

12:00 p.m. A Way Out  
8:00 p.m. AA Friday Nite Young People

**Today's Ministry:** Heritage Society

**Saturday, June 25**

Romans 6:1-11 *Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?* (v.1)

Did you hear about the wild daughter of a wealthy man? She ran up huge bills just so her father could have the opportunity of proving he loved her by paying them. But that's no crazier an attitude than that of someone who says he can sin as much as he wants because his Heavenly Father will always forgive him!

Is that the way to treat Him? "By no means," says Paul. He's already proved His love by giving Jesus to die on the cross for us. So, the evidence has been given. The matter is closed.

In fact, our behavior from now on ought to be a response to Jesus' death. Just as he died for us, so ought we to die to sin (vv.2, 3). And our lives should be a continual thanksgiving to God (v.11)—living to the glory of God in the same way that Jesus lived.

Father, let me be dead to the attractions of the world, the flesh, and the devil, but alive to the attractions of your Holy Spirit.

Numbers 20:14-29; Psalms 107:33-43, 108; Matthew 21:1-11

**Birthdays:** Shawn Miller, Rich Chase

**Anniversaries:** Diane & James Applegate,  
Nancy & Wayne Clark,  
Jeremy & Susie Marsh

**Saturday's Calendar:**

10:00 a.m. Bible Study ONLINE  
8:30 p.m. Not Alone Group  
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**Today's Ministry:** Hospital Visitors

*by John Pearce*

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*"Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with Love"*

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ST. MARY'S  
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**Good News Daily**

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**Sunday, June 19**

Luke 12:49-56 *"You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky."* (v.56a RSV)

Our peers pride themselves on their expertise in many fields. They are knowledgeable about clothes, cars, colors, and cheeses. Many of them know all the sports statistics, and many others know all the stock quotations. But are these really the important things? Put all together, are they as important as Christ?

No. In contrast to him they are trivia—snowflakes compared to a mountain, grains of sand compared to the ocean. We may know enough to fill an encyclopedia; but if we don't know the one who made the universe, we are truly ignorant. We may have a library full of books, but if God's word hasn't been speaking to us and getting our attention, we are still not in the first grade of learning.

Beware of knowledge that does not truly profit! Beware of having a big head with an empty soul—ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth!

Lord, don't let me major on minors. You are what really counts.  
Numbers 14:26-45; Psalms 66, 67; Acts 15:1-12

**Birthdays:** John Funston, Tom Dougherty

**Sunday's Calendar :**

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Family Worship Service  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**Today's Ministry:** Facilities Committee

**Monday, June 20**

Romans 3:21-31 *All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.* (v.23)

Here, near the beginning of his letter to the Romans, Paul is trying to show us that we are sinners. By “sinners” he doesn’t mean just that we do bad things or think bad thoughts. He means more—that we have fallen short of a relationship with God. A wide gulf exists between us. This gulf is our primary sin, and it extends back to our ancestors in the Garden of Eden. Because of this gulf, we go about trying to establish our own lives. We become self-centered. Significantly the letter “I” is at the center of “sin.” You and I have dethroned God, who should be in the middle of our lives.

D.L. Moody once said, “The gospel is as simple as ABC: ‘All have sinned,’ then ‘Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,’ and finally ‘Come unto me,...and I will give you rest.’” So the Christian life starts here with admitting we are sinners. This is our home plate. Without beginning here, we can’t make any progress.

Numbers 16:1-19; Psalm 89:1-18; Matthew 19:13-22

**Birthdays:** Carol Cormier, Kathy Hurlburt

**Anniversaries:** Pat & Bob Ditmars,  
Martha & Roger Stewart,  
Barbara & Kevin Whelehen,  
Chris & Emily Karr

**Monday’s Calendar:**  
7:00 a.m. Hour of Power AA  
10:00 a.m. Praying Hands (1st & 3rd Mondays)  
3:00 p.m. Daughters of the King (2nd Mondays)  
5:45 p.m. ACOA

**Today’s Ministry:** Family Life Group

**Tuesday, June 21**

Romans 4:1-12 *To one who works, his wages are not reckoned as a gift but as his due.* (v.4)

Stores sometimes promote a product by advertising, “Free gift with every purchase.” And that wording makes me wince. For the so-called gift is not free; its cost is included in the purchase. At best it’s a bonus.

And that’s true about our salvation. Many people assume that if they work hard, God will add to them the bonus of acceptance into His family. But that is wrong. God does not charge for it. No fee is hidden anywhere. It’s absolutely free.

Why? Because Jesus has already paid for our salvation. In the words of a consecration prayer still used in some branches of the Anglican Church, he made a “full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world.” And all we have to do is to accept it—by faith with thanksgiving.

Of course, like Abraham, we then should show our faith by our works. But in no sense is that a payment. It is simply an expression of

our love and gratitude for what God has first given us.  
Numbers 16:20-35; Psalms 97, 99, 100; Matthew 19:23-30

**Birthdays:** Marge Hohman, Stephani Nardone

**Tuesday’s Calendar:**  
7:00 a.m. Hour of Power AA  
9:30 a.m. Life Group ONLINE  
12:10 p.m. Healing Service

**Today’s Ministry:** Finance Committee

**Wednesday, June 22**

Romans 4:13-25 *It depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace.* (v.16)

Some people think of grace as being like gasoline. They assume it’s a kind of liquid, with which they need to be topped up frequently. It’s regarded in quantitative terms—measurable in cubic inches. But that’s not what the Scriptures teach. Grace is simply God’s free, unmerited favor. Our relationship to it is rather like being plugged into the power mains—the power is always available in the amount we need. All we need to do is to open ourselves to Him.

How do we get this grace? Through Jesus. It is “the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.” And he offers it to us through his cross. But we must take hold of his grace by faith. That is what Ephesians 2:8 declares.

Someone said, “Grace is Great Riches At Christ’s Expense,” whereas Faith is “Forsaking All I Take Him.” And someone wrote, “Grace sought, thought, bought, brought, and taught our salvation.”

Has your faith laid hold on his grace?  
Numbers 16:36-50; Psalms 101, 109; Matthew 20:1-16

**Birthdays:** Patricia Sullivan, Robert Carey,  
Delia Salcedo, Kasia D’Auria

**Wednesday’s Calendar:**  
6:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study  
7:00 a.m. Hour of Power AA  
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. Life Group  
4:30 p.m. Mary’s Kitchen  
6:00 p.m. NAMI

**Today’s Ministry:** Flower Guild

**Thursday, June 23**

Romans 5:1-11 *Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.* (v.1)

Our world is full of wars: nations against nations, races against races, even husbands against wives and children against parents. But the greatest split is between us and our Creator. Our species has been at war with its Maker since soon after it was created.

But He has taken the steps needed in order to bring us back to

Himself. In Him a reconciliation is offered (v.11), and through Him we now can have peace.

How can this happen? It begins by His grace shown in Jesus. When our faith takes hold of this grace, we are granted forgiveness. And from this forgiveness flows peace—calming our souls and prompting us to seek reconciliation with other people.

“Peace on earth” was what the angels promised when Jesus was born. And when he died, Paul could write that God has made “peace by the blood of his cross” (Colossians 1:15).

Are we experiencing this peace? Only then can we help others to find it, and with them be able to bring peace into all other areas of life.

Numbers 17:1-11; Psalm 105:1-22; Matthew 20:17-28

**Birthdays:** June Gibson, Michael Abruzzo,  
Savanna Nardone

**Thursday’s Calendar:**  
7:00 a.m. Hour of Power AA  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
1:30 p.m. Grief Support Group  
7:00 p.m. AI-Anon—Stepping Stones

**Today’s Ministry:** Gardening Team

**Friday, June 24**

Romans 5:12-21 *Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.* (v.20b)

We can never go beyond God’s love. It’s higher than the sky, deeper than the ocean, wider than any prairie, and as long as eternity. And the love of God is what the grace of God draws from. It has an unlimited supply.

The author of Amazing Grace, John Newton, had this to say, “I’m an old man now, and I find my memory is failing. But I still remember two things: I am a great sinner. But Jesus is a greater Savior.”

So, the stain of our sins is never as deep and as wide as the soap of God’s love can cleanse. The cost of our transgressions is never as great as the treasury of God’s grace can replenish.

Sometimes we limit God’s love. We measure it by our own. But our little yardstick wears out as we try to apply it to the miles of His mercy.

Let’s surrender our doubts and our fears to Him. God does not just have love; He is love (1 John 4:8, 16). And in that love, and by the grace that flows from that love, we can rest.

Numbers 20:1-13; Psalm 102; Matthew 20:29-34

**Anniversaries:** Linda & Bob Brown,  
Libby & Nick Reynolds

**Friday’s Calendar:**  
7:00 a.m. Hour of Power AA  
9:30 a.m. Life Group  
10:00 a.m. Bible Study