

St. Lucy's Church

In the Heart of the Near West Side

July 11th, & 12th, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Come and pray with migrant workers

On **Sunday July 12 at 5 PM** I will
be doing a prayer service at
Emmi's farm in Baldwinsville
with a committee from Saint

Augustine's church who has been involved with the migrant workers for many years. This is a great opportunity to just affirm our migrants and people will translate in Spanish for you. Snacks are welcome, but you don't have to bring anything. If you are interested, please call **Dave Pasinski at 315-663-1330**.

Jesus uses agricultural imagery that would have been very familiar to the people in his time to convey spiritual truths about the Kingdom of God and the receptiveness of human hearts to God's word. In this parable, Jesus illustrates how different people respond to the message of the Kingdom. The image of the sower scattering seeds represents God or Jesus spreading the message of the Kingdom, while the different types of soil symbolize the different conditions of human hearts. Some hearts are like the hardened path where the seed cannot take root, while others are like rocky ground or thorny soil, hindering the growth of the seed. However, the good soil represents those who hear, understand, and act on the word, yielding a fruitful life.

We pray that our hearts are open to God's seeds and that we continue to produce abundant fruit through our many ministries at St. Lucy's.

Walt

432 Gifford Street, Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 475-7273 www.saintlucys.org
Pastor: Fr. Jim Mathews jdmgolfer@yahoo.com
Parish Business Administrator: eli Foulkes
email: info@saintlucys.org
Margot Grobsmith, Pastoral Associate
Food Pantry: Murray Gould, (315) 418-5241
Permanent Chaplain: Raymond Misita

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Chapel
located to the right the main altar
www.katerisyracuse.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00

**Sunday - 10:00 - in person and on Zoom,
ASL interpreted, Gluten-free hosts available
Full weekly schedule on page 2.**

We recognize that our church stands on land taken from the Onondaga Nation, Firekeepers of the Haudenosaunee, and we acknowledge the profound harm caused by forced removal, genocide, and attempts to erase their cultures and identities.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Food Pantry - open to residents in the neighborhood and staffed by volunteers

St. Lucy's Gym

Sundays 11 - 12

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays - 11 - 1

Bread of Life - weekly luncheon for neighbors and parishioners

St. Lucy's Gym

Wednesdays - 11 - 1

Agape Shop - gently used items, open to all
422 Gifford in the basement of the school
(ring the bell)

Donations accepted during open hours and on
Sundays in the back of church

Wednesdays - 9:30 to 12:30

Pickleball - open to all ages and abilities

St. Lucy's Gym

Mondays - 4:00 - 6:00

Catholic Worker on Wheels - breakfast boxes
delivered to neighbors

<https://cwonwheels.com/>

Saturdays 8 - 9:30

Parish Office - in the rectory

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 - 3:30

Fridays:

Contact the Parish Office regarding the sacraments
of Christian Initiation, Reconciliation, Anointing the
Sick, and Matrimony

Bulletin items - send information

to mail@syracuseprintingcenter.com by Thursday at noon

At this weekend's Masses, 07/11-12, kindly
bring boxes of pasta for the Food Pantry and
for **Masses 07/18-19, cans of soup and for
07/25-26, bags of rice.**

PUSH BACK! on the federal cut-backs.

Thanks to all who bring items for our
neighborhood ministry. It really helps!
Be part of the St. Lucy's Gift Economy!

Mass were not available this week.

That information will be provided next week.

Lectors

July 11 Beverly Hays

July 12 Corinne Driscoll , Dan Welch

Homilists

July 11th and 12th

Dave Lehmann

July 18th: Beth Benz

July 19th: Beth Kazel

*Lord Jesus, your gift of the Eucharist is an invitation
to a deeper relationship with our God. How blessed
we are to be gathered at your table.*

Offertory for last weekend -

General - 2149.00

Repairs - 269.00

Zoom - 50.00

Coffee Hour - 67.00

SUPPORT ST. LUCY'S & ITS MINISTRIES

Every Saturday or Sunday, each of us has the opportunity to contribute whatever we can to keep the lights on, things repaired, and staff working to maintain our buildings and services, and to meet our diocesan responsibilities for insurance, pensions, etc. Whether you attend in-person or via Zoom, thank you for your regular donations to the parish General Fund as well as your donations of time and talent.

When you're not able to attend in person, remember you can still put your donation "in the basket" in two ways:

Write a paper check to St. Lucy's Church and mail it to the rectory at 432 Gifford St., Syracuse, NY 13204. Put "General Fund" in the memo line on your check.



Go online at www.saintlucys.org/
contact to make a secure donation
to the General Fund Offertory using
the parish Vanco Account.



On June 28th **Jane Hugo** reflected on that week's Gospel reading on what it meant to "be sent out". She quoted theologian Sr. Ilia Delio who said Jesus had reached a point in His life "He felt called to public ministry, to preach the vision growing within Him, a new Israel, a new inclusive community, a new way of being human in the world."

Jane brought with her an old, metal orange juice can that her good friend had given her some 60 years ago. On it were glued snippets of Peanuts cartoons and questions like "Who am I? and Where are we going?" One of the Peanuts cartoons features Linus carrying a protest sign saying "Stamp out things that need stamping out!"

Jane proposes that just stamping things out, while important, is not sufficient to truly initiate this new way of being human in the world. We need love and kindness, as expressed in our ministries here at St. Lucy's. We can experience both the divinity and humanity in the people we serve.

Jane said that according to one writer, "hospitality is a daily choice to treat people with dignity, warmth and intentionality." Using stories of encounters she has had while volunteering at our Food Pantry and Bread of Life, Jane described "sacred mutual exchanges of hospitality and kindness." She said that for this to happen she had to step a little out of her "comfort zone."

Jane further states "When our government or other entities dehumanize whole groups of people and weaken communities, do they not strangle the possibility of becoming a fully human society?"

Sr. Elia Delio said, "When we walk the path that Jesus walked—choosing love over power, vulnerability over control, forgiveness over vengeance—we do not merely imitate Christ, we become Christ."

That is what it really means to be sent out.

Walt



Sean Kirst delivered a moving reflection with a great punch line, and I paraphrase; "She was the Pope's grandmother"

In the early 1900s, young women abandoning their babies was a disturbing social phenomenon. Girls who became pregnant outside of marriage were scorned and had few options. Some abandoned their babies, or worse. Enter Monsignor Nelson Baker. He was horrified by reports of the bones of infants being found in area waterways. He created a solution; Our Lady of Victory Infants Home, to care for the babies and their unwed mothers.

One woman who was the beneficiary of Fr. Baker's efforts was Suzanne Fontaine, the grandmother of Pope Leo XIV. She gave birth to the pope's uncle at the home. She could not use the name of his father, who was married to someone else, so she used Prevost, her mother's maiden name. Suzanne and son later moved to Chicago, where she gave birth in 1920 to Louis Prevost, the current pope's father.

The first thing that hit me in this reflection was the necessity of recognizing the value of all lives, regardless of the circumstances of their birth.

The second thing I thought of was the importance of taking action. Fr. Baker didn't just decry the situation he took steps to remedy it. His faith guided and empowered him to do God's work. Each of us are required to do the same.

If you would like to read Sean's full story on this, go to: **centralcurrent.org** and search for Fr. Nelson Baker.

Walt

Bulletin changes

If you like the recent changes or have other ideas or suggestions, please let me know.

My contact information is:

Walt McDermott

mail@syracuseprintingcenter.com

(please put Bulletin in the subject line, I get a lot of emails so this will help me to find it.)

315-491-1165 cell or text

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS ONLY
Please proceed up the left side aisle where there will be a separate minister.



We had an extraordinary funeral Mass on Friday for **Juanita Nelson**, who taught at St. Lucy's School for over 30 years. She had moved to Texas many years ago, but insisted that her life be celebrated with a Mass at St. Lucy's. And a wonderful celebration it was. We were honored to have **Bishop H. Bernard Alex** join us to offer a blessing.

The choir from **Victory Temple Church** provided beautiful selections that were very appropriate for this occasion.



Family members offered reflections from Juanita's life. They empathized how important her Catholic faith was to her and that she es-



pecially enjoyed midnight Mass at Christmas. Many St. Lucy's parishioners attended and even though many people there were not Catholic, we were all one that day to bless the life of a wonderful, faithful woman.

Walt

ACT AGAINST THE SALINA ICE FACILITY

The call to take action to STOP an unregulated ICE detention center in Mattydale – Town of Salina – continues: At their July 22 meeting, which over 150 citizens attended, the Salina Town Board DID APPROVE a largely symbolic measure to regulate and oppose the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility. While the approved resolution officially put the town on the record against the facility and called for the operating permits and inspections of detention centers within town limits, both Town Supervisor Raul Huerta and board members acknowledged that the measure is mostly a statement of opposition. Because federal and state jurisdictions supersede local town powers, officials are also seeking the cooperation of higher levels of government and congressional representatives to further enforce access and oversight. All are invited to attend the next Board meeting this Monday July 13th at 6:30pm (201 School Road, Liverpool) to show continued support for the Board and the Resolution. Town residents are urged to Email Board Members, making to say you are a Town resident. You may cc all the Board members on the same email. Email contacts: 1stWard@salina.ny.us; 2ndWard@salina.ny.us; psteinhardt@salina.ny.us; [## The Agape Shop](mailto:edris-</p>
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We appreciate all who bring CLEAN AND RE-PAIRED donations to preserve the dignity of our customers.

WE CANNOT ACCEPT OR USE: any electronic, furniture, sports equipment, wheelchairs, walkers or other types of medical equipment, exercise equipment, tools of any kind, liquids of any kind, cribs or mattresses, fabric, novels or religious books, NO BED PILLOWS

WE WILL GRATEFULLY ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING: women's, men's & children's clothing, shoes & boots, curtains (No drapes), linens & towels, household flatware, pots/pans, glasses, dishes, etc., small table lamps, SMALL electrical appliances, games, puzzles, toys WITH ALL THE PIECES as well as batteries, seasonal decorations (Christmas, Thanksgiving etc BUT NO CHRISTMAS TREES), children's books & college textbooks.

Community News and Events



ART EXHIBIT

The entire month of July, Paine Branch Library on Nichols Avenue in Eastwood will be hosting an exhibit of Claude Monet's art drawn by **Ralph Bova**.



Last week I wrote that our Sweet Talk pilot was delayed due to me burning the candle at both ends. I got a little pushback from students — most of whom burn all the candles all the time, trying to get their footing in America, support family back home, etc.

So, let's do it! Email me at: info@soup-camp.com if you'd like to volunteer to practice English with my students while enjoying a dessert from somewhere faraway. (Week 1 = a cold saffron rice pudding from Iran. Mmm.)

Our trial run is six Thursday mornings this summer, 9:30 am - 11:15 am.

July 16, 23 & 30

August 6 & 13



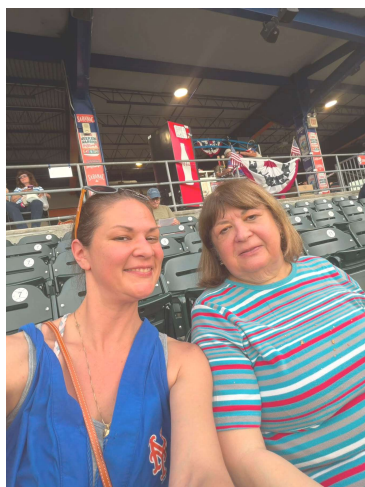
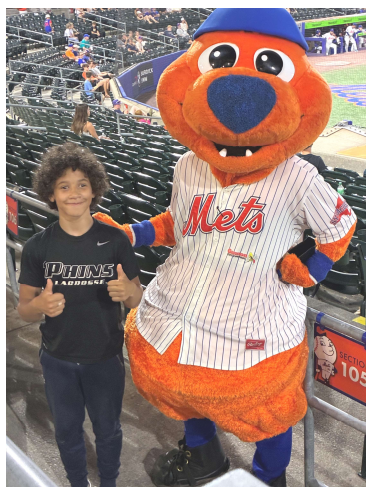
FIRST SATURDAY CHURCH TOURS: Our Pope Leo proclaimed Jan. 10, 2026, through Jan. 10, 2027 as a special Jubilee "Year of Saint Francis," commemorating the 800th anniversary of the Saint's passing in 1226. In honor of this special jubilee, all are invited to discover our local Assumption Church, home to Franciscan friars since 1859, one of Syracuse's most beautiful and historic churches. Tours begin at 9am in the Grotto. Dates include: July 4; Aug. 1; Sept. 5; Oct. 3; Nov. 7 & Dec. 5.

Through July 18 at ArtRage Norton Putter Gallery (505 Hawley Ave.): 25 MILLION STITCHES: One Stitch, One Refugee. Raising awareness of the



global refugee crisis through art. A global community art and activism project to visually document the enormity of the number of refugees in the world and to sustain a concern for the refugees in the minds of global citizens. Over 2,300 stitchers participated- from all 50

states and 37 countries. On view during the USA's 250th anniversary, this exhibition will honor Syracuse's identity as a refugee resettlement community while also addressing the USA's current anti-immigration policies.



A number of hardy St. Lucy souls braved the heat and enjoyed a night at the ball park (despite a disappointing performance from the home team!) Tracy made it on the big screen and this guy was part of the between inning entertainment!



An exploratory spirituality group called The Way of Oneness has been meeting for over a year to share thoughts and feelings about themes identified from the Daily Meditations provided by Richard Rohr and the Center for Action & Contemplation. The Daily Meditations are available online. This is an open group whose participants vary from month to month and includes a number of folks from the St. Lucy's Community. No commitment for monthly attendance is expected. Just come when you can and refill your soul's battery.

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month from 3:00-4:30 at the Spiritual Renewal Center in the All Saints Parish center. You are invited to join our gatherings and engage around concerns for your spiritual growth & development.

The group is facilitated by Peter Sarver, a member of St. Lucy's and a community social worker for 50 years.

If interested, send your name and email-address to musingsmortality@gmail.com Our next session is Thursday, July 09 @ 3:00 PM.

Bishop Lucia's statement on the excommunication on the Society of St. Pius X. (Excerpted)

Dear Diocesan Family,

Today, however, as I write to you it is with much sadness as I share the announcement from the Holy See that the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Pius X (SSPX) is in formal schism with the Roman Catholic Church due to the unauthorized episcopal ordinations of four bishops without papal mandate (see Canon 1013). Since the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Pius X has established itself within the Diocese of Syracuse at Blessed Virgin Mary Church and Priory and Mater Dei Academy in Warners, NY; and at St. Athanasius Church in Endwell, NY, it is necessary for me to inform the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of Syracuse of the gravity of this situation and that schism is seen as a formal separation from full communion with the Catholic Church. I must instruct the faithful of the Diocese of Syracuse to avoid participating in the activities of the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Pius X, while inviting and encouraging those who have been assisting at Mass or Sacraments according to the 1962 Missal and Roman Ritual to now look for such spiritual counsel and nourishment at the Diocesan Shrine of St. Mary of the Assumption in Oswego (directed by the Institute of Christ the King, Sovereign Priest), our diocesan Traditional Latin Mass parish at Transfiguration Parish in Syracuse, or by indult, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Verona or at St. Mary's of the Assumption Parish in Binghamton.

In the Name of Jesus,
Most Rev. Douglas J. Lucia, Bishop of Syracuse



Scott sitting on "The sleeping Jesus bench" at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

This is **Scott**. Gemma and I met him a few weeks ago near the Cathedral in downtown Syracuse where he spends a lot of his time. As we talked, Scott told me that he had spent 45 years in prison, only being released 3 years ago. When he was 17, he was involved in a robbery where someone died. As a result he was given a life sentence. He explained that when you are serving life, you are declared "civilly dead" and no longer have any rights as a citizen. When Scott began a romantic relationship with a woman through correspondence, his "dead" status prevented them from marrying. He and 3 other "lifers" sued NYS and in 1987 their case was decided favorably, giving them the right to marry.

Scott and his wife were together for 37 years but unfortunately they separated shortly after he was released from prison. His wife, a retired Syracuse schoolteacher, is still very supportive of him. She recently brought him a meal of chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy. When we visited on Friday he said that she had just been there a few minutes earlier.

Scott currently lives in a "camp" he created for himself, but is on a waitlist for permanent housing, hopefully by September. He became a facilitator for the Alternatives to Violence Program while in prison, which he credits for his transformation. He enjoys fishing, sometimes being invited to a camp on Cazenovia lake. In spite of the challenges he has faced, Scott is not bitter and remains hopeful. He acknowledges the mistakes he has made in his life and takes full responsibility for his actions. Scott firmly believes that the most serious threat that young people face today is peer pressure.

I asked Scott what problems he has had living on the streets and he told me that he has been attacked and injured several times. In spite of his age and congestive heart failure, Scott has skills that surprise anyone who threatens him and they quickly learn he is not to be taken lightly.

Scott firmly believes that the problem of homelessness is an issue that must be addressed by our governments. There are hundreds of people, including some government officials and church leaders, who walk by these people in Columbus Circle as if they were invisible. I was myself guilty of this behavior. Scott says if he had money he would buy a building and get everyone off the streets. He says they don't need much, even a 10' x 10' room that is safe and secure would be preferable to living on the streets. He said he has had offers from several "empty nesters" who have plenty of space in their homes but he declined because he didn't want to disrupt their lives in any way. Hopefully he will have his own space soon.

As I listened to his stories and experiences, I told Scott he should write a book. He said that he is working on one and is getting help with it from a NY Times best selling author. I look forward to reading it. He attends Plymouth Church, where Dave Pasinski frequently speaks. If you are near the cathedral, stop and say hello. I promise you'll be glad you did.

As we were leaving, Scott recited a quote that describes his life journey. ***"If you're going through hell, keep on going. You'll eventually get out"***.

Walt



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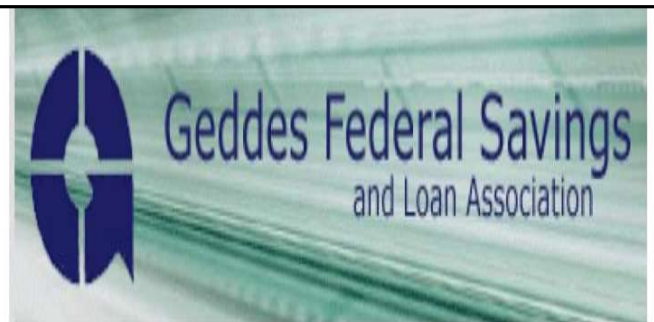
*Neopolitan & Sicilian Pizza,
various appetizers, salads, chicken
wings, subs, sandwiches, Italian
specialties, desserts, and more!*

*Winner in Syracuse.com's 2024 CNY Pizza Tour
of 52 area pizza shops!*

The Alden Street Foundation

<https://aldenstreetfoundation.org>

*Working through selected
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