

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION

CCD: Catholic Christian Discipleship

WHAT A SOWER NEEDS TO KNOW

The key to understanding the Parable of the Sower is to realize that we are the sower. We are the sower because we are trying to make things grow. We try to make our marriage grow, we try to make our children grow into responsible adults, we try to keep our family growing in unity and respect. We try to build a better world, protecting the environment, being more conscious of the marginalized, and supporting the dignity of every human being. Whatever good thing we try to do, we are the sower, trying to make good things happen.

The Parable of the Sower tells us two things that every sower should know. First, losses are not the same as failure. In any good effort there will be losses, and some of them will be great. Like the seed that falls on the pathway, a marriage will come to an end, a close friend will die, a dream will fade. Such losses are not the same as failure because for all the seed that does not grow other seed lands on good ground, puts down roots and produces the harvest.

The second lesson of the parable is that faithfulness is more important than success. Because we cannot make the seed grow, because we cannot determine where each seed will fall, it is of the utmost importance that we faithfully keep sowing the seed. Only God can bring about the harvest, but God uses the seed we sow to create the harvest God desires. *(Living with Christ)*

FIVE REASONS to PRAY

If God knows what's in our hearts, why do we need to pray?

1. Prayer makes us aware that God wants what is best for us. *"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine"* (Isaiah 43:1).

2. Prayer helps us to put our worries into words. Speaking our worries helps us see that things aren't as bad as we thought. *"When cares increase within me, your comfort gives me joy"* (Psalm 94:19).

3. Prayer gives us something to do. Instead of being helpless, it's the first step we can take toward solving a problem. *"I was helpless, but God saved me"* (Psalm 116:6).

4. Prayer gives us courage. When we turn to God, we are strengthened. *"God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid"* (Isaiah 12:2).

5. Prayer reminds us that we are not alone. Instead of feeling isolated, prayer reminds us that we are never alone. *"I am not alone, because the Father is with me"* (John 16:32).

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

	<u>COLLECTED</u>	<u>*NEEDED*</u>
July 8 - 9		
Ss. Peter & Paul		
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,013.00	1,000.00
Loose	\$ 363.00	80.00
Total	\$ 1,376.00	*1,080.00*
Month of July Building Fund =	\$ 1,588.00	*1,725.00/mo*
St. Stanislaus		
Adult Envelopes	\$ 295.00	525.00
Loose	\$ 35.00	75.00
Total	\$ 330.00	*600.00*
Month of July Building Fund =	\$ 596.00	*500.00/mo*
St. John		
Adult Envelopes	\$ 575.00	875.00
Loose	\$ 119.00	75.00
Total	\$ 694.00	*950.00*
Month of July Building Fund =	\$ 325.00	*525.00/mo*
St. Michael		
Adult Envelopes	\$ 100.00	275.00
Loose	\$ 150.00	25.00
Total	\$ 250.00	*300.00*
Month of July Building Fund =	\$ 93.00	*85.00/mo*
*The weekly Envelope & monthly Building Fund totals needed are based on the 2023-2024 budget set by each Parish Council.		

Centered in the Eucharist

Catholic Services Appeal 2022-2023

	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Payments & Pledges</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 10,860.00	\$ 7,110.00	\$ 3,750.00
St. John	\$ 9,049.00	\$ 9,049.00	Paid in Full
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,759.00	\$ 4,825.00	\$ 934.00
St. Michael	\$ 3,018.00	\$ 3,018.00	Paid in Full

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

Obituaries at
www.plombonfh.com
Plombon Funeral Service
Dan Plombon
 Stanley Chapel Gilman Chapel
 502 N. Broadway St. 135 W. Riverside Dr.
 (715) 644-5537 (715) 447-8235