jason Weeks
John Svoboda
Bob Lang
Kevin Braasch
Christopher Fountain
Zachary Frana
Michael Martel
Nathan Kijowski
Natalya Brechlin
Josh Cruz

Presider Schedule for Saturday, July 29th and Sunday, July 30th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Presider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Phil Horrigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Jim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Pat Murphy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and Altar Servers, please consult your online personal schedule and email reminders for assignments.
Congratulations to our parishioners who graduated from high school this spring! We wanted to highlight some of these students, their high school accomplishments, and their plans for the future. Do you have a teen who attended religious education classes or school at St. Mary’s? Tell us about his/her plans for the future by emailing SMG’s Development Director, Terri O’Dekirk, at todekirk@stmarygostyn.org.

**Jack Nolan—Benet Academy Class of 2017**

Jack is a 2013 graduate of St. Mary of Gostyn School. He was a varsity basketball player all four years at Benet, achieving many awards for his play: DuPage County all area basketball team, Sun Times All Area Top 20 Player, ESCC All Conference Team, as well as MVP at several local and regional tournaments. Jack also is an Illinois State Scholar, graduated with honors, and was a member of National Honor Society. Jack will be playing basketball for Washington University in St. Louis this fall.

**Emma Moravec—DGN Class of 2017**

Emma attended Whittier Grade School and Herrick Middle School. She attended St. Mary of Gostyn Religious Education from kindergarten through 8th grade. At Downers Grove North High School, she was recognized as a member of the Illinois High School Association All-State Academic Team and she finished in the Top 2% of her class. Emma was also a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student. She took time to participate in Cross Country and Track as well as the choir at North. Emma will be studying Biomedical Engineering at Marquette University this fall.

**Abigail Murphy—DGN Class of 2017**

Abigail went to Lester Elementary and Herrick Middle Schools. She attended St. Mary of Gostyn Religious Education during that time. Abigail’s interest in Journalism in high school is present in many ways: she was awarded Illinois High School Journalist of the Year (2017), she came in third in the State for Newspaper Design (2016 and 2017), she is a two-time Pacemaker Newspaper recipient, was first in sectionals for Newspaper Design (2015 and 2016) and Editorial Writing (2016) and third in sectionals for Newspaper Design (2016). She was the editor-in-chief for her school newspaper and a reporter for the Chicago Tribune’s teen publication The Mash. Abigail was recognized as a Suburban Life Scholar in 2016. She was captain of the track and field team, participated in choir, cross country and NHS. It is no surprise that Abigail will be majoring in Journalism at American University in the fall.
St. Mary of Gostyn Catholic Church

RECTORY: 444 Wilson Street  630-969-1063

RECTORY STAFF:
Fr. JAMES SCHWAB, Pastor, ext. 200  jschwab@stmarygostyn.org
Fr. SHAUN CIESLIK, Parochial Vicar, ext. 212  scieslik@stmarygostyn.org
DEACON AL AGURKIS, Permanent Deacon ext. 221  deaconal@stmarygostyn.org
DEACON BOB MICIURO, Ministry Coordinator and Protecting God’s Children Administrator, ext. 244  deaconbob@stmarygostyn.org
Mr. Vince Zaprzal, Operations Director, ext. 211  vzaprzal@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. VALERIE BAVA, Business Manager, ext. 201  vbava@stmarygostyn.org
Mr. STEVEN BISAillon, Music Director, ext. 236  sbisaillon@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. LEANNE BROWN, Office Manager, ext. 200  mbrown@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. KELLY JOHNSON, Adult Faith Formation  kjohnson@stmarygostyn.org

SCHOOL: 440 Prairie Avenue  630-968-6155

SCHOOL STAFF:
Mr. CHRIS TIRITILLI, Principal
MRS. CHRIS KALAL, Assistant Principal
MRS. DIANNE CZOPEK, Secretary, ext. 216
MRS. MARY TOOTH, Secretary, ext. 215
MRS. MARY GRACZYK, School Website Coordinator  smgweb@stmarygostyn.org

PARISH CENTER: 445 Prairie Avenue  630-960-3565 (Religious Education Offices)
MRS. MOIRA BARKER, Office Manager and Bulletin Editor, ext. 245
MRS. TERRI O’DEKIRK, Development Director, ext. 261  todekirk@stmarygostyn.org
MRS. CHERYL BASILE, Marketing Director, ext. 261  cbasile@stmarygostyn.org
MR. FRANK GLOWATY, Office of Advancement, ext. 261  fglowaty@stmarygostyn.org
MS. ANNETTE SPIEZIO, Counselor, ext. 302

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF:
MRS. MARY JANE WAHL, Director of Religious Ed., ext. 219
MRS. JENNIFER LISZKA, Religious Ed. Assistant

This Week

Monday / 24
6:30 PM Rosary
Church

Tuesday / 25
6:30 PM Legion of Mary
Small Conf. Rm.
6:30 PM Protecting God’s Children
Gath. Place
6:30 PM Prayer Group
Chapel

Wednesday / 26
6:30 PM 6:00 PM Choir
Church

Thursday / 27
1:15 PM Small Christian Communities
Living Room
6:00 PM Volleyball
Gym

Friday / 28
3:00 PM Volleyball
Gym

Saturday / 29
9:00 AM St. Vincent de Paul Society
Large Conf. Rm.
9:00 AM Volleyball
Gym
6:00 PM Volleyball
Gym

Sunday / 30
4:30 PM 6:00 PM Choir
Church

St. Mary of Gostyn Parish is a welcoming, faith-sharing Christian community rooted in scripture and Catholic tradition.

We are called by God through the Holy Spirit to nurture and minister to the spiritual needs of all through prayer, liturgy, education and service.

Those who are just must be kind.
— Wisdom 12:19
NEW PARISHIONERS: We are happy to welcome new members to our community, and encourage you to register either in person at the Rectory, or register online through our website, www.stmarygostyn.org.

BAPTISMS: St. Mary of Gostyn offers baptismal preparation sessions on a monthly basis. If this is your first child or it has been more than five years since you attended a baptismal preparation session at St. Mary’s or another parish, you will need to participate in a session before you can receive a date for your baby’s baptism.

Parents are the first and primary educators in the practice of the Faith. Godparents play an important role in the faith life of your child. While considering godparents for your child, be aware that at least one must be a baptized and confirmed Catholic who is active in his/her faith. Please call the parish office at 630-969-1063 to register for a preparation class and to schedule a baptismal date.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of welcoming and preparing adults for the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation - for full membership in the Catholic Church. Unbaptized adults, adults baptized in another Christian faith, and baptized Catholics with little or no formal religious education are invited to participate. Please call the rectory for further information.

ANNULMENTS: We are available to help anyone who is in need of information about how to apply for an annulment. Please contact the rectory at (630)969-1063.

LITURGY of HOURS: Morning Prayer (Lauds) is prayed Monday through Saturday following the morning liturgies.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING: The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is available at regularly scheduled liturgies throughout the year, or by appointment. You may ask the presiding priest before any Mass for an anointing. Communal Anointing Masses are held on the 1st Saturday of the month in August, November and April at the 8:00 AM Mass.

The Eucharist will also be brought to those who are ill, upon request. Please notify the Rectory if members of your family are in the hospital or homebound.

FUNERALS: Arrangements are usually made by the Funeral Home or by a family member. A member of our Bereavement team will meet with you to plan the Funeral Liturgy. Eulogies can be given at the Wake Service, Interment at the Cemetery or at the Funeral Luncheon, but not at the Mass of Christian Burial.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance to provide ample time for preparation of this sacrament.

PRAYER GROUPS: Monday evenings at 7:15 PM in the Parish Center; Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center chapel.

ROSARY DEVOTION: Monday through Saturday, 7:30 AM in the church; Rosary will begin at 6:30 PM on Monday evenings in the church.

RECONCILIATION: Confessions are heard Saturday, 3:30 to 4:30 PM in church. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available by appointment. Please call the Rectory (630-969-1063) to arrange to have your confession heard by a priest.
CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS
St. Mary of Gostyn #255
444 Wilson Street
Downers Grove, IL 60515

TELEPHONE
(630) 960 - 3565 ext. 245

CONTACT PERSON
Moira Barker

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Summer shortened bulletin begins