

*Transforming
Lives Through
Jesus Christ*

SWORD POINTS

October 9, 2025

www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com

(203) 775-9587



Only One Gave Thanks



Blessing of the Animals



Of what nationality was the one cleansed leper who returned to thank Jesus?

- a) Jew
- b) Greek
- c) Samaritan

Luke 17:12-16 NIV



† Socks & Toiletries for the Homeless

As the temperature drops and the seasons change remember homeless people are on their feet all day, and the only pair of socks they own are very likely to be threadbare. Once again, this year we are collecting socks and toiletries for the men's homeless shelter throughout the winter months. Place donations in the bins in the back of the church or Crocker Hall.

† This Week at St. Paul's

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|---|
| Thu, Oct 9 | - 9:30 am | - Iron Sharpens Iron Discussion Group, Guild Room |
| | 7:30 pm | - Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary |
| Fri, Oct 10 | -10:00 am | - Friday Walking Group, Fairfield Hills |
| - | 11:00 am | - Susan Morrison Burial Rite (<i>YouTube Live</i>) |
| Sat, Oct 11 | - 7:30 am | - John 21:12 Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford |
| | 8:00 am | - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall |
| | 10:00 am | - PraiseMoves, Crocker Hall |
| Sun, Oct 12 | | The 18th Sunday after Pentecost |
| | - 8:00 am | - Traditional Holy Communion (<i>YouTube Live</i>) |
| | 9:30 am | - Adult Class, Guild Room |
| | 10:30 am | - Sunday School, Classrooms |
| | 10:30 am | - Contemporary Holy Communion (<i>YouTube Live</i>) |
| Mon, Oct 13 | - 7:00 pm | - Men's Bible Study, Crocker Hall (<i>YouTube Live</i>) |
| Tues, Oct 14 | - 9:30 am | - Ladies Tuesday AM Bible Study, Guild Room |
| | 7:00 pm | - Scout Troop #5, Meadow |
| Wed, Oct 15 | -10:00 am | - Holy Communion & Healing (<i>YouTube Live</i>) |
| | 11 to Noon | - Drive-Thru Food Collection #144 |
| | - 7:00 pm | - Ladies Evening Zoom Bible Study (<i>Zoom</i>) |
| Thu, Oct 16 | - 9:30 am | - Iron Sharpens Iron Discussion Group, Guild Room |
| | 7:30 pm | - Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary |
| Sat, Oct 18 | | Saint Luke, the Evangelist |
| | - 7:30 am | - John 21:12 Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford |
| | 8:00 am | - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall |
| | 10:00 am | - PraiseMoves, Crocker Hall |
| | 4 - 7 pm | - OktoberFest, Crocker Hall |
| Sun, Oct 19 | | The 19th Sunday after Pentecost |
| | - 8:00 am | - Traditional Holy Communion (<i>YouTube Live</i>) |
| | 9:30 am | - Adult Class, Guild Room |
| | 10:30 am | - Sunday School, Classrooms |
| | 10:30 am | - Contemporary Holy Communion (<i>YouTube Live</i>) |

Check our website daily for schedule updates.





The Priest-in-Charge **WEEKLY**

Fr. Nate, our Priest-in-Charge is distributing a weekly e-mail to communicate things directly from his desk to yours. **Connection, communication, and care** are among the highest priorities of his new ministry, and he wants to make sure there are regular touch points between us. If you would like to receive "*The Priest-in-Charge Weekly*" and **already receive weekly e-mails from St. Paul's**, you don't have to do anything - you're already included on the list! If you would like to receive "*The Priest-in-Charge Weekly*" and **DO NOT receive weekly e-mails from St. Paul's**, or if you want to opt out, write Fr. Nate at priest@saintpaulsbrookfield.com and let him know.

Sunday, October 26th

2:00 - 4:00 pm.

Trunk OR Treat

To sign up as a trunk or for more information contact Emily Perry



Candy donations are always welcome and may be dropped off in the bins in the back of the church.

† **Susan Morrison**

passed away on October 4, 2025

It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of our beloved sister in Christ, Susan Morrison, who entered eternal rest on Saturday, October 4, surrounded by the people she loved most.

Susan was a quiet force of faith, compassion, and grace. She led Bible studies, served with Meals on Wheels, and was a faithful witness on many Cursillo weekends. Her life of service flowed from deep love—for her family, her friends, and her Lord.

Those who knew Susan will remember her warmth, steady presence, and gentle strength. She gave of herself generously, never seeking recognition, but always showing up. As a devoted wife to the Rev. John E. Morrison III, the mother of John and Heather, and proud grandmother of seven, her joy was found in simply being present with and to them.

We give thanks for Susan's life, her steadfast faith, and the many ways she shared God's love among us. Please keep her family, and all who loved her in your prayers as they mourn her passing and celebrate her remarkable life.

Condolences can be sent to:

The Rev. John Morrison
c/o St. Paul's Parish
174 Whisconier Rd
Brookfield, CT 06804

May Susan rest in peace and rise in glory.

A funeral service will take place tomorrow, Friday, October 10, 2025 at 11:00 am at Saint Paul's Church.

† **PraiseMoves Is Back!**

PraiseMoves classes will be held on every Saturday in the month of October at 10 am in Crocker Hall (maybe an alternate location on one Saturday but it will be on the church campus). PraiseMoves is the Christian alternative to Yoga and designed to help with balance, toning and core strengthening – all while scripture is being spoken with every posture! All ages and athletic ability are welcome and all postures can be modified for any reason. Mary Perry, Certified PraiseMoves Instructor, will be leading the class - email her at maryperry2@me.com with any questions. All you need is an open heart to hear the word of God and a mat! Please sign up at the rear table in the



† **Signal Purpose**

[Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7](#) - [Psalm 66:1-11](#) - [2 Timothy. 2:8-15](#) - [Luke 17:11-19](#)

Some of us treat life as a series of responses to distractions. Whether it is impulse shopping, text messaging, people watching, daydreaming, or something worse, we come to the end of our busy day with few things from our task lists being accomplished. The existence of the electronic personal organizer industry is a witness to the magnitude of the problem. We have electronic gadgets that not only record our appointments and tasks, but send us reminders about them - some can talk to us or even nag us. None of these remedies, however, treats anything but the symptoms. The only solution with lasting success is the hard and sacrificial (self-denying) work of a disciplined focus.

An image from basketball illustrates the necessity of such a focus. Toward the end of a close game, a lone basketball player steps to the foul line. The crowd is going wild. Those rooting for the player's team are cheering him on, while those who oppose them are doing everything possible to distract him. They jump around behind the transparent backboard and wave anything they have. Internally, the player is subjected to the pressure of a possible multimillion-dollar contract, lucrative endorsements, and incredible fame. When the greats step to the line - the players who successfully shoot greater than 80 percent of their free throws - the commentators fill the waiting time by reporting how they spend hours before and after practice shooting foul shots. The player develops muscle memory and that, with a trained power of concentration, is the goal. The successful shooter has trained eyes, mind, and body to focus on the basket regardless of the pandemonium.

As in the individual, such training and discipline is also necessary for the Christian community. For the Church to function properly as the body of Christ, all its parts need to be trained and focused on the goal - to announce and demonstrate the direction and purpose of God in the world through Jesus Christ. Just as a basketball player does not shoot a successful foul shot by simply staring intently at the basket, or thinking only of the perfect trajectory of the ball, or totally focusing on having the proper spring in the knees, we cannot simply will ourselves to share the gospel successfully with our neighbors.

To know Christ and to make him known, all parts of the Church need to be trained and focused on the goal. We need to study the truth of God's Word and commit it to memory. We must train our minds and bodies so that living the gospel becomes who we are and how we live. And we need to discipline our minds so that we are not distracted by promises of an easier way than God has provided through Jesus Christ. All this takes concentration and practice, as well as coaching from the Holy Spirit. Only then will we not be distracted by the self-righteous claims of special-interest groups, the cries of foul by the secular culture, and the threats of personal repercussions for our biblical stand. These distractions are not new. St. Paul told Timothy that the antidote is individual discipline and corporate focus on God.

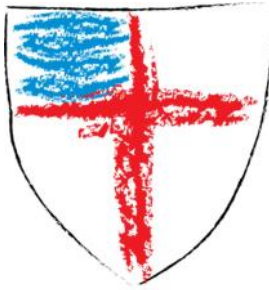
St. Paul's recipe for the life of the Christian disciple is a prayerful reflection on the Christ-centered and spiritually liberating message of the gospel. Through such reflection we gain divine insight and knowledge about God and our proper relationship with him. The manifestation of our inspired understanding of the gospel is our living testimony to God's nature and will.

Look It Up: Luke 17:15-19

Think About It: When the healed Samaritan leper returned to give thanks to Jesus, he expressed his faith in the One who healed him and he was made well - not only in this life, but for all eternity.

- by The Rev. Dr. Chuck Alley, *The Living Church*, 2025





† Ih-pis-kuh-puh I / Dik-shuh-ner-ee

(Episcopal Dictionary)



† Jesse Tree

/ jes-ee / tree /

Jesse Tree - The depiction of the genealogy of Jesus in the form of a tree, springing from Jesse, the father of King David of Israel (see Isaiah 11:1). It typically shows intermediary descendants on the foliage of the tree, which ends with Jesus or with the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus. Its purpose is to stress the royal lineage of Jesus as the anointed king in the line of David. It is normally either painted on the glass or carved on the mullions of a window of a church or cathedral. Thus arose the term “Jesse Window.” This



practice began as early as the twelfth century.

Examples are to be found in the cathedrals of Wells and Chartres. Some parishes decorate a tree with symbols appropriate for a Jesse Tree as an Advent devotion.



† Adult Class Studying Faith

More than anything else, Christ came to earth to instill faith in God and trust in his promises. Faith isn't optional - it's the heartbeat of the Christian life. Join us as we explore what faith really is, how it works in everyday life, and how it deepens our walk with God. The Adult Class meets weekly on Sundays between services starting at 9:30 in Guild Room.



† Women's Wed Evening Bible Study

The Women's Evening Bible Study has started a new study on Wednesdays, at 7:00 on Zoom. The topic is Courage: people in the Bible who showed courage in difficult circumstances. We will see how each person met their situation, what role God played, and what we can apply to ourselves now. All women are welcome. For more information contact Kathy Whipple at kthyw49@gmail.com.



† St. Paul's Walking Group!

Our St. Paul's walking group is making a great strides! The next walk will be at Fairfield Hills tomorrow, Friday, October 10 at 10:00 am. We should plan to meet at 2 Primrose Street in Newtown. I will check the weather and send out an update e-mail if there are any changes before the meet up time. Based upon feedback, we will plan to do a walk over the Hudson River on Saturday, October 25th. If you know anyone else who might be interested in joining our group, please let me know and I will add them to the group list. Ron Switzer (rjswit@msn.com).



† Sunday School Info!

ATTN: PARENTS OF ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS:

Sunday School classes have resumed. Bring your students to the classrooms by 10:30. Children will be returned to the sanctuary in time for Communion.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Oct 12th 8 am - Thomas's	10:30 am - JoAnn Hornak
Oct 19th 8 am - Polly Sorrentino	10:30 am - Joanne Siergiej
Oct 26th 8 am - Durkin's	10:30 am - Heidi Duckett



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Contact Mary Allen at 203-775-6633 or chamla@charter.net.



† *Art in the Christian Tradition*

Ten Lepers,

by James Christensen (born 1942),
Oil and acrylic on canvas, executed in 2002 ,
© James C. Christensen



‘One of them turned back and gave Jesus thanks’ we hear in Sunday’s Gospel. James Christensen captures that moment beautifully in his painting: on the right we see the grateful man, breaking away from the group, turning back to Christ in thanksgiving. The other nine lepers, healed but heedless, drift off in the opposite direction. They received their miracle and simply walked away. Only one, the Samaritan, the “foreigner,” returns to give thanks.

Christensen, a California-based artist, renders the scene with both elegance and great detail. We know who the lepers are not by their bodies (those are perfectly healed) but by their torn, threadbare clothing. Their ragged garments still carry the memory of their disease, a reminder of who they were only moments before. The contrast is striking: their skin speaks of new life and future hope; their clothes whisper of a broken past.

Nine men hurry away, swept up in the joy of their recovery, forgetting the hand that healed them. But the tenth stops. He sees is truly grateful. Our reading Sunday is as much about healing as about gratefulness. The reading urges us to pause in our own fast-paced lives. How often do we take blessings for granted - health, friendship, faith, beauty? Do we truly thank God for all we have received? Gratitude lies at the very heart of being a Christian because our entire life of faith begins with receiving: the gift of creation an date gift of our lives. To be a Christian is to live in constant awareness that everything is received, and so the most authentic response is thanksgiving: Eucharistia - which literally means “thanksgiving.”

“No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.”

- St. Ambrose

In the story of the ten lepers, only one returns to Jesus to give thanks for his healing. Are we often like the others? Do we accept God’s many blessings and gifts, but fail to respond in a sufficiently grateful way? The use of our treasure, time and talent for the Lord’s work is a good indicator of our gratitude to our God who gives all.





† Saints of God

Thursday, October 9th

Robert Grosseteste,
Bishop, 1253

Robert Grosseteste, one of the outstanding English bishops of the thirteenth century, rose to preeminence in the church from humble beginnings in Suffolk. He distinguished himself as a scholar in all branches of study - law, medicine, languages, sciences, and theology.

He was appointed Master of the Oxford School, and teacher of theology to the Franciscans when they established a house at Oxford. Grosseteste translated Aristotle's works from the Greek, wrote commentaries on them, and sought to refute the philosopher's views by developing a scientific method based on Augustine's theories. Because of Grosseteste, Oxford began to emphasize the study of the sciences, especially physics, geometry, and mathematics. One notable pupil of Grosseteste was Roger Bacon, a brilliant proponent of the scientific method. Both as a teacher and as a bishop, Grosseteste had a strong influence on John Wycliffe.

In 1235, Grosseteste was consecrated as Bishop of Lincoln. He exercised his office with efficiency and conscientiousness, remarking that a bishop's pastoral responsibility was not merely to give instructions but to see that they were carried out. "I am obligated to visit the sheep committed to me with all diligence, as Scripture prescribes," he said.

He traveled regularly to each rural deanery, called together the clergy and laity, preached, confirmed, and dealt with questions of doctrine. "My lord, you are doing something new and exceptional," remarked some of the people during his first visitation. He replied, "Every new thing which implants and promotes and perfects the new man, corrupts and destroys the old. Blessed is the new, and in every way welcome to him who comes to re-create the old man in newness."

Grosseteste actively opposed royal infringements on church liberties and he did not fear to protest even papal abuses of local prerogatives. He once refused to accept the appointment of the pope's nephew to a living in his diocese, saying, "As an obedient son, I disobey, I contradict, I rebel . . . my every word and act is not rebellion, but filial honor due by God's blessed command to father and mother."

† Transforming Stewardship

"Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" LUKE 17:18

Most of us live "easy" lives. We have food, shelter and clothing. We go on vacation every year and own a car or two. Most of us take this all for granted. Did you ever notice that people with the least amount of possessions are usually the most grateful? Stewardship can turn this around. Take time every day and thank God for all He has given you.



† Thought for Reflection

- from Fr. John Morrison

"It is a luxury to be able to complete one job before starting the next. All our good intentions to give ourselves totally to the task in hand can be shattered by interruptions. Sometimes the first interruption is in turn interrupted by something else, so that we entirely lose the thread of where we were and what we were trying to do. Surrounded by unfinished tasks, we feel as if we are running up an escalator which is going downwards. It is a struggle to hang on to inward peacefulness in the frustration of seeing all our plans blown out of the window. At such moments my prayer is, 'Lord, help me to find your wholeness in the middle of incompleteness.'

We have to find a way of prayerful acceptance as each interruption comes. We must let go of what we were doing, leaving it firmly in God's hands for the moment, so that we are free to turn our whole attention to the person who has come into the office, or the child who has lost his teddy, or the caller on the telephone. By giving ourselves to the need in front of us, we can regain our inner surrender and stillness and respond as if there were nobody else and nothing else at that moment. In our rising frustration we have to entrust to God the jobs we haven't even started yet, as well as the unfinished ones. If we have

given ourselves to God in everything, we can trust him to see us through everything."

Angela Ashwin, *Heaven in Ordinary*, p. 46

Phishing Scams - Don't fall for them! Please do not respond to any message from Fr. Nate or St. Paul's by email or any other method of communication that asks you to purchase something (often a gift card) or asks for a "favor."

do not reply, do not click links in the messages, mark If there is any doubt about the veracity of a text or by e-mail at (priest@saintpaulsbrookfield.com) or (dszen@yahoo.com).

Delete these messages, them as Spam or Junk. email, contact Fr. Nate the office



CAUTION!

There Seems to be a New Scam Every Week!





Israel - Walking in Jesus' Footsteps



✠ Cave of the Ten Lepers ✨

Set in the far eastern side of Samaria within the Palestinian Authority controlled areas lies one of the oldest and holiest churches in the world, the Church of St. George.

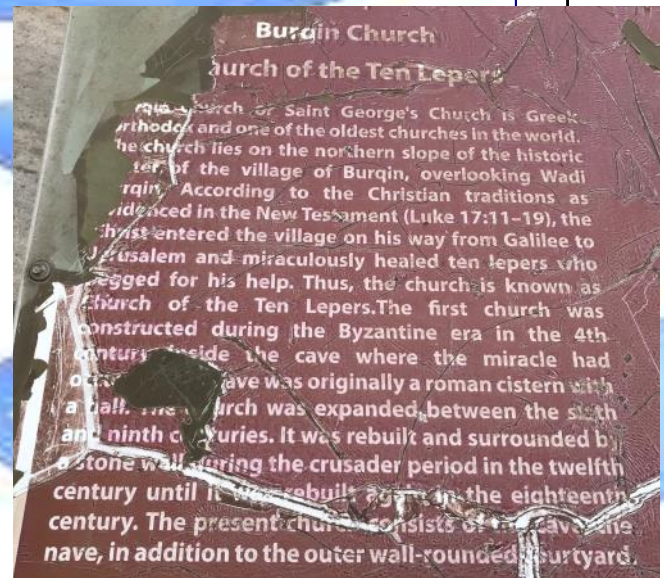
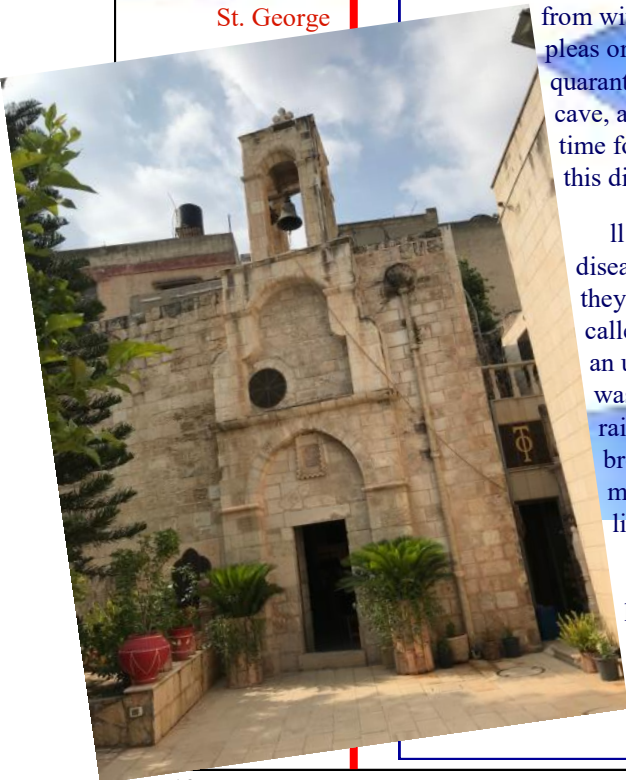
For tourists seeking to venture well off the beaten path to sites of enormous religious significance one must take a day trip to Burq'in, about 1.5 miles west of Jenin. The small, picturesque village of Burq'in lies within a valley along the ancient Nativity trail that Jesus took as he walked from the Galilee to Bethlehem.

According to the New Testament, Jesus stopped in Burq'in on his way to Jerusalem from Nazareth when he heard cries coming from within the village. The pleas originated from ten lepers quarantined in an underground cave, a common practice at the time for people afflicted with this disease.

All of them had a skin disease called leprosy, and they lived in something called a cistern, which was an underground tank that was used to gather rainwater for human consumption. This particular cistern had already broken up, and was no longer used for its original purpose, so these ten men decided that it would make a suitable shelter in which they could live.

Leprosy is a dreadful skin disease, where people often lose their hands and their feet. Also, their faces are usually disfigured, and during the time of Jesus there was no cure for leprosy. Back then, lepers were considered very contagious, and they had to be separated from their

Church of St. George



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Cave of the Ten Lepers

families and friends.

Jesus was known by these men to be a great healer, so when these lepers heard that He was passing through their town they all begged Him to heal them of their illness, and that's exactly what Jesus did. He cleansed all ten of them. According to Luke 17:11-19, Jesus responded to the lepers cries for mercy and they were healed.



“Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us!' When he saw them, he said, 'Go, show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were cleansed.”

Today this holy site is home to the Orthodox Church of St. George, otherwise known as the Church of the Ten Lepers,

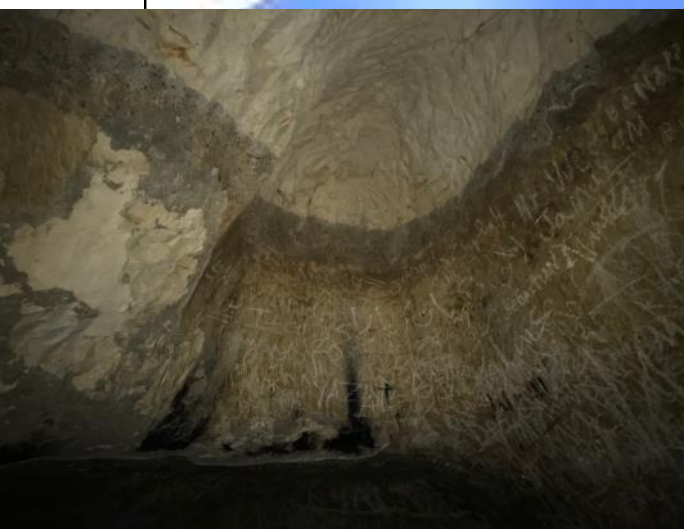
and the original church cave on top of which the church rests is believed to be the fourth oldest church in the Holy Land and one of the holiest churches in the world.

Within the present structure visitors can walk into an ancient cave that contains a small opening in the ceiling. Tradition holds that Jesus healed the lepers in this cave and that it is through the hole in the ceiling that people may have dropped food and water to the lepers quarantined inside.

Centuries later a church was built on this site and became a station for Christian pilgrims en route between Jerusalem and Nazareth. Like both the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, the Church of St. George was commissioned by Saint Helena in the 4th century A.D. A church guardian who led us around the newly renovated holy site said that the local Greek Orthodox community holds a weekly mass there and groups are welcome to visit by prearrangement.

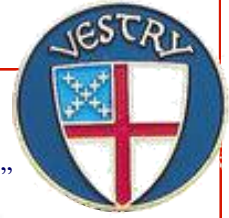
Burqin is approximately 1.5 hours north of Jerusalem.

Interior of the Church of St. George



Far left: an existing cistern outside the Church of St. George that is only accessible by climbing down a ladder.

† **Vestry Meeting**
Wednesday, September 17th



Opening: Warden Lois Hunt opened the meeting with prayer at 7:30 pm.

Scripture Reading & Reflection: Luke 16:1-13 - Lois: "It is confusing to me about the rich man commending the manager for his shrewdness. I understand the scripture that we cannot serve two masters and the message that we must be faithful, but I do not understand the part of the manager being commended."

Diane: "Commended him for his shrewdness. This stood out and I am confused about the meaning of it."

Bill S. Verses 9, 10 thru 12 don't seem to be part of the previous parable.

Joanne: You cannot serve two masters was the message that stood out to me.

Fr. Nate: "According to one of my favorite commentators on the Parables of Jesus, he believes that this parable is one of the most difficult to explain. This is part of a larger discourse where Jesus is challenging the Pharisees in the readings over the past several parables in Luke. Jesus is using multiple parables to get the message across to his followers and the Pharisees: the lost sheep (leaving the 99 to find the one), the lost coin, and the lost child in the prodigal son."

Testimony: Bill Schrull: My spiritual journey started when I was young. One evening, I was upstairs in my room listening to music when I heard crying. I turned down the music and heard my mother crying as she was talking to my father. I went downstairs

face in front of the church and I prayed, "If you are real God, please do something for my dad."

This was the first time I ever prayed. I wasn't expecting an answer, but I got one. As I sat up, I felt the 'peace that passes understanding' that I had never experienced before. I remained there for a long time; I just didn't want to leave. What kept coming to my mind was the reflection on my statement, "Are you for real?" The answer was, "Yes, and the Lord wants to know me." After a long time, I got up and started walking away from the church, but I kept looking back. As I got further away from the church, I had this feeling that nothing would ever be the same.

Once I got home, my mom tried to explain to me what was going on between her and my father. I looked at her, and I told her that I do not know how I know this, but everything was going to be all right.

Later in my life I realized that I gave my life to Jesus Christ that day. I wanted to share this with my father. I found out that my father was hurt by many people at the church we attended. He felt he was on the outside looking in. Because of this, my father wouldn't discuss faith with me. My mom would speak with me about it, and she also came to a deep faith with Jesus.

Many years later my father was aging and having TIA's. It greatly affected his cognitive ability. One day when I was alone with my father, he was rambling about many different topics that did not make sense. I asked the Lord to give him wisdom. Within minutes my father looked at me and said, "Maybe Jesus wanted it that way." Then just that

quickly he went back to rambling. On the way home, I realized that Jesus was working in my father's life.

Months later my father was in a nursing home, failing in health. My brothers and I were on vigil watching over my father. My dad was unconscious, and I was sitting at his bed side. I prayed that our Lord would send me a sign that my father received him. It was a longing of mine to have confirmation of his salvation. As I sat there, I heard a cleaning woman come into the room. As I

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Vestry Minutes



and my father was sitting in his favorite chair. My mother was kneeling in front of him asking that he 'not do this anymore.'

My parents were my rock at this stage of my life. I went back to my room but climbed out my back window and took a long walk. I was crying because I did not know what was happening, thinking about the possibility of my parents divorcing or worse. I walked a long distance and ended up at the church we attended. I found myself doing something that I never did before. I fell down on my

Vestry Minutes

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continued to pray and she began to clean my father's room, she spoke broken English to me. She said, "He goes there, I know this." I was shocked, but then had great joy. God is so able to do amazing things in our lives. This is just one instance of many. He has worked in my life so many times.

Approval of August Vestry Minutes: The August Vestry meeting minutes were approved as written.

Vestry Minutes



Treasurer's Report: Chuck reported that August's current month performance was a surplus of \$844. YTD August still has a deficit of \$32,175. Based on the YTD August deficit, Chuck believes the year objective of breakeven is at high risk. The Franklin Funds had another solid month. YTD gain is \$154,026 or an 8.4% increase. We are at 90% of payments for 2025 Mission Budget. Chuck requested that the 2026 Mission Budget be on the Vestry Agenda for the month of October. The Vestry needs to give input to the Mission Committee as it pertains to the budget range. The Treasurer notified the Vestry members by e-mail that a fraudulent check was written against St. Paul's checking account with Webster Bank. Webster Bank determined the check was fraudulent and reimbursed St. Paul's account in full. Webster Bank recommended that a new checking account be opened, and the old account closed. The Treasurer asked for approval from each of the Vestry members by email in favor of opening a new checking account and approving the three persons authorized to sign checks. The Treasurer also requested approval for the Discretionary Fund Account that Fr. Nate Lee and Treasurer Chuck Allen as approved signers on the account. All Vestry members responded and approved unanimously to open a new checking account and approved the authorized signers of checks.

Committee/Ministry Reports:

JoAnn Hornak: Hearts to Hands - Dot C. The team is currently serving two individuals. Because of the Volunteer Appreciation service, a parishioner has asked

to join the ministry. **Sunday School - Julie A.** ~ Emily Perry will be joining the Middle School team as a teacher.

Bill S.: The live streaming port that allowed the livestream to come to Crocker Hall no longer worked. The new replacement unit that was approved and purchased has been installed. There are additional benefits with this new unit.

Beth B.: John Beck reviewed the bids for the replacement of the roofs and eliminated the more expensive bid because of the

material that was suggested for the sub-layer in the proposal.

John preferred the proposal for The Roofer because of the material being proposed. There are some minor changes that John would request in the Scope of Work.

The work to replace the roof should have a minimum 5-to-7-year warranty and not the 2-year warranty as listed in the proposal.

It is important to get other job references for the subcontractor(s) chosen to understand their work quality and work ethics.

Warden's Report: Bishop Laura Ahrens Visit: December 7th, 2025. Update on George Stowell's sabbatical: The Vestry discussed the departure of George Stowell. The letter explaining George's decision to step down as Warden will be sent out to the parish family this week.

Priest-in-Charge Report: Fr. Nate

•Role Definition: Advisory Committee and Vestry ~ Fr. Nate gave a full explanation of the roles of the PIC and the Vestry. After the departure of Fr. Shepley, the officers of the Vestry were named the Executive Committee and were tasked with the filing of the paperwork with the Diocese and all preparations of the interview process for the PIC. The slate of candidates for this committee was presented to the Vestry and it was unanimously approved. The Vestry, in its entirety, was present for all interviews, had full participation in discussions about each candidate, and had participated in the final vote in choosing the PIC. The Executive Committee was disbanded once Fr. Nate was hired as the PIC at St. Paul's. As with past rectors at St. Paul's, the wardens and Vestry officers are advisors to our current PIC, Fr. Nate.

•Collaborative Review: Vestry & Property Committee ~ In our June Vestry meeting, a new submission process for work to be done

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Vestry Minutes

(Continued from page 15)

on the St. Paul's campus was agreed upon by both the Property Committee and the Vestry. The process is being used and appears to be improving relations between the Property Committee and the Vestry.

Old Business: Prayer Garden Proposal update – No discussion

•Master Plan discussion – No discussion
•Roof replacement scope of work update – An update on the roof replacement was given. Questions were asked and answered. We are waiting on a response from the insurance company before moving forward on this work.

•PIC-to-Rector transition process – No discussion

•Fall Programming Status – No discussion

New Business:

• McLaughlin Building Project: St. Paul's support. The Vestry agreed to investigate in more detail the possibility of supporting this

building project. More discussion on the topic will resume at the October Vestry Meeting.

If any members have specific questions about the opportunity, they are to send these questions to the Clerk and he will prepare the answers for the October Vestry Meeting. An email will be sent to the McLaughlin's to gather additional information for this discussion.



Vestry Minutes



Closing: The meeting was closed by Lois Hunt, with prayer at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David William, Clerk

Hudson River Walk

Saturday, October 25th, 1:30 pm



Join us for a special parish "Walk across the Hudson" on the World's Longest Elevated Pedestrian Bridge between Poughkeepsie & Highland, New York. The walkway is 1.28 miles long (2.56 miles round trip) and offers spectacular views. After our walk we'll stop at a local restaurant for some refreshment. Contact Ron Switzer (rjswit@msn.com) for more info or to carpool.

WALKWAY



OVER THE HUDSON



DANBURY, CT
NOV 14



JESS RAY - MATIN TOUR

Fri., Nov. 14, 2025 | 7:30 P.M.

Tickets GA \$20, VIP \$30

www.communitycoffeehouse.org



Community Coffeehouse | 7 Madison Ave. | Danbury, CT 06810 | (203) 748-4972



† Helping Our Neighbors

Here is an update about St. Paul's ongoing food-related ministries serving our community:

Drive Thru Food Collection - occurs every other Wednesday from 11 am - noon. We have now held 143 food drives since April 22, 2020! Last time we delivered food to the New Milford Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry & their Food Pantry and the Jericho Partnership in Danbury.

Our next food collection, will be Wednesday, October 15th and will support the New Milford Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, and the Jericho Food Pantry in Danbury.

Thank you all for your ongoing generosity and to the many volunteers who have helped to load the vehicles and deliver food to the pantries.

Next Drive-Thru Food Collection Wednesday October 15th



*Help us,
Help others!*

11 am to Noon

If you would like to request Altar flowers for a particular Sunday in Memory of a friend or loved one, please fill out the flower chart or envelope located in the back of the church or send an email request to dszen@yahoo.com or contact David Szen.





Saint Paul's Parish
Chronic Pain Support Group

Compassion • Hope • Fellowship

Next Meeting
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6th
11:30

St Paul's Parish • The Guild Room
174 Whisconier Rd. Brookfield, CT

Contact - chronicpain@saintpaulsbrookfield.com

*Pre-registration Required

***Meets on the 1st Thursday of every month**

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Jason D. Lewis Brookfield Memorial VFW Post 10201 and Auxiliary

Saturday, November 1, 2025

8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

174 Whisconier Rd.

Brookfield, CT 06804

By Appointment Only

Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

or

Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StPaulsCT to schedule

Thank you for your support! The need is GREAT!

† Wednesday Morning Healing Service

Our mid-week Wednesday morning 10 am Holy Eucharist with healing prayer, now has about 50 worshippers weekly.. With live music and a brief homily, this service is just what you need to sustain you through the week. Come join us and check it out or watch on YouTube Live.

Greeters Needed

Greeting people in a warm way makes them feel good about their presence in church.

At St. Paul's, we are always looking for people who feel called to serve in this important ministry.

If you are interested in becoming a greeter, please contact Pam Szen (prszzen@gmail.com) or David Szen.

GATHER

Your blessings and celebrate with thanksgiving.

GIVE to your EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE Episcopal CHURCH



A THIRD OF US

† Praying for the 1/3 of our world that are still unreached with the Gospel.

Bosniak

Country: Bosnia-Herzegovina | Population: 1.6 million | Language: Bosnian | Main Religion: Islam | Evangelical: 0.03%

The Bosniaks have had a tumultuous history as they were conquered by the Romans, invaded by the Slavs, ruled by the Ottomans and the Austro-Hungarian Empire, before becoming part of Yugoslavia. Many tragic events, including ethnic cleansing, have left deep scars and ongoing hatred between groups that once intermingled peacefully. Wars caused many Bosniaks to flee for safety in the West. While the Roman Catholic and Orthodox church once had great influence, most Bosniaks are now Sunni Muslims, even though their Islamic identity has more to do with cultural roots than religious beliefs. Ask God to soften their hearts towards Christians so they would be receptive to hearing the Gospel. Pray that they would experience God's love and His forgiveness that heals even the deepest pain.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Nancy Rekart celebrates today. Jack Collins & Mill Reynolds open presents tomorrow. Jim Castronova, Walter Von Egidy & Joshua Yurcisin are a year old & wiser on Sunday. Caroline & Rachel O'Hara blow out candles on Tuesday/ Have a blessed day everyone!



Presents

COFFEE WITH JESUS



Lord, please don't let this week be like last week.

Ann, please don't let this week be like last week.

Maybe If You Didn't



I do what I can, Jesus, but sometimes things are out of my control. Maybe if you didn't send me so many trials in a day I'd have a better attitude and be able...

Starting to feel like last week already, Ann.

©Radio Free Babylon® All rights reserved. Picking up a theme here with Ann? She's like a lot of us: stressed, over-worked, frazzled at times. We'll blame others for our moods and bad days. "If only..." or "Maybe if you didn't..." We'll even blame God. All the cliches about attitude make us cringe. We hate them because we know they're true. So let's invent another: "If we choose to see the good, be the good, and look to The Good, good things happen."

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



The Nicene Creed: Week 3

To commemorate the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, the Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter, bishop of Wisconsin, has written a series of reflections on the Nicene Creed and its relevance for contemporary Episcopalians. Over the coming weeks, we'll share his teachings, written mostly in a question-and-answer format.

Wasn't the message of Jesus about what to do and how to be rather than what to believe. Why does the Creed focus on the latter?

The short answer to this question is that the life and teachings of Jesus were not in dispute. The early church already took the teaching and example of Jesus seriously. They were contained in the scriptures, which were already read in worship every week. The church put love and compassion at the heart of its life and teaching. It organized social services for the poor, hungry, and needy. It founded hospitals. Its teaching reflected the example of Jesus in critiquing wealth and violence. It advocated for hospitality to the stranger and foreigner. The dignity of traditionally marginalized groups like women, children, and the poor was honored in a way unprecedented in the ancient world (though, admittedly, the church did not embrace total equality of women and men). The church surely did not practice all of this perfectly, always, and everywhere. But none of the above was particularly controversial. It was the emphatic teaching of the theologians most often identified with the defense of the Nicene faith, e.g., Athanasius of Alexandria, Macrina the Younger, Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, Gregory of Nyssa, John Chrysostom, Ambrose of Milan, and others. And these teachers understood that the practice of the church is grounded in its belief.

Not everything that was decided by the Council of Nicaea is in the Creed. The Council also addressed issues of church organization and discipline, including penalties for clergy guilty of sensual sin (Canon 2) or greed and usury (Canon 17). Canon 12, reflecting the church's commitment to peace, established penance for those who "having cast aside their military girdles, but afterwards returned, like dogs, to their own vomit." Canon 17 did address a disputed question: to what extent were mercy and forgiveness possible for those who had denied their faith during a recent persecution? Imitating Jesus, the canon declared such people should be "dealt with mercifully."

But those canons did not address the controversy that had led to the calling of the Council of Nicaea. The debate roiling the church was not about Jesus' moral teachings, but rather who Jesus was and how he was related to God, whom he called Father. And, with that, questions about the basic understanding of God. The answer to that question had implications for the salvation of humanity and the restoration of creation. The answer to that question also has implications for why the teaching and example of Jesus should matter more than any other human teacher.

Save the Date

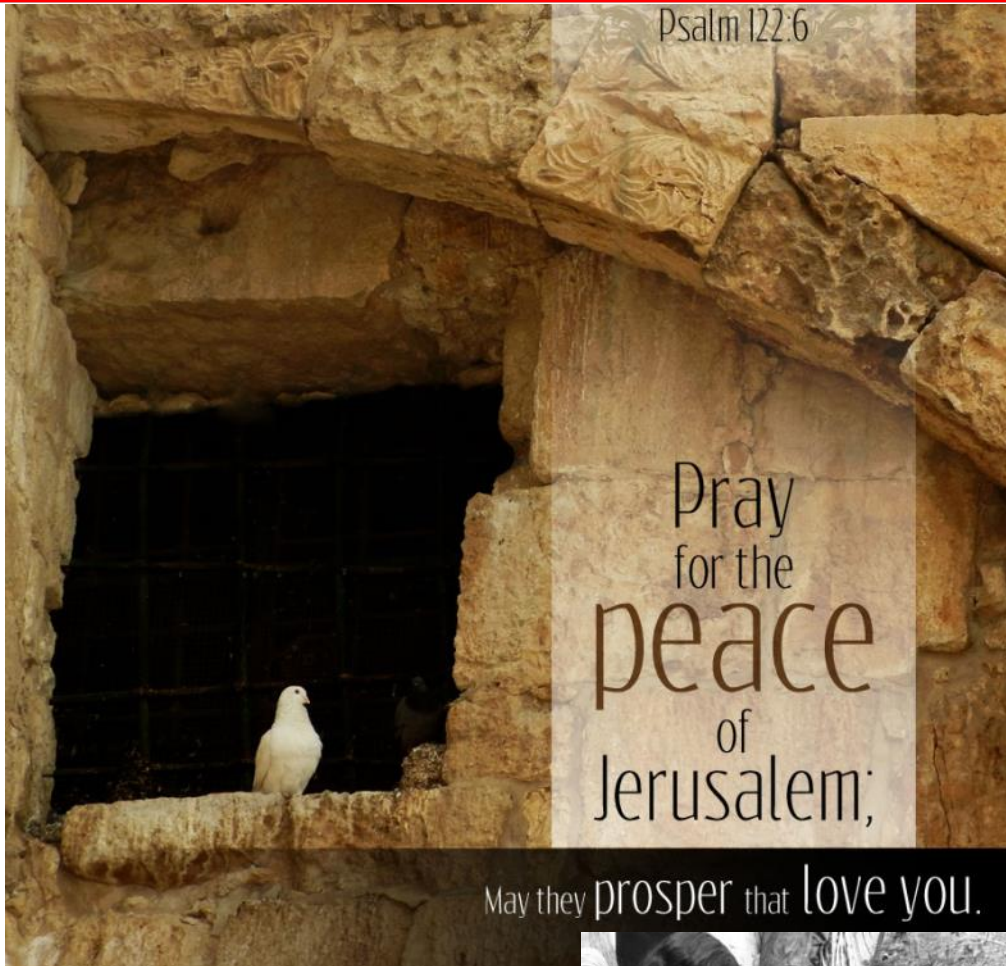
Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 18th 4-7 pm



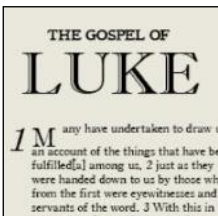
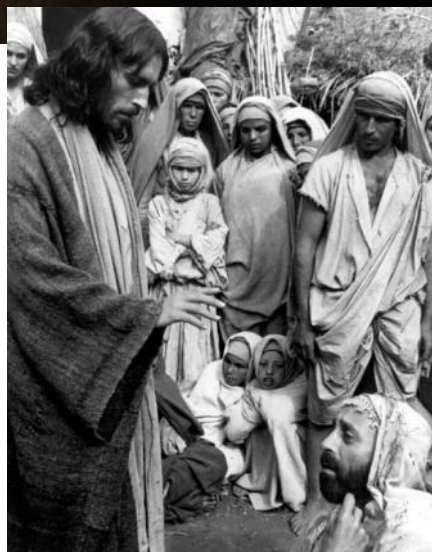
- Join us for a Parish wide celebration
- When: Saturday, October 18th 4pm-7pm
- Where: In Crocker Hall
- What: Traditional Oktoberfest fare
- Who: Our Parish Family & Friends
- How: Main course will be provided
- Kindly bring a side dish or dessert to share (no alcohol please).
- If you would like to help, please see Mary Thomas or Pam Szen.

We have a lot to celebrate in October. So join us for our Parish “Oktoberfest” Celebration in Crocker Hall. Plenty of kids activities planned. Please sign up at the rear table in the back of the church or in Crocker Hall.



† **Show Yourselves to the Priests**

People were terrified by the idea of leprosy in biblical times. They lumped several different things under the name. These ranged from true leprosy and cancer to simple rust or mildew. If a person showed any white spots on his body he had to strip and be examined by a priest. A period of quarantine would be followed by another exam. If the symptoms cleared up, the victim could return home. If the spots remained or grew worse, the person would be banished. The priest carried the



Our Men meet weekly to study on Monday nights. They are currently dissecting the Gospel of Luke. Join them each Monday night at 7 pm in Crocker Hall. All the studies are available live on YouTube.

† This Sunday's Readings

(Click on the red links for the readings)

Faith, Praise and Healing

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

In our Hebrew Bible reading the prophet Jeremiah offers surprising counsel from Jerusalem to the elders, priests, and prophets now in exile in Babylon. They are to pay no heed to those who predict a speedy end to their captivity and should instead get on with the business of life as best they are able in their new circumstances. The people are to build houses, have families, and seek for the welfare of Babylon. In due course the Lord will bring them back to Jerusalem, and they are to pray for Jerusalem's well-being in the meanwhile; the time of return is not yet.

Psalm 66:1-11

A hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God who rules in majesty and delivers God's people.

2 Timothy 2:8-15

In this reading Paul bids Timothy to be a faithful worker, reminding himself and others of Jesus' resurrection and the new life that is to be known with him. Although Paul is shut up in prison, the gospel is free in the world. The apostle reflects on his own sufferings and encourages his younger associate in his role of leadership. Especially should he warn his people to avoid disputes over words. The verses which begin, "If we have died with him, we will also live with him," seem part of an early Christian hymn.

Luke 17:11-19

In the gospel story Jesus' command brings about the cleansing of ten lepers, but only one, a Samaritan, returns to give thanks. Jesus is on the way to his destiny in Jerusalem. The narrative illustrates the power of the reign of God to give a new lease on life. The lepers, who were formerly outcasts, would not be allowed to return home. But only a despised Samaritan recognizes that a life of gratitude and faith is now possible. Physical healing is but a first step. He becomes whole and finds salvation.

Luke 17:11-19

The nine who do not return are the ones who do what is expected of a leper who has been cured. But they do what is expected because they CAN do what is expected - they are Galileans, they can go and see a priest. The Samaritan cannot.



† Sermon Shorts

“Ark School.” To replay all our sermons, audio and videos follow this link for the [Sunday Sermons](#). Check out our [Sermon Archives](#) as well.



† Your Prayers Are Requested For...

It is such an intimate time when praying for the health and well being of others and such a privilege Oh Lord, as you heard and understand the unspoken thoughts of our hearts and minds, and grant their fulfillment through Christ our Lord, as we pray for...

.....Ed Licence, Gail Winkley, and other parishioners convalescing in extended care facilities.

.....[St. John's](#), Vernon; [St. Paul's](#), Wallingford; [St. John's](#), Washington.

.....Revival at St. Paul's and the greater Danbury area.

.....Young adults, young adult ministries & networks. The Episcopal Service Corps & Young Adult Service Corps of the Episcopal Church.

.....For the Peace of Jerusalem. - *Psalm 122:6*

.....Clayton Ferry, Barbara Hock, Jim Megura, Peter Scalzo, Sr., Peter Scalzo, Jr., Doris, Karen, Beverly Hall, Roger, Cynthia, Valerie, Heidi Pinheiro, Dale Mitchell, Ruth, Blake, Cliff, Evelyn Kirner, Jane Sedor, Jim Beck, Larry Wanzer, Bob Finn, Mike, Paul Kovacs, Lois Hunt, Peter Ruscoe, Walter, Elana and Veronika continued healing.

.....the people of [Ukraine](#); the people of the [Cook Islands](#); the people of [Jamaica](#); the bishop, clergy and laity of the Diocese of Panyana - Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; and our sister and brother members of the [Philippine Independent Church](#).

.....For the Church: that we may be a people filled with gratitude for all the blessings and gifts which we receive each day.

.....New Milford [Loaves & Fishes Hospitality House](#), which is the recipient of our food basket collections during the month of October.

.....Our missionaries, Will & Becky McLaughlin and their family, and their ministry in Cambodia; and for all missionaries: that God will inspire the message that they offer, help them to recognize how they can best serve their communities, and sustain them in times of loneliness.

.....For insight: that we may see each person as a child of God and never judge them because of their race, religious background, education, or social standing.

.....[New Hope Baptist Church](#), Danbury, a church partner of the Jericho Partnership.

.....[For the Departed](#).

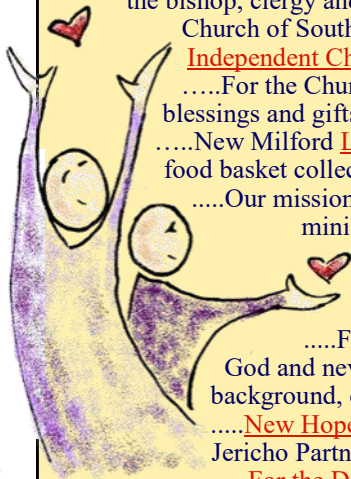
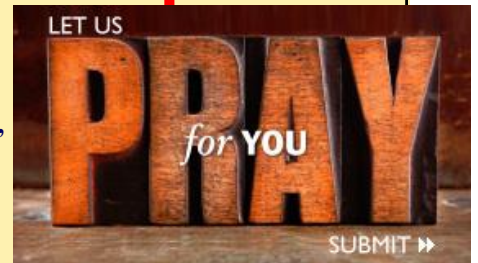
.....That we regularly take time to thank God for all the blessings he bestows on us.

.....For the one third of humanity that does not have access to the gospel, for zealous preachers of the word, that by the Holy Spirit, that they would become strong in their faith, grow in numbers and be a light to those around them.

.....For those recovering from surgery: that God will restore life and wholeness to them and their families.

.....For the perpetrators of human trafficking that their eyes would be opened and hearts convicted towards change as we seek Godly justice for all..

.....[Peace Among the Nations](#).



“Cave of the Ten Lepers”



In this video you'll tour the Church of the Ten Lepers in the Palestinian village of Burqin, one of the most ancient churches in the world commemorates the Gospel story of the healing of the ten lepers.



Just For the Joy of It!

(And Christian Fellowship)

MAN OVERBOARD man martin

GOODBYE, DEGRADING SIGN AND BEGGING BOWL!

TINK TINK TINK! SAYONARA, HUMILIATING "LEPER BELL"

TINK TINK! OOP- MY BAD

SIMEON - IS THAT YOU? NONE OTHER

WOT HAPPENED TO THE LEPROSY? THAT JESUS DUDE HEALED ME

LOW, YER REALY GONNA HAFTA UP YER GAME

YEH... UM, WOT?

BEING A WALKING-TALKING MIRACLE IS A BIG RESPONSIBILITY

PEOPLE WILL LOOK UP TO YOU AS AN EXAMPLE

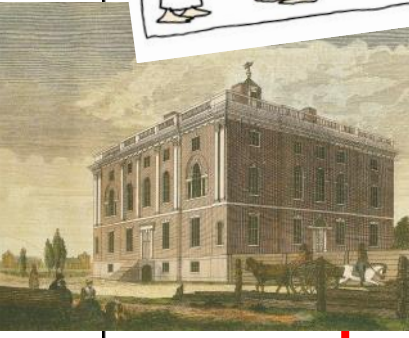
YOU HAVE TO SHOW THE MEANING OF LOVE, MERCY, AND COMPASSION IN EVERYTHING YOU DO AND SAY - THEY'RE ALL COUNTING ON YOU!

YEH, I GUESS THAT'S SO

QUITE AN HONOR, REALLY.

DURN

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Did You Know that the President's House (pictured) never housed a president?



Find us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter

Find Us On Instagram

Watch us on YouTube

Thanks to Josiah Gilman

LEPERS ... I HEAL LEPERS

Ecclesiasticus 43:27 - We could say more but could never say enough; let the final word be: 'He is the all.' - 30 -