

St. Lucy's Church

In the Heart of the Near West Side

September 26th & 27th, 2026
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

WHICH
OF THE TWO
DID HIS
FATHER'S WILL?



In today's gospel, Jesus conveys the importance of actions matching words in following God's will. It reminds us that it is not enough to simply say we will obey God; we must actually do what He asks of us. To truly follow God's will, we must not only talk about obedience or make empty promises, but we must actively seek to align our actions with His commands. We need to be more than just hearers of the word; we must be doers as well. This involves humbling ourselves before God, being willing to submit to His guidance, and showing our obedience.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 5:00

**Sunday - 10:00 - in person and on Zoom,
ASL interpreted, Gluten-free hosts available**

432 Gifford Street, Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 475-7273 www.saintlucys.org
Pastor: Fr. Jim Mathews jdmgolfer@yahoo.com
Parish Business Administrator
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



**There will be
NO Coffee Hour on
Sunday September 27.**

The first Sunday in
October we will
resume having our Sunday party every week.
For any newcomers, Coffee Hour happens
after the 10 am Sunday Mass in the church
basement.

There is a one-person-sized elevator you can
ride to get down the stairs if you need it.
There is nothing you need to do or pay. We
welcome everyone. **Please Come !!!**

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 - starts at 11am

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 is back!!!! Mondays at 4:00

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: 9:30 - 3:00

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

St. Lucy's Advocate/Points of Contact for Survivors of Clerical Sexual Abuse

Jim Boone: 315-427-2740, Sue Boone: 315-427-8923

Bulletin items - send information

to mail@syracuseprintingcenter.com by Thursday at noon

Mass intentions

Sept 26. 5 pm mass Parishioners of St. Lucy's

Sept. 27 10am mass for Gloria Beane Morris

Lectors

Sept. 26 Beth Bentz

Sept. 27 Lorrie Ager and Nicole Massenzio

Save the Dates!

Sunday, September 27th at 2:30 PM Celebrating Our 2026 Lay Ministry Commissioning at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse.

Mon Sept 28 - Race Matters Book Club - "All About Love" by bell hooks

Oct. 3, at Noon, Blessing of the Animals, All Saints Church, in the grassy circle outside church.

Saturday, October 3rd, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., or on Sunday, October 4th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Blessing of pets and plushies, Feast of St. Francis

Sunday, October 4 • 1:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals, Assumption Church, Syracuse

Sun Oct 04 - Greg Boyle event in Auburn

October 24, 2026

Syracuse Catholic Women's Conference

Cathedral of Immaculate Conception and OnCenter.

At this weekend's Masses, 09/26-27 kindly bring cans of beans for the Food Pantry and for Masses 10/03-04, container of cooking oil and Masses 10/10-11, personal hygiene items.

PUSH BACK! on the federal cut-backs. Thanks to all who bring items for our neighborhood ministry. It really helps!

The next Bible Study with Jim Bresnahan will be held Mon October 5th @ 7 PM on zoom. Peter Sarver is

managing the zoom sessions, so please email him:

stlucys.syracuse@gmail.com

if you are interested in joining the group.

Feast of St. Francis



In honor of St. Francis, the Patron Saint of Animals and the Environment, St. Lucy's warmly invites all parishioners to a blessing of pets and plushies. Bring your pets, a picture of your pet, and your favorite plushies or stuffed animals to

Mass on Saturday, October 3rd, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., or on Sunday, October 4th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Father Jim, our beloved animal lover and stuffed-animal enthusiast, will offer a special blessing at the beginning of Mass, reflecting St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. If you have any questions, please call Beth Bentz at (315) 935-6544.

Thank you, The Liturgy Committee



FAITH FORMATION.

Sept 27 classes begin for First Communion in Room 1 after 10 am mass and grades 4-6 in Room 2 which is off the kitchen

October 4. Classes begin for PreK- 1st grade. In room 1 after 10 am mass and pre-Confirmation in Room 2 off the kitchen.

All parents of those students are encouraged to attend Coffee Hour across the hall while they wait for their children who will finish no later than 12 noon.

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.

When a university professor delivers a homily, I expect to learn something new, and that was certainly the case with **David Turner's** talk last weekend. I learned that the author or the first reading, Isaiah, was not the same prophet who wrote the earlier chapters in the eponymous book. Separated by two centuries, this later Isaiah lived in the time of the Babylonian Captivity of the Israelites in the sixth century and offered hope and encouragement in a time of distress and despair.

David proposes that our country might now be in a similar state of distress. The words of that same prophet can speak to us today;

"Seek the Lord while the Lord may be found, call upon God while God is near."

The prophet also says that we must be open to new ways of thinking, ways that don't come easy to us.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord."

David said that in his youth, knowing God's will was simple; guidance came to us through the unchanging teachings of the holy and perfect Catholic Church. The ways and thoughts of God were what the Church said they were. We are now facing unprecedented challenges in our world and we, and the Church, must be open to change to meet those challenges. Unfortunately, our Church is often resistant to change.

Recently the Vatican reaffirmed its opposition to lay people giving homilies. This refusal to make even this modest adaptation is response to the severe shortage of priests is disappointing. At St. Lucy's we are blessed to have many gifted lay preachers, like Dave Turner, among many others. It is difficult to imagine how our worship experience would suffer without them.

Update on Meeting With Bishop Lucia Re: Fr. Jim's Retirement & The Costello Project

Bishop Lucia and members of his administrative staff met with members of both St. Lucy's and All Saints parishes on Monday, September 21 to discuss the retirement of Fr. Mathews and the Costello Project. The meeting was very productive and the following was decided:

As of January 1, Fr. Fred Daley will become the administrator of St. Lucy's Church while maintaining his role as pastor of All Saints.

As the Administrator, Fr. Fred will be responsible for the day to day operations at St. Lucy's Church including the celebration of Mass, ministries and administration. It is anticipated that this appointment will be until July when Bishop Lucia makes his annual pastoral appointments.

With April 2027 as a goal, the parish communities will look to identify and recommend a Parish Life Director who will serve both churches. A Parish Life Director is a pastoral leader appointed by Bishop Lucia under Canon 517.2 to oversee the daily administration, pastoral care, and operations of a local parish in the anticipated absence of a full-time resident pastor. Also during this time, further evaluative work and discussions will continue in connection with the proposed Costello Project including Mass times, buildings/facilities, shared ministries and a common pastoral plan.

We look forward to the work ahead and offer gratitude and every good wish to Fr. Mathews upon his well deserved retirement.

From Danielle Cummings, Chancellor & Director of Communications, Diocese of Syracuse, NY

This Sunday, September 27th, we celebrate Priesthood Sunday, a special day to honor the dedicated priests who serve our diocese with faith and generosity. We are grateful for their witness, their commitment to the Gospel, and the many ways they guide us closer to Christ. Take a moment this weekend to thank a priest who has made an impact in your life and to pray for an increase in priestly vocations in our Diocese.

"In the face of inhuman violence, deep division, and rapid societal change, we must keep telling a more hopeful story: that every human life has infinite value because we are precious children of God; that the human family is called to live as sisters and brothers," she said. "We must therefore work together for the common good — always building bridges, never walls; that the poorest among us are closest to the heart of God."

Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally,

Community News and Events

Sat., Oct. 17 Noon-4:30pm: St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity (406 Court Street) International Food Festival #16! In the Parish Center. Delicious foods, raffles prizes, baked goods and good family fun. All samples are \$2. Kitchen will serve hot dogs \$3, hamburger's \$4, served with chips. Fried dough: 1/\$2; 6/\$9. Raffles: 1/\$1; 6/\$5; 15/\$10. .



Sacred Heart Church, Cicero, NY

Celebrating Our 2026 Lay Ministry Commissioning

The faithful of the Diocese of Syracuse are invited to celebrate the Formation for Ministry Commissioning Class of 2026!

This year, we joyfully recognize eight candidates who have completed their formation and are preparing to serve the Church as commissioned lay ministers. Bishop Douglas J. Lucia will commission the candidates during a special celebration on Sunday, September 27th at 2:30 PM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse.

Please join us in celebrating these new lay ministers and praying for them as they answer God's call to serve our parishes and communities.

ST. MATTHEWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sam Herbert
Music

SAM HERBERT
OCTOBER 16TH 7PM-8:30PM
JOHN 13:34 COFFEE HOUSE
900 VINE ST, LIVERPOOL NY.

Order Tickets online or
at the door. \$10



Follow the link to pay and click "coffee house" in the drop down



SAMHERBERTMUSIC.NET



SAVE THE DATE:

Syracuse Catholic Women's Conference

Cathedral of Immaculate Conception and OnCenter.

October 24, 2026

7:30–10 am Benediction and Marian Mass
followed by Rosary Procession

10:30–4 pm. Speakers, Venders, lunch, Confession, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration Chapel, Statue Raffle

REGISTER: www.SyracuseCatholicWomen.org
check payable for \$65 to: Diocese of Syracuse
noting Women's Conference by **10/16/26**

**Join the Sisters of St. Francis for a
Charter Bus Trip to FRANCIS**

The Sisters of St. Francis invite you to join them for the world premiere of **FRANCIS**, a monumental new oratorio honoring the life, spirit and enduring legacy of St. Francis of Assisi. Composed by Richard Danielpour with libretto by Sister Margaret Carney, OSF, **FRANCIS** will be performed by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Don't miss this opportunity to experience **FRANCIS** with our Sisters of St. Francis! Reserve your seats for the charter bus trip to Buffalo now.

Date: Sunday, October 11, 2026

Departure Time and Location: 11:00 am from Franciscan Villa

Cost: \$150 per person. Includes round-trip transportation, on-board box lunch and refreshments, and **FRANCIS** concert ticket (2:30 pm performance)

For more information and to reserve your spot, visit www.sosf.org or contact Roxanne Sopchak at 315.380.0150 or rsopchak@sosfnc.org.

The Francis Oratorio by Richard Danielpour is a major artistic work commissioned to mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi in 2026. This 70-minute oratorio, composed of eight scenes, highlights pivotal moments in Francis's life—his love of nature, reverence for other faiths, advocacy for the poor, and call to peace—while honoring the role of women in his vision of authentic Christian life.

Next Sunday, October 4th – 4-6pm:

Fr. Greg Boyle at Auburn Public Theater

Tickets available at:
events.seatfun.com/e/speaker-father-greg-boyle-at-auburn-public-theater
Please note that 100% of the \$60 ticket price goes to Fr. Boyle and his HomeBoys Inc. Ministry.



Fr. Greg Boyle, recipient of the 2024 Presidential Medal of Freedom, and Founder/Director of the Homeboy Industries, the largest gang intervention rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world, will speak about his life's mission and experiences.

A Jesuit, Fr. Boyle served as pastor of Dolores Mission Church in Los Angeles from 1986 to 1992 - the poorest Catholic parish in LA with the largest concentration of gang activity in the city. There, Fr. Boyle witnessed the devastating impact of gang violence on his community that culminated in the "decade of violence" which peaked in 1992 with 1000 gang related killings.

In response to this violence, he with his parish and community members adopted a radical approach at that time: radical love....treating gang members as human beings. Homeboy Industries created in 1992, and later Homegirls Cafe, offer an "exit ramp" for youth stuck in the cycle of violence and incarceration, providing them with life skills and jobs and now serve around 10,000 men and women a year

Fr. Boyle is the author of *Tattoos of the Heart* (2010) and recently, *Cherished Belongings: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times* (2024).

Committee Updates:

Age Well Days

The Age Well Days is a collaboration between St. Lucy's Parish and the Aging Services Coalition of Greater Syracuse (a project of Interfaith Works). This program connects seniors and their families with supportive, affordable resources for healthy, independent aging. We are pleased to continue offering this program to our parishioners and neighbors on the Near West Side each spring and fall. If you have questions, please contact Beth Bentz at (315) 935-6544.

St Kateri (Gah deh Lee) Tekakwitha Committee

The St. Gah deh Lee Committee continues its mission of education, visiting the sick and elderly, and praying for others. If you have questions or would like to join our committee, please call Beth Bentz, Member at Large, at (315) 935-6544 or Emily Stewart, Emeritus Director, at (315) 243-1472.

The People of St. Lucy's acknowledge that as Catholic Christians, we are in relationship with all of God's children, Christian and Non-Christians, and in particular we are indebted to the Onondaga Nation upon whose land St. Lucy's sanctuary was built.

We at St. Lucy's promise to be responsible caretakers of the Earth – both with our church grounds and the lands we individually impact. We commit ourselves to a path of truth, respect, and repair. We resolve to confront our ignorance and resistance, striving to become better stewards of God's Creation by learning from the wisdom of our Indigenous neighbors.

Parishioner Spotlights



Mr. Edward Hicks is likely the first person you see when you walk through the doors of St. Lucy's. He loves greeting his fellow parishioners and handing them a bulletin. He discovered St.

Lucy's while experiencing marital difficulties and living on Fabius Street. One day, he heard music coming from the church and decided to find out what it was all about. That was 15 years ago, and he has attended Mass at St. Lucy's almost every Sunday since then. Eddie told me that his son joins him for church on Easter and Christmas but cannot attend regularly because he works two jobs. Eddie shared that he is proud of his son for working so hard. Mr. Hicks says his favorite activity is helping people. An interesting fact about Eddie is that he is a great cook. He would love to volunteer at our Peace and Justice Fundraisers by making pancakes to support the maternal and child health programs in Villanueva, Nicaragua.



Mary Kay Burkett is new to the Parish Council this year, but not to the parish. She joined St. Lucy's after the Labor Day Storm in 1998, when we held Mass in the Gym. Our steeple may have fallen on September 7, 1998, but the Holy Spirit blessed us with Mary Kay.

After the storm, she and her husband, Jim, were looking for a church to join when she came across St. Lucy's. From that day forward, St. Lucy's became her home. When asked why she returns to St. Lucy's week after week, she said it was the parishioners, Father Jim, and the fact that the people of our parish "do what needs to be done." Mary Kay describes herself as a wife, mother of two, and grandmother of four, but she did not mention her many volunteer efforts in our parish. Mary Kay volunteers at the Food Pantry, Age Well Days, and the Parish Council. She is a Lector and Eucharistic Minister and prepares the Church for the Saturday evening Mass. Mary Kay and her husband built and continue to oversee the little libraries you see in our neighboring community. She hopes St. Lucy's will remain the Catholic Church on the near West Side of Syracuse because "I am a lifer."



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dba North Area Athletic Club, Inc.
Raymond M. Rinaldi
Executive Director

The Alden Street Foundation
<https://aldenstreetfoundation.org>

Our all-volunteer, low-overhead
organization provides targeted finan-
cial support to selected charitable pro-
grams in Syracuse. Please visit our web-
site for further information.

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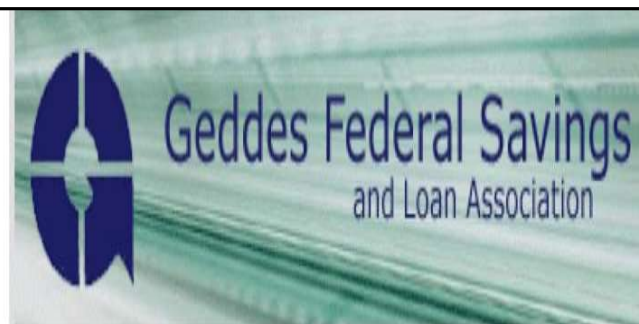


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