

There met him ten men that were lepers... As they went, they were made clean
(adapted from St Alphonsus Liguori's sermon for the 13th Sunday after Pentecost)

In today's Gospel, Jesus Christ heals ten lepers after sending them away "to show themselves to the priests." Why, it may be asked, did he not heal them on the spot? It is suggested, had he done so, they, by remaining among lepers, would have easily relapsed into the same disease. Therefore, he first had them to go away before healing them. Today, I shall show, that, to lead a good life, it is necessary to avoid bad companions.

1. "A friend of fools, shall become like them." (Pro 13:20) Christians who live in enmity with God are fools, who deserve to be shut up in a mad-house. For, what greater madness can be conceived than to believe in hell and to live in sin? But the man who contracts an intimacy with these fools shall soon become like them. Although he should hear all the sermons of the sacred orators, he will continue in vice: *examples make greater impressions than words*. Hence the Royal Prophet has said: "With the elect thou wilt be elect, and with the perverse thou wilt be perverted." (Ps. 28:27) St. Augustine says, that familiarity with sinners is as it were a hook which draws us to communicate in their vices. Let us, said the saint, avoid wicked friends. "To know whom we should avoid is a great means of saving our souls." (Aquinas)

4. What then must we do? The Wise Man tells us to avoid the vices of the wicked AND to beware of treading in their ways: "Restrain thy foot from their paths." (Prov 1:15) That is, we should avoid their conversations, their discourses, their feasts, and all the allurements and presents with which they will seek to entice us into their net: "My son, if sinners shall entice thee, consent not to them." (Prov 1:10) Without a decoy, birds are not enticed into the fowler's net: "Will the bird fall into the snare upon the earth if there be no fowler?" (Amos 3:15) Just so, the devil employs vicious friends, as decoys, to draw others into sin. Avoid them!

8. "Depart from the unjust, and evils shall depart from thee." (Eccl 7:2) Fly, separate from wicked companions, and you shall cease to commit sin: "Neither let the way of evil men please thee. Flee from it: pass not by it: go aside and forsake it." (Pro 4:14, 15.) Avoid the ways in which these vicious friends walk, that you may not even meet them. "Forsake not an old friend; for the new will not be like to him." (Eccl 9:14) Do not leave your first friend, who loved you before you came into the world: "I have loved thee with an everlasting love." (Jer 31:3) Your new friends do not love you; they hate you more than your greatest enemy: they seek not your welfare, as God does, but their own pleasures, and the satisfaction of having companions of their wickedness and perdition. You will, perhaps, say: I feel a repugnance to separate from such a friend, who has been solicitous for my welfare; to break off from him would appear to be an act of ingratitude. What welfare? What ingratitude? God alone wishes your welfare, because he desires your eternal salvation. Your friend wishes your eternal ruin; he wishes you to follow him, but cares not if you be damned. It is not ingratitude to abandon a friend who leads you to hell; but it is ingratitude to forsake God, who has created you, who has died for you on the cross, and who desires your salvation.

9. Fly then from the conversation of these wicked friends: "Hedge in thy ears with thorns, hear not a wicked tongue." (Eccl 28:28) Beware of listening to the language of such friends; their words may bring you to perdition. And when you hear them speak improperly arm yourself with thorns, and reprove them, not only for the purpose of rebuking, but also of converting them. Listen to a frightful example, and learn the evil which a wicked friend does. Father Sabatino relates in his "Evangelical Light" that two friends of that kind were one day together. One of them, to please the other, committed a sin; but after they had separated he died suddenly. The other, who knew nothing of his death, saw, in his sleep, his friend, and, according to his custom, ran to embrace him. But the deceased appeared to be surrounded with fire, and began to blaspheme the other, and to upbraid him for being the cause of his damnation. The other awoke and changed his life. But his unhappy friend was damned; and for his damnation there is not, and shall not be, any remedy for all eternity.



CHRIST THE KING Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter
preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls
according to the liturgical books of 1962.

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2020

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Please call the office to arrange your Sunday Mass attendance; registered parishioners will have preference over others. No appointments are needed for daily Mass.

The Daily Mass Schedule is: Monday at 12 noon; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:00 am and 9:00 am; Friday at 9:00 am and 6:30 pm; Saturday at 9:00 am.

The Sunday Mass Schedule is (in Sarasota): 7:00 am; 8:30 am; 10:30 am; and 12 noon. [Call the office!] **In Ocala,** Mass is 4:30 pm. (No need to call.)

Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before Mass.

Please only use the bathrooms in the vestibule.

Finally, please keep a safe distance.

The Sunday obligation is dispensed until Sunday, November 1, 2020.

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 08-30	13 th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	
Mon 08-31	St Raymond Nonnatus	3/W	
Tues 09-01	Feria	4/G	St Giles, 12 Holy Brothers
Wed 09-02	St Stephen of Hungary	3/W	
Thu 09-03	St Pius X	3/W	
Fri 09-04	Sacred Heart of Jesus	3/W	St Lawrence Justinian
Sat 09-05	Immaculate Heart of Mary	3/W	
Sun 09-06	14 th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 08-30	(7 am) Jane J Strong+ (8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) John C Wojtyna+ (12 noon) Gracie Heini Lein+	rb M/M L Labrecque rb Burns family rb K Kirsch & B Blake
Mon 08-31	(12 noon) Melanie & John Gibbon	rb R & D Gabriel
Tues 09-01	(7 am) Fr Pillari (9 am) Poor Souls in Purgatory	rb Anglely family rb Louis de Saizieu
Wed 09-02	(7 am) Ileana Maria Gener+ (9 am) Tristian Brockmeyer	rb Manuel Vincente rb K & K Moore
Thu 09-03	(7 am) FssP Priests (9 am) Fr Joseph Kelly	rb J & J Mikluscak rb S A Bradl
Fri 09-04	(9 am) Ted Cover+ (6:30 pm) Special intention	rb K Dinh rb M/M Marchand
Sat 09-05	(7 am) <i>priest's intention</i> (9 am) Blessed Virgin Mary	rb a friend
Sun 09-06	(7 am) Rebecca Marie Land (8:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (10:30 am) Cayden Emke (12 noon) Joan & Frances Kitko	rb Patricia Miller rb Emke family rb B & T Shehwen family



Today, after the 12 noon Mass, items on “the blessing table” in the hall will be blessed; the Bookstore is open after the 8:30 am & 10:30 am Masses.

Confirmation at Christ the King: Fr Hathaway will soon write Bishop Dewane about his confirming our members on Pentecost Wednesday, May 26, 2021. If you need and desire the Sacrament of Confirmation and will be 16 years or older on this day, please let Fr Hathaway know (if you have not already done so.)

Last Sunday's collection: \$ 4722.00; and **Mass attendance:** 7 am, 52; 8:30 am, 66; 10:30 am, 68; 12 noon, 52; for a total of 238.

Bishop Dewane has written another Co-Vid letter to the diocese of Venice. In it, he notes a lessening of Co-Vid restrictions then extends the dispensation for the Sunday obligation to November 1, 2020 so that “those who are sick to feel comfortable staying home as well as helps the vulnerable avoid the risk of larger gatherings.” He ends his letter, “Let us continue to remain safe, observe the protocols about face coverings, carefully wash hands, and maintain safe distances. In addition, you are encouraged to extend a helping hand to your neighbors in need of hope or healing.” The letter is posted outside.

At Christ the King, we will: remind you to STAY HOME if you appear sick; require signing-up for Sunday Mass (to distribute the herd); remove some plastic from the back pews (to allow you to sit a space apart from non-family as done in airplane seating); leave plastic upfront for those who prefer that manner of seating; continue with face masks, at least, while in transit (once at your pew they may be lowered to your chin); and, allow gatherings outside of church to “extend a helping hand to your neighbors in need of hope or healing.”

This week: Monday. Rosary after the 12 noon Mass; **Thursday**, from 5 to 6 pm, enrollment catechism classes. [No student is allowed in class without signed forms; signed & returned PDF forms are permitted, but signing and returning in person is preferred; this year, Ryan Beggy & Jennifer Husmann will substitute when a priest cannot teach; the first class is Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020 from 5 to 6 pm; classes meet on 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, children (6-12 years) in the hall & teenagers (13-18 years) in the Choir Room.]; **1st Saturday**, 7 am & 9 am Masses both followed by devotions (**NB: as server families will be present at the 9 am Mass, so please attend the 7 am Mass, if you can.**) In Ocala, Mass at 10:30 am.

St Theresa Devotions Prayer Guild resumes Monday, Sept. 14th at 7 pm in the hall. The guild exposes attendees, who must be 18 or older, to various devotions; there is time for silent prayer in the church; it ends at 8:30 pm; sign-up in the vestibule. Denise Priest hosts this event to be held the 2nd Mondays of the month.

Fall Forty Days for Life (September 23 to Nov. 1, 2020): As a Community, we will pray at the local abortion mill on Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 9 am to 5 pm. Please plan now to spend an hour there. In late September, our Pro-Life leaders, Mr. and Mrs. John Funderburk, will have sign-up sheets to record the hour that you are willing & able to commit to for this important ministry: *when I was defenseless, you defended me. “Amen, I say to thee, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me.”* (Mt 25:40). For more information, please email Missy Funderburk at mlfunderburk@gmail.com.

Please pray for Jody Koehler (8/30), James Ahearn (8/30), Karen Boylan (Petrosky) (8/30), Jessica Patraw Branham (8/30), Sciscenti family (8/23), Virginia Strong (8/23), Bill & Barbara Wis (8/16); Fr Vincent Sheehy, Pastor Emeritas at Our Lady of Lourdes in Venice, (8/7). (Prayer requests are posted for one month.)