

St. James the Greater

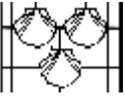
Where All are Welcome

Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time ✚ July 18, 2021



## 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. - Mk 6:34



## Message from Fr. Tom

Wedding bells are ringing at St. James, or will be soon. On July 24<sup>th</sup>, Shaina Fike and Steven Christianson will be bound together in Christ, and the same will happen to Gina Bloczynski and Ryan Petrie on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Shaina and Steven started worshipping with us early in their lives as UWEC students. They are both now educators in the Chippewa Valley. Gina and Ryan are older, just a little, also with awesome careers, Gina a big-wig in the nursing school at CVTC and Ryan with the City of Eau Claire planning division. More important than their jobs, is their commitment to seeking God with all of us at St. James. These two weddings will be very joyous for me.

I'd like to give a shout out of thanks to Cathy Baier and Ruth Ebert (mom and daughter) for doing me a great favor this week. My brother texted me that he had made reservations at a restaurant in Wausau for my mother's 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. I was of course excited to go there on her birthday, but when I looked at my calendar, I saw that I had to be at Shaina and Steven's wedding rehearsal. My great hope was that Cathy, who helped me run rehearsals and pre-Covid days, would be available to come and run the rehearsal, perhaps with her daughter Ruth. When she wrote back that she was able and willing, that was a great relief! I'll let you know how the birthday dinner went.

Did anyone take me up on my recommendation to watch last week's episode of *The Chosen*? I watched it on a beautiful summer night, sitting outside with my iPad. As I mentioned, this episode was going to focus on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Perhaps it's because that sermon is so precious to me, but I think it would touch anyone who watches it, at least those with at least a passing knowledge of the Beatitudes ("Blessed are the poor in spirit..."). At one point, his apostle Matthew convinces him to have a different beginning than "You are the salt of the earth." Jesus agrees and goes off by himself to think of a new beginning to this sermon which is recorded in Matthew's Gospel account in chapters 5, 6, and 7. Then he comes back and says "I think you'll like this," before reading the Beatitudes, with flashback scenes of people who were poor in spirit, meek, merciful, peacemakers, etc. My neighbors must've wondered what I was sobbing about—it touched me that deeply. Then, after Matthew asked him why he chose those beatitudes, Jesus told him that it was a map – that if anyone wants to see him he should look for those groups of people: the poor in spirit, the meek, Those who mourn, those who hunger and thirst for justice, those who show mercy, those who make peace, those who have pure hearts, and those who suffer for the sake of righteousness. I think I'll definitely be showing that clip for future religious education classes.

The parish pastoral council met last Tuesday. After spending a good deal of time meditating and sharing our reactions to this weekend's Gospel passage, we spent all of our time with more strategic planning, facilitated by our council chair, Paula Winter. We reviewed results of our recent parish survey and a summary of Strengths, Weaknesses, and Areas for Improvement. Then, having already identified Strengths, Weaknesses and Opportunities, the council named Threats, such as cultural divisions and the polarization it creates, a demographic trend in which our most involved and financially supportive members are in our oldest generation. **Four goals that were identified included providing ministry to all, building on our online ministry, encourage a growing and active membership, and take steps to be a more resource-conscious parish.**

I presided at the funeral of **Matthew Brantner at St. Patrick's** last week. I mention this because his daughter reminded me where I knew him—the **Dove West mass** that used to be (and hopefully will be again) open to the community on Thursday mornings. He was always so faithful sitting next to his wife of almost 70 years at the time, Theresa, and was **very concerned that she receive Communion**, which was not always easy. I would always break off a small part of a host and hold it up to her eyes as she sat at the back-row table in her wheelchair. On a good day, she understood what was happening and held out her tongue to receive. Sometimes it took a good deal of cajoling by Matthew and me for her to receive. Sometimes, she never quite made it to readiness and so I simply blessed her with the host and received it myself. I thought it was such a beautiful image of marriage and the fulfilling of the marriage vows to love one another in sickness and in health. Sometimes in marriage prep classes, couples will hear what can be a startling truth: **Your vocation, your duty, is to help your spouse get to heaven.** It is always a privilege to see that in action.

May the love of God touch us all this week. Peace.

11 July 2021

Fr. Tom's Homily

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Amos 7:12-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:7-13*

You might recall that last week I told a story about my aversion to dancing and how I relied on God's strength to get me dancing at my friend's wedding. That got me think about my history with dancing, and I remembered something from my high school days that I really don't like—that I wish had been different. Basically, **I would only go to the girl-ask-guy dances, and not the proms and other dances where the guy asked the girl.** I guess I was afraid of hearing "no." I actually did ask a girl to homecoming my freshman year and heard "no," and it wasn't so bad. She, on the other hand, missed out on a good time, and now feels the burden of my celibacy—though she should not! Anyway, **all this got me thinking about Being Chosen v. Choosing.**

Basically, at first blush, it's much easier to be chosen than to choose. There's less responsibility, we feel desirable and worthy of being chosen. **Choosing takes more effort and responsibility.**

We hear about choosing and being chosen a lot in today's readings. The prophet Amos is prophesying or preaching what the king does NOT want to hear—as prophets often do. The king tells him to skedaddle to another land to earn a living as a prophet. This uncorks Amos. He's like "I'm not in this for the money. I was very happy being a dresser of sycamore trees until God told me to be his prophet. It sounds to me like **he knows he was chosen and is struggling a bit with accepting his chosenness.** He is still putting responsibility for his life on God, like God is making him do this.

This got me thinking that maybe we could sum up Christian spirituality as the process of "Choosing to be Chosen."

In the second reading from Ephesians, it comes up twice that we are chosen. It says, "*God chose us in him before the foundation of the world.*" And later, "*We also were chosen according to God's purpose, that we might exist for the praise of his glory.*" So, it's **not just prophets like Amos who are chosen, or people with a special role in the Church. It's all of us.** When we are baptized we celebrate the fact that we are chosen by God. And practically speaking in Confirmation we have the opportunity to accept the fact that we are chosen—we **have the chance to choose to be chosen.**

What does that mean? Well, in the words of the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading again, it means to exist for the praise of God's glory. It means to renew again and again (because it's a choice that has to be renewed again and again) to live for God instead of for just ourselves.

The Apostles were chosen. It must have felt good to be one of the special twelve people to be Jesus' Apostles. But **in today's Gospel story, they are faced with a choice.** Are we going to walk around the country without any security—no money, extra shirt, no food for heaven's sakes—and tell people they have to change their lives with a message of repentance? Are they going to go where Jesus sends them?

There comes a point when we have to ask ourselves, "Are we gonna do this?" "Are we gonna really do this Christian thing loving our neighbors as ourselves, even our enemies, living for God instead for ourselves?" The Apostles said "Yes," and that's why we're here today. It's up to us to answer "Yes" today so that we will be here tomorrow.

*Fully Loving*  
*Faithfully Teaching*  
*Compassionately Serving*  
*Truly Living*  
*Joyfully Catholic*

**Mental Health & Substance Use**

Peer Recovery Support Group;  
**Thursday Evenings 6:00 – 7:00 PM**  
 Questions - lpwnter32@gmail.com;  
 Zoom: [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74216726600?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74216726600?pwd=UVZ4bEltVkJJeHVjSlQwcVE3VmZWZz09)  
 pwd=UVZ4bEltVkJJeHVjSlQwcVE3VmZWZz09  
 Meeting ID: 742 1672 6600, Password: 8ENfez

**Next Dates for Mass on the Grass:**

**July 24, 6:30 PM** (eve of Feast of St. James) - root beer floats will be offered after all four masses to celebrate the feast of our patron saint! 4:30 mass will be celebrated inside as usual  
**Aug. 14, 4:30 PM** (Summer Fest).  
 Dates for the fall may be added.



**FOR THE HOMELESS**

Walk to Benefit  
 Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley

**Tuesday • August 17, 2021**

River Prairie Center – Altoona, WI

5:00 pm ..... Day of Hike Registration  
 6:00 pm ..... Hike

Food Trucks On-Site

Register online at <https://www.familypromise.org/events>

**Let there be light!**  
 Have you noticed how much brighter the church is lately? How the stained glass windows shine with the light? That's due to the hardworking men who replaced the old yellowed plexiglass. Thank and praise them SO much, it really looks fantastic.



**Mass Intentions & Schedule**

Weekday masses are at 9:00 AM Tuesday-Friday.  
 Rosary and Adoration are available after the Tuesday Mass until 10:30 AM.

Sat.	July 17	4:30 PM Steve Alf
Sun.	July 18	8:00 AM People of St. James 10:00 AM Letitia Gonzalez Newman
Tue.	July 20	Jim Sr., Donna, and David Julson
Wed.	July 21	Tom BaDour
Thu.	July 22	William Keegan
Fri.	July 23	Deceased members of Robert Schmeckel family
Sat.	July 24	4:30 PM Lyle and Arlee Berg 6:30 PM (outdoor) World Peace
Sun.	July 25	8:00 AM Living and Deceased Members of Albert and Mary Bauer family 10:00 AM People of St. James

**Feed My People**

Feed My People Food Bank, 2610 Alpine Road, Eau Claire



Together, let's fight summer hunger.

Feed My People is raising funds through its second annual "Operation Picnic" summer hunger campaign to provide food to families facing hunger in west central Wisconsin. Thanks to generous community match sponsors, every dollar raised July 7-23, 2021 up to \$12,500 will be matched to help reach its goal of 100,000 additional meals funded. To donate and learn more, visit [give.fmpfoodbank.org/OperationPicnic](http://give.fmpfoodbank.org/OperationPicnic).

**Sermon on the Amount**

July 4, 2021

Sunday Adult Envelopes (145)	\$14,608.50
2020 same week (115)	\$11,689.50
Students	\$2.00
Plate	<u>\$131.43</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,741.93</b>

**Year to date Adult Env./CPL Income through June 30, 2021:**

Actual (July 1-June 30)	\$665,833.14
Budgeted (July 1-June 30)	\$620,000.00

Long term maintenance & facilities improvement fund and Past\*Present\*Future Campaign income for July 4 was \$2,290.00 for a total since July 1, 2021 of \$2,290.00.

**Parish Staff**

Phone: 715-835-5887

Fr. Tom Krieg	Pastor	tom4664@aol.com
Christine Warloski	Pastoral Associate	christine@stjameseauclaire.org
Jacky Miller	Pastoral Minister	jacchuck@yahoo.com
Anne Henriksen	Office Manager	stjameseac@aol.com
Mary Kolstad	Crd. of Liturgical Music	kolstadmary@gmail.com
Kelly Beaudrie	Dir. of Religious Ed.	beaudrie.kelly@gmail.com
Beth Cerny	Crd. of Religious Ed	elizabethcerny@hotmail.com

**St. James School** Phone: 715-830-2277

Jackie Lutz Principal,  
 jlutz@regiscatholicschools.com  
 Shanna Donkers, Administrative Assistant,  
 sdonkers@regiscatholicschools.com  
 Linda Schultz, Commission Rep.-RCS,  
 linda1735@gmail.com

**Bulletin deadlines:** end of day Mondays.

# SUMMER FEST 2021

## August 14th & 15th

**SPONSORSHIPS**

<b>PLATINUM SPONSOR</b> \$1,500 DONATION <del>SUNDAY CHICKEN DINNER</del> <del>OUTDOOR FOOD TRUCK</del>	<b>DIAMOND SPONSOR</b> \$1,000 DONATION <del>CONCESSION STAND</del> <del>CAR SHOW</del>
<b>GOLD SPONSOR</b> \$850 DONATION • BEER • RAFFLE TICKETS (PRINT & MAIL) • ADVERTISING	<b>SILVER SPONSOR</b> \$500 DONATION <del>KIDS GAMES</del> <del>UTILITIES</del> <del>BAND</del> <del>CHESSE CURDS</del>
<b>BRONZE SPONSOR</b> \$250 DONATION <del>POP</del> <del>DIY FOR TEEN ZONE</del> <del>TIE-DYE STATION FOR TEEN ZONE</del> <del>FACE PAINTING</del> <del>BALLOON ARTIST / JUGGLER</del> <del>CARICATURE ARTIST</del>	<b>BLACK SPONSOR</b> \$100 DONATION • RADIO/WALKIE-TALKIES • GIFT CARDS (SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES) • SILENT AUCTION LARGE PRIZES (8+) • ADULT GAME PRIZES

Join us for a **FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT** featuring **Disney Pixar SOUL**

SHOWING AT 8pm  
PIZZA PARTY STARTS AT 7PM

NEW EVENT Saturday night!!

### SUMMER FEST 2021

## Actively Seeking Summer Fest Sponsors!

Contact Randi at 715-216-5981 or randiann.m@gmail.com

THANK YOU to all of the sponsors we have!  
Look how many categories are crossed off!

**SUMMER FEST 2021**

# GRILLED CHICKEN DINNER

**\$12/MEAL - WITH ALL THE BEST SIDES!**

## CORNHOLE Tournament

**SUNDAY AUGUST 15TH**  
**FUN & COMPETITIVE LEAGUES**  
**\$40 PER TEAM OF 2**  
**BAGS FLY AT NOON**

**Register Today!**

### SUMMER FEST 2021

NEW EVENT 11-4 on Sunday!  
[www.osvhub.com/parish-st-james-the-greater/forms/summer-fest-cornhole-tournament](http://www.osvhub.com/parish-st-james-the-greater/forms/summer-fest-cornhole-tournament)

Now taking orders!! [www.osvhub.com/parish-st-james-the-greater/forms/summer-fest-chicken-dinner](http://www.osvhub.com/parish-st-james-the-greater/forms/summer-fest-chicken-dinner); or call the parish office

**Lenmark-Gomsrud-Linn**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES  
www.lenmarkfh.com  
814 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703  
715-832-8301  
1405 N. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI  
715-834-4456

**B & P BOHL & PROULX**  
PLUMBING WATER SYSTEMS  
715-832-4795 • 715-723-9655  
MP# 682390

  
**SUBARU.**  
**Chilson Subaru**  
Hwy 93 • Eau Claire  
www.chilsonsubaru.com

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**  


**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!**  
**ADVERTISE HERE NOW!**

Contact **Tim Browne**  
to place an ad today!  
tbrowne@4LPi.com or  
**(800) 950-9952 x2518**

  
**DANIEL DONNELLAN**  
REALTOR GRI, CRS, ABR  
LICENSED REALTOR SINCE 1987  
DanD@ecDRE.com  
Residential,  
Investment Property,  
Commercial Real Estate  
715.579.1418 \*Call or Text

**A.F.T**  
Real Estate, Inc  
715.839.1234  
Commercial & Industrial  
Sales • Lease • Site Selection • Development  
AL TAFT St James Parishioner  
www.aftrealestate.com

**NORTHSIDE PET HOSPITAL**  
835-0761  
1727 Western Ave.

  
**Amy's Angels**  
Private In-Home Nursing Care  
**Amy Nystrom, RN**  
651.295.2483  
amysangelswi@gmail.com

  
**PAULSRUD CHIROPRACTIC**  
www.paulsrudchiropractic.com  
**Bradley Paulsrud, D.C.**  
**Teresa Paulsrud, D.C.**  
715.552.3232 • 2627 N. Clairemont Ave.

  
**ROTO-ROOTER.**  
SEWER-DRAIN SERVICE  
Eau Claire & Chippewa Falls  
**Dan Hellend**  
835-9113 • 723-9494

**Krische Law Office**  
**Matthew J. Krische**  
Attorney  
715-318-2737  
21 S. Barstow St., Ste. 209, Eau Claire  
www.eauclaireattorney.com

  
**OAK PARK DENTAL**  
Eau Claire's Smile Leader  
4605 Royal Drive • Eau Claire, WI 54701  
(715) 855-9220  
Dr. Emily Hehli Benyaich

  
• Auto Body Repair  
• Mechanical Service  
• Unibody Repair  
Rental Cars Available  
All Insurance Estimates Given  
**MARK EISOLD - Proprietor**  
430 E. Madison St. • Eau Claire, WI 54703  
**(715) 834-8431**

GROW YOUR BUSINESS WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL PARISH.  
  
Purchase a bulletin ad today!

**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

 Authorized Provider **SafeStreets** 1-855-225-4251

**Piltz Glass & Mirror**  
\* Fogged/Broken GLASS REPLACEMENTS  
\* Glass tabletops \* Mirrors cut to size  
\* Storm window and screen repair  
\* Custom Tub/Shower Enclosures  
\* Aluminum Storefronts  
1011 Vernon St., Altoona • 715-835-3144  
2 blocks off Clairemont Ave. & Hastings

  
**MEN'S WEAR INC.**  
SINCE 1950  
1506 S. Hastings Way  
832-3502 | 1-800-942-0783  
www.muldoons.com

  
**Roadside Ice Cream & Diner**  
Best Food on the Road!  
www.roadsideec.com  
1160 Menomonie (715) 834-9323

**Gonstead, Stangl, & Arkowski CHIROPRACTIC, LLC**  
TogetherForYou.com  
715-832-2223  
Parish Members  
Dr. Jennifer Gonstead & Family

  
**INDEPENDENT FLOORING** *Classics*  
Carpet • Wood Furniture  
Tile • Vinyl Window Treatments  
Tod Torgerson  
833-2432 • 835-4500  
2506 South Hastings Way  
www.ifcec.com

**We've Missed You!**  
Welcome Back to Mass

Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com