

Paul, while desiring young Christians to grow strong and faithful, keeps a clear eye on the goal Jesus has. "Our prayer is for your perfection," he writes. "Aim for perfection."

He stresses this because he knows the Lord who loves them will also have questions for them. Jesus doesn't mind when we pray for things and ask him questions. But his first priority is building his Father's kingdom. So, we need to be ready when he replies by saying, "I will also ask you a question."

2 Chronicles 31:2-10, 20-21; Psalm 76; 2 Corinthians 13:1-14; Luke 20:1-8

Birthdays: Lucinda Herlihy, Hadley Hart

Anniversaries: Sherry and Werner Olle,
Kendra Brown and James Stuckey

Saturday's Calendar:
7:00 a.m. AA "Hour of Power"
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
6:00 p.m. Taste of St. Mary's Mission Trip Fundraiser

Today's Ministry: Youth Group

by Rick Hoover
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"Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with love"

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St. Mary's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with Love

Good News Daily

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Sunday, June 9

Isaiah 11:1-9 *He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears.* (v.3b NIV)

I live half a block up the street from a large lake. From our living room window during the day we see sunlight sparkle on the water. At night we see twinkling headlights from the streets and traffic on the far side.

There are two McDonald's in opposite directions from this lake, both about three miles away. We can't see either one from our window, but we have taken quick lunch trips to both. We always trust they'll be right where people told us they would be, where we indeed found them when we last visited.

The beautiful lake view we can see is a welcome sight to our eyes. But there are times we need and want more than what we can see immediately through the window.

The same is true for our spiritual lives. That's why Our Heavenly Father sent us His gift of the Holy Spirit, to guide us in finding all that God has for us. Because that provision is more than we can see at first.

Psalm 118; 1 Corinthians 2:1-13; John 14:21-29

Birthdays: Laurence Burdick, Emily Faulkner, Tyler Amerson

Sunday's Calendar : TRUE FUND SUNDAY
7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Family Worship Service
10:15 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Pittenger Center
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Today's Ministry: Table Hoppers

Monday, June 10

Psalm 56 *When I am afraid, I will trust in you.* (v.3)

Four years ago, I suffered a stroke. All my balance and movements became hampered. I depend on my wife's care to stay in our home. Yesterday (as I write) she had to spend the day in the ER for her own severe back pain. I was left alone in our house until we could learn if she would be coming back or staying in the hospital.

In those hours I got to practice trusting in God. I didn't know what was happening with my wife. Seeing only the surface events, I understood none of them. But what we can see, the weapons of the world, are not what we fight with. The Lord delights in us, making us survive, victorious and blessed. At the supper hour, my wife's friend who had spent the day with her brought her home. The

doctors could find no infections or issues.

Today, on a new day, the promises and challenges will be repeated. We have another opportunity to make our hearts steadfast in the Lord. It will be a good day because of that!

Deuteronomy 30:1-10; Psalms 57, 58; 2 Corinthians 10:1-18; Luke 18:31-43

Birthdays: Joan Fetner, Barbara Davis, Darla Cederberg, Elizabeth Earle, Lindsay Terech

Anniversaries: Carolyn and Virgil McCollum

Monday’s Calendar:

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
10:00 a.m. Cursillo Reunion Group
10:00 a.m. Apples to Apples
4:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Sessions
5:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training
5:30 p.m. ACA Families

Today’s Ministry: Unshers

Tuesday, June 11

Luke 19:1-10 *When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.”* (v.5)

When I have lost or mislaid something, I want to find it right now. It is not enough to enjoy memories of when I used to have the object or to be able to intellectually explain why car keys have a value to me. It is the same for God. God’s first question in the Bible is when He asks after Adam’s whereabouts. Even God wants to enjoy our immediate company, not just have us watch Him from a safe, lofty distance.

We may feel like our faint hearts are calling to Him from the ends of the earth. Our souls seem to know our hope can only be found in Him—if we can just find him. Our Heavenly Father already wants to be found by us. That is why He has already come so very near. His promise is that we will find life in Him.

And not only us. The blessing will spill over to our children as well. We are what Jesus came to seek and save.

Deuteronomy 30:11-20; Psalms 61, 62; 2 Corinthians 11:1-21a

Birthdays: Brian DuPell, Stephen Day, Lori Tucker, Mason Montoleone, Audrey Cobelli

Anniversaries: Heidi and Scott McNabb

Tuesday’s Calendar :

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
9:30 a.m. Women’s Bible Study
12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist/Healing
6:00 p.m. Overeaters’ Anonymous

Today’s Ministry: Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, June 12

Deuteronomy 31:30—32:14 *Remember the days of old; consider the generations long past.* (v.7a)

G. K. Chesterton defined “tradition” as the way we give our ancestors the vote. By honoring what our forefathers have handed down to us, we agree that they are giving us something valuable. They are sharing the hard lessons they learned of how to treat those treasures. We save time by not wasting ours in trying out dead ends they already learned to avoid. We recognize they came to know something real that is still true in our day.

It is the reason we take time to read both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. When we see the record of how God nourished the saints of old with honey from the rock, it gives us reason to hope when we go through desert experiences. We are assured God will deliver the needy who cry out for help.

This is how we can boast of the things that show our weakness. They enable us to praise the greatness of our God, who never changes and always helps us from one generation to the next.

Psalms 72; 2 Corinthians 11:21b-33; Luke 19:11-27

Birthdays: Audrey Cobelli, Janet Warren, Emma Gorski, Jenna Gorski

Wednesday’s Calendar:

6:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study
7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:00 a.m. Adult Life Group
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
4:45 p.m. Mary’s Kitchen
5:30 p.m. AA “Daily Reflections”
6:00 p.m. Life Group

Today’s Ministry: The Vestry

Thursday, June 13

Psalms 71 *Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation...* (v.18)

As a child I learned I would be given no more lemonade to drink until my glass was empty again. Dessert would not be provided until my supper plate was cleared. Refills and treats were generously and gladly provided. But they were not going to be wasted if I didn’t need them or wasn’t ready for them.

God, who knows each person’s heart, provides for us in somewhat the same way. He is our help and deliverer and does not delay. He is the refuge to whom we can always go. And He draws us into sharing His rescue work by showing us others who are in need when we have an abundance.

Others need it. The Lord needs it, too. He calls on it from our hands to give us opportunity to declare Him to others. And He replaces His provisions for us all as we encounter new days and fresh needs. Thus, His generosity is manifested in every time of need, His perfect power in the very times of weakness.

2 Chronicles 6:18-31; Psalm 70; 2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Luke 19:28-40

Birthdays: Thomas Hickey, Susie Marsh, Ashley Spears

Anniversaries: Barbara and Richard La Mirand

Thursday’s Calendar:

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Today’s Ministry: Wedding Guild

Friday, June 14

2 Chronicles 26:1-22 *He had people working his fields and vineyards in the hills and in the fertile lands, for he loved the soil.* (v.10b)

My wife prepared a narrow strip of ground behind our apartment so she could grow her own vegetables. A few years ago, she cut the top from a pineapple she bought at the grocery and planted it beside our driveway. She now has a dozen pineapples she has carefully replanted as they sprouted new *hijos*. *She shares a bumper crop of the fruit each year with our Florida neighbors. She loves to garden!*

So does God. And He calls us to work with Him sowing the seed and tending the harvest for His kingdom. The Father does not want to be a burden to us. What He wants is not our possessions but our hearts. He wants to bring us peace that we can share with others. It brings Him sorrow if people fail to see that. And it brings Him sorrow if we fail to join Him in tending His garden.

Let our prayer be: “May those who hope in you not be disgraced because of me, O Lord.”

Psalms 69; 2 Corinthians 12:11-21; Luke 19:41-48

Birthdays: Bradley Thayer, Nancy Ward, David Von Holle, Robert Brown, Thomas Baker, Rev. Christian Anderson, Hailey Skillman

Friday’s Calendar:

7:00 a.m. AA “Hour of Power”
9:30 a.m. Life Group
2:00 p.m. Ministry Intercessory Prayer Group
8:00 p.m. Friday Night Young Peoples’ AA

Today’s Ministry: Worship Assistant

Saturday, June 15

Psalms 75 *It is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another.* (v.7)

On the television program *Shark Tank*, inventors and entrepreneurs describe their products to a team of wealthy investors, hoping one of them will put up the money that will allow the product to be successfully brought out in the consumer market. The people preparing to risk their money on these requests pepper the entrepreneurs with questions. It is an intense encounter. The investors bluntly bring down one dreamer and exalt another. Their first priority is not to make friends. They are there to make more money.