

Calendar

Sunday July 27 (7 Pentecost)	10:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II (In-person/ FBL) Green Team
Monday July 28 (Samson of Dol)	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Care (Zoom)
Tuesday July 29 (Mary & Martha of Bethany)		
Wednesday July 30 (William Wilberforce)		
Thursday July 31 (Ignatius of Loyola)	12:00 p.m.	Mass & Anointing
Friday August 1 (Joseph of Arimathea)		
Saturday August 2 (BVM)	4:00 p.m.	Mass ~ Rite II
Sunday August 3 (8 Pentecost)	10:30 a.m.	Mass ~ Rite II (In-person/ FBL)

This Week at St. John's

July 27, 2025

Genesis 18:20-32

The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was a common example among the prophets for human wickedness that brings God's just judgment. The specific kind of evil was variously indicated. Isaiah identified it with social and judicial vices (Isaiah 1:9-10, 3:9). Jeremiah associated it with the prophets' betrayal of their vocation (Jeremiah 23:14). Ezekiel connected it with pride and neglect of the poor and needy (Ezekiel 16:46-56). The "outcry" against the sins of these towns prompts the LORD to investigate. Because of Abraham's covenant relationship, he is allowed to know God's secret thoughts. Unfamiliar with the ways of the LORD, Abraham intercedes for the innocent who will suffer the same fate as the guilty sinners. But even though God is willing to bargain, apparently there were not even ten just persons to be found for God soon brings utter destruction to these towns.

Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)

Paul's words to the Colossians continue his teachings on the Christian way of life. In accepting Christ as Lord, we establish our life in Christ, and our faith is strengthened. But this faith must not be displaced by misguided, humanly derived traditions, for only Jesus Christ guides us in the way of truth. When we are in Christ we have a "spiritual circumcision" (2:11) that eliminates the need for physical circumcision, for we now live in the spiritual reality of baptism.

Luke 11:1-13

Luke's Gospel emphasizes the role of prayer at critical times in the life and ministry of Jesus (cf 3:21; 5:16; 6:12; 9:18, 28-29; 11:1; 22:41, 44-45). As today's passage begins, Jesus is returning from time alone in prayer, when his disciples ask him to teach them to pray. These teachings can be divided into three parts: Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer (11:1-4); a parable about prayer (vv. 5-8); and concluding sayings about prayer (vv. 9-13). Luke's rendering of the Lord's Prayer has five imperatives. In contrast, Matthew's longer prayer (6:9-13), which is a part of the Sermon on the Mount, has seven imperatives. Based on traditional Jewish prayer forms, Luke's version opens with the simple address to God as Father. This concept was already present in Hebrew Scripture (Deut. 32:6; Mal. 2:10), although the most common form of address in the synagogue service was "Our Father, Our King." Thus Jesus does not offer a new idea of God, but reflects his own familiarity with God. Disciples are to approach God in prayer with the same intimacy as a child addressing a human father (cf Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:6).

Saint John's Episcopal Church

515 E. Division Street, Springfield, MO 65803, (417) 869-6351

website: www.stjohnsspringfield.diowestmo.org
<http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsepiscopalspringfield>

(Commentaries from *Synthesis CE: A Lectionary Study Guide*)

Announcements

Welcome! We are glad to have you here to worship with us at St. John's today or with us online.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Robert and Thomas Lancaster by Cindy Cooper.

Outreach Ministry Group: Did you know Harmony House provides services to over 800 women, men and children a year? In addition to shelter, life skills classes, support groups and legal assistance are available. We're collecting disinfectant wipes, bus passes, paper towels, adult ibuprofen, 33 and 55 gallon trash bags, gas cards and 1 inch kindergarten mats. You may also write a check to St. John's with Harmony House on the memo line.

Save the Date: Join us on August 3, for Sundae Sunday. The Outreach Ministry Group will provide ice cream, cookies and a variety of toppings for coffee hour. There will be ice cream treats for the Saturday service on August 2. We want to thank you for your wonderful support of our outreach projects.

Rectory Remodel Contributions: Due to interest expressed by parishioners in helping with the purchase of appliances for the rectory remodel, a list (with prices) of the ordered machines is available. If you would like to contribute to the rectory remodel, please contact David Westervelt with your inquiries.

Inquirer's Class: The Inquirer's Class for those wishing Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation will begin Sunday, August 3 and continue August 10, 17, 24, 31, meeting at 12:30 p.m. in the Library. The Inquirer's Class is in preparation for Bishop Amy Meaux's visit to St. John's on September 6-7. Interested persons should contact Fr. Ron as soon as possible. but no later than July 28th.

Southern Deanery Picnic: Join us for the Southern Deanery picnic at St. James Episcopal Church in Springfield at 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 2. Main dishes will be provided. All those attending are free to bring sides and desserts, as each is able. Please register by Monday, July 28. We can't wait to celebrate another wonderful year with you as a deanery!

Intercessions

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Diocese of Northwest Texas, Lubbock, TX; The Rt. Rev. James Scott Mayer & Staff; and for The Diocese of West Missouri's Newly Ordained Priests.

Birthdays

July 29 Jennifer Stammers
July 30 Elizabeth M. Lohman
Norma Tokarczyk

Anniversary

July 23 Thomas & Mary Ann Arnall

Faithful Departed

July 27 M.J. (May) Barker
July 29 Jack Armour
July 31 Mildred McCarthy
Karen Ollis
Aug. 1 Charles S. Christianson
John Sellers

Prayer Requests

Clara	Kristen
Bill	Casey
Jim	Sean
Patty	Donna
Nikki	Marilyn & family
Jim	Carolyn
Jessica	Louise
Katy	Kenny
Elaine	Christina
Darrel	Lora & family
Jerry	Bill
Pat	Nick
Ann	Patrick & LaDonna
Sheila	

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you." (Luke 11:9)

Today's stewards sound the same as those of 2,000 years ago: "I will follow you wherever you go." And today's followers face the same challenges. How are we to follow Jesus? How are we to be faithful? How are we to live out the kingdom of God?