

July 13th, 2025: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Background on the Gospel Reading

As Jesus continues his journey to Jerusalem, he is confronted by a scholar of the law who wants to test him. The lawyer asks what we must do to inherit eternal life. Here Jesus asks, “What is written in the law?” The man is caught and responds with Deuteronomy 6:5. This verse is one of the most important prayers in Judaism, and it was said twice a day in Jesus' time. Love of God and love of neighbor are what is required for eternal life. Jesus' response is simple, “Do this and you will live.”

Having been shown up by Jesus, the lawyer tries another question: Who is my neighbor whom I must love like myself? In the society of Jesus' time, with its distinctions between Jews and Gentiles, men and women, clean and unclean, this was a trick question. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. It is found only in Luke's Gospel.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descends 3,300 feet in just 17 miles. Its narrow passes and rocky terrain made it an easy place for bandits to wait for travelers. The traveler in this parable is identified only as “a certain man.” Luke uses this phrase in many of his parables so that the audience, Jew or Gentile, could identify with the man. After the attack, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along. The listeners would probably expect him to be an Israelite. This would make the parable a criticism of the religious leadership. Instead, he is a Samaritan, an Israelite's most hated neighbor. Samaritans were descendants of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbor in this parable.

Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was “the one who treated him with mercy.” Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: “Go and do likewise.” The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.

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July 13th, 2025
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sacred Heart Parish
A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Fr. Lee Lainey

Office Administrator: Roseann Janes

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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Note: include your envelope #

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am.

Weekday Mass: Tuesday to Friday 10:00a.m.
Daily mass is cancelled & Office Closed any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

<u>Lohnes Complex*</u>	Will start again September 5 th , 2025.
<u>Bible Study:</u>	To be determined at a later date.
<u>Holy Hour of Adoration:</u>	Postponed until further notice.
<u>Reconciliation:</u>	By request.
<u>Marriages:</u>	Six months' notice required. A year's notice is recommended.
<u>Baptisms:</u>	Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.
<u>Family Connections:</u>	At www.rcchurch.com you will find a link to family connections.
<u>St. Vincent de Paul:</u>	To assist those in need. Call 709-638-9010.

July 5 & 6

July 15 - 20

July 19 – Saturday

There will be **no morning mass on July 17th, 2025** as there is a funeral scheduled in the church and **none on Tuesday, July 29th** as there is mass at 7pm at Mount Cecelia Cemetery.

OUR LADY OF LORDES PARISH GROTTTO:

We hope to see even more people taking this journey with us next year.

Signs of Hope:

Sacramental Preparation will commence in September. Registration forms are now available at the back of the church or you can contact Julia Myles-Hackett at juliahackettmyles@gmail.com

& ALTER SERVERS NEW SCHEDULE:

JUNE ACTIVITY REPORT:

June was another busy month as we made 26 furniture deliveries and picked up 40 furniture donations, among many other items. 17 mattresses, 10 boxsprings, 12 dressers, 4 kitchen tables and 17 kitchen chairs were distributed, including 12 deliveries to households of New Canadians from India, the Philippines, Nigeria and Pakistan. Storage cleanup, furniture repair, bagging of bedding and other ongoing tasks were also completed. Thanks to our SSVF members and friends who contributed a total of 107 volunteer hours. Appreciation as always to those who blessed us with their donations.

Kudos to Sacred Heart Parish who provided volunteers to help out last month. This past Friday, July 4, kicked off our first barbeque of the summer. Hamburgers and hotdogs etc. were enjoyed by everyone who attended. Please note the barbeques will be held each Friday until the end of August, at the back of the Holy Redeemer Parish, from 12am - 1:30pm.

Sacred Heart Cemetery Masses:

Tuesday, July 29 at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, July 30 at 7:00 pm.

Mt. Patricia Cemetery – N. Shore Highway

Townsite Cemetery – Corner Brook

In the event of rain, the masses will be held inside the churches.

Beatitudes for carers

Blessed are those who listen: they will lighten many a burden.

Blessed are those who, when nothing can be done or said, do not walk away, but remain to provide a comforting and supportive presence: they will help the sufferer to bear the unbearable.

And blessed are those who give without hope of return: they will give people an experience of God.

Flor McCarthy, New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies – Year B,