

# St. Mary Catholic Church

July 16, 2023 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## St. Mary Catholic Church

220 West Main Street

Camden, TN 38320

Office: 731-584-6459

Fax: 731-707-4100

Email: smchfchatholic@gmail.com

Website: stmaryscamden.org

## Services:

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 10:45 AM

Monday & Friday: 12:00 noon

## Confession:

Saturday: 4:00 PM—4:30 PM

## Director of Music:

Pam Warren

## Director of Religious Education:

Tessa Walker

## Holy Family

### Catholic Mission

265 Cotham Drive

Huntingdon, TN 38344

731-584-6459

## Mailing Address:

220 W. Main Street

Camden, TN 38320

## Services:

Sunday: 8:30 AM

Wed. & Thurs.: 12:00 Noon

## Confession:

Sun.: 7:30 AM—8:00 AM

## Director of Music:

Dorothy Wood

## STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Herbert Ene

**Deacon:** Wayne Tedford

**Secretary:** Sandy Simpson

**Accounting:** Theresa O'Connell

## Office Hours:

M, W, Th, F

11:00 AM—3:00 PM



## WHAT KIND OF GROUND?

The gospel passage for today presents us with the beautiful parable of the seed that falls on good ground. In this parable, Jesus speaks to us about the reality of God's Word and its power to transform our lives. He invites us to reflect upon the disposition of our hearts as we receive His Word, for it is the fertile ground of our souls that determines the fruitfulness of our lives.

Just as a farmer sows seeds in various types of soil, our Lord sows the seeds of His Word in the soil of our hearts. The outcome, however, depends on the condition of the soil. The seed that falls on the good ground represents the heart that is open, receptive, and ready to receive God's Word with faith and obedience. What does it mean to have good soil in the context of our spiritual lives?

Good soil is characterized by humility, docility, and a sincere desire for conversion. It is a heart that is free from the entanglements of worldly distractions and the allure of sin. It is a heart that longs for intimacy with God and is willing to surrender to His will.

When the seed of God's Word falls on such fertile ground, it takes root and begins to grow. It is nurtured by prayer, the sacraments, and the life-giving grace of the Holy Spirit. Slowly but surely, the Word of God bears fruit in our lives, transforming us into the image and likeness of Christ.

The fruits of this transformation are manifold. We become more loving, compassionate, and merciful. Our faith deepens, and our hope in eternal life becomes steadfast. We develop virtues such as patience, kindness, and self-control. We become bearers of peace and agents of reconciliation.

However, we must also be mindful of the other types of soil mentioned in the parable: the rocky ground, the thorny ground, and the path. These represent the different obstacles that can hinder the growth of God's Word within us. The rocky ground signifies a lack of perseverance, where our initial enthusiasm wanes when faced with challenges and trials. The thorny ground represents the cares and worries of the world that choke our spiritual life, distracting God's Word. The path signifies a heart hardened by sin and indifference, where the Word of God cannot take root.

Let us examine our hearts and ask ourselves: What kind of soil am I? Am I truly open to God's Word, or have I allowed the cares of this world and the temptations of sin to harden my heart? Have I become complacent in my faith, failing to nurture the seed that has been planted within me? If we recognize areas where our hearts have become hardened or distracted, let us not lose hope. Our loving and merciful God is always ready to till the soil of our hearts, to break the hardness, and to remove the thorns. He invites us to turn to Him in repentance and ask for His grace to cultivate within us the good soil that yields a fruitful harvest.

As we continue our journey of faith, may we strive to be like the good ground, eagerly receiving the seed of God's Word and nurturing it through prayer, Scripture, and participation in the sacramental life of the Holy Church. Let us be attentive to the voice of the Holy Spirit, who speaks to us through the Scriptures, through the Church teachings, and through the circumstances of our lives.

By God's grace, may our hearts become ever more fertile ground for His Word, so that we may bear abundant fruit for the Kingdom of God. May our lives become living testimonies of His love, mercy, and transformative power. And may we, with the help of the Holy Spirit, continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, until we reach the fullness of the harvest in the heavenly kingdom.

(Fr. Charles)

**St. Patrick  
169th Irish Picnic and Homecoming**

St. Patrick Irish Picnic and Homecoming is an annual event regularly attended by over 20,000 fun-loving people from across the nation. Originated in 1854, the picnic is known for its famous barbecue pork and chicken and the secret sauce that ranks it among the most delectable barbecue ever tasted.

The picnic will be held on Friday, July 28 and Saturday, July 29. Admission is free. For further information call: (931)582-3493. It will be held at: 175 St. Patrick Street, McEwen, TN.



**ATTENTION!**

Holy Family Crafters meeting has been changed from Saturday, July 15 to Saturday, July 22 at 9:30 am. All crafters are welcome.



**RCIA Classes**

For all who are interested in becoming Catholic, and for those who might know someone who would like to join the Catholic Faith, RCIA classes will begin on Thursday, September 7 at 6 pm. Or if you would like to learn more about your faith, you are also welcome to attend. Please contact the office at 731-584-6459 to register.

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 16, 2023**

“Let everyone heed what they hear.” Is the Lord inviting you to know, love and serve Him more closely in the priesthood or consecrated life?

Visit <https://www.memphisvocations.com>. Call our Diocesan Office of Vocations at (901)373-1244, or write to: [VocationsDirector@vocations.cdom.org](mailto:VocationsDirector@vocations.cdom.org).



**July, 2023**

- July 13 (SM) Christ's Cafe 4:00 PM
- July 17 (SM) Council Meeting 6:00 PM
- July 19 (SM) Knight's Meeting 6:00 PM
- July 22 (HF) Holy Family Crafter 9:30 AM
- July 26 (HF) Council Meeting 12:30 PM



**“They Recognized Him in the Breaking of the Bread”**

Retreat being held at Our Lady Queen of Peace  
Why we believe in the Real Presence,  
Transubstantiation, Fruits of Holy Communion and  
how to prepare for the sacrament

- ◆ For the first time we will present the Eucharistic Stations
- ◆ Women: March August 4-6, 2023
- ◆ Log on to **OLQPre retreats.com** & click on calendar

**Quote of the Week:**

“Jesus, help me to simplify my life by learning what you want me to be—and becoming that person.”

*St. Therese of Lisieux*



Please pray for the success of our Diocese's Strategic Pastoral Planning process and participate in one of the 12 scheduled Listening Session (s) in our Deanery.

Our Parish is in the **NORTHERN** Deanery

You can also complete the online survey at :  
<https://cdom.org/strategic-pastoral-planning/>

**Welcome Bishop Talley**

Holy Family parishioners were delighted to host the most Rev. Bishop David Talley as he officiated Mass and enjoyed the beautiful reception that followed.



Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Donna Reindl, a Holy Family parishioner, on the death of her brother Jeffrey Pennings.

St Mary parishioner, Irene Latendresse is presently at Camden Rehabilitation Center. She is in Room 506. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

**Procedure for Reporting Sexual Abuse**

Anyone who has knowledge of or who has cause to suspect an incident of sexual abuse should report the information to the appropriate civil authorities first at 1-877-237-0004, then to the Diocesan Director Child & Youth Protection at 901-359-2027 or the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at 901-652-4066.



**WEEKLY OFFERTORY**

**Week Ending**

07/09/2023

<b>St. Mary</b> —Enrollment	70
Weekly Budget	\$3133.17
Regular Offering	\$ 796.00
	-2337.17
Families Contributing	11
<b>Holy Family</b> — Enrollment	45
Weekly Budget	\$1738.55
Regular Offering	\$ 658.00
	-1080.55
Families Contributing	18

**ONE COLLECTION**

6/23/2023

Regular Offering

**Ministry Schedule**

for July 23, 2023

**St. Mary Catholic Church**

*Lectors*

Saturday: Joyce Rushing

Sunday: Dan Ebeling

Eucharistic Ministers

Joyce Rushing and Andrea Vargas (Sat.)

Jean Ebeling (Sun.)

Dan Ebeling (Sun.)

Lindsay Moore (Sun.)

*Counters*

Dan and Jean Ebeling

**Holy Family Catholic Church**

*Lector*

Sunday: Phyllis Wendt

Gift Bearers

Ramona Loggains

Eucharistic Ministers:

Pat Long and Otilia Mendez

*Counters*

Tom O'Bryant and Richelle Stokes

## Mass Intentions

	DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS FOR	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	07/15/2023	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Dan and Jean Ebeling	Betty Gagnon
Sunday	07/16/2023	Holy Family	8:30 AM	Ben Reiter and Alex+ Reiter	Sharon Reiter
Sunday	07/16/2023	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Michael and Patricia Baloga+	David Baloga
Monday	07/17/2023	St. Mary	12:00 PM	St. Mary Parishioners	
Tuesday	07/18/2023			No Mass	
Wednesday	07/19/2023	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Communion Service	
Thursday	07/20/2023	Holy Family	12:00 PM	Holy Family Parishioners	Jim and Sandy Simpson
Friday	07/21/2023	St. Mary	12:00 PM	Dwayne Pierce	Betty Gagnon
Saturday	07/22/2023	St. Mary	5:00 PM	Debra Thibedau+	Betty Gagnon
Sunday	07/23/2023	Holy Family	8:30 AM	John and Mary+ Nneerella	Sharon Reiter
Sunday	07/23/2023	St. Mary	10:45 AM	Jodie Tezak+	David Baloga

### Prayer Intentions for the Health and Recovery of our Parish Family

God is our refuge and our strength, an ever present help in distress.  
The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob. (Ps. 46)



**St. Mary's:** Larry Weibel, Craig Coltharp, Patty Russo, Joe Griggs, Kitty Shelton, Lorna Huot, Betty Gagnon, Barbara Taylor, Jack Dashper, Greg Garza, Steve Ruhlman, David Johnson, Patrick Schasser, Sherrie Goldman, Jim McMillon, Pam McMillon, Roger Gibbons, James Davenport, Vicky Story, Allen York, Janet Robbearts, Barbara Harrison, Mary Brown, Joyce Parker, Dan Ebeling, Polly Mitchell.

**Holy Family:** Dwayne Pierce, Tommie Tedford, Dorothy Wood, Anna Mills, Kamila Cerda, Debbie O'Bryant, Mary Jane Klinzing, Donna Reindl, Garry Korbel, Johanna Salma, Dick Stokes, Tommy Long, Deborah Thorne, Paul Multon, Bill Harder, Leon Thorne, Mary Boucher, Sissy Munoz.

**For Our Extended Family:** Michael McCloskey, brother of David McCloskey; TJ Haines, John and Tammy Carroll, friend of Barbara Taylor, Susan Johnston, daughter-in-law of Barbara Taylor, Carl Reetz, friend of Holy Family Parishioners; Don Parker, son of Joyce Parker; Becky Orr; Scott Henderson, friend of Craig and Kathy Coltharp; Samantha Moore, granddaughter of Barbara Taylor; Nancy Vargas, mother of Bob Vargas; Mark King, nephew of Tricia Smothers; Barbara Gillespie, sister of Dan Ebeling; Carolyn Tedmore, sister of Pam McMillan; Susan, Kitty Shelton; Terry Pace; John Waters; Kaelynn Bressler, niece of Dan and Jean Ebeling; Ruel Carmicheal,

son of Betty Gagnon; Patty Douglas, friend of Barbra Taylor; Arley McMillon, brother of Jim McMillon; Barbara and James Harrison, friends of Donna Melton; Richard Muenze, brother-in-law of Pam McMillon; Lucy Connolly, sister of Lila Korbel; Gus Palmieri, friends of Jessica Glendora; John H. Costello, brother of Pam McMillon; John Brinker, uncle of Carrie Etter; Extended family of Barbara Taylor; Ruth Johnson, Aunt of Jean Ebeling; Dee Vohnoutka, sister of Garry Korbel; Anissa Jeanne Hendrix, Deacon Wayne Tedford's niece, Matthew Ebeling, son of Dan & Jean Ebeling; Charles Glover; Brenda Boodman.

**For those on active duty in the military:**

Bridget Bissen, granddaughter of Kenneth and Alma Bissen, Hudson Hazlerig, grandson of Jay and Julia Johnson, Kyle Moore, grandson of Barbara Taylor, Kyle Bissen, grandson of Kenneth and Alma Bissen, Jonathon Placido, son-in-law of Arlene Conrad; Zakkary Klinzing, grandson of Mary Jane Klinzing; Eric Huot, husband of Lorna Johnson Huot; Joshua Parker, grandson of Willis & Joyce Parker; Thomas O'Bryant III, son of Thomas & Debbie O'Bryant; Daniel Stanfill, grandson of Grady & Diana Stanfill.