



Dear Parishioners:

Jesus has a way of getting to the heart of things when He enters into conversations.

How are we supposed to live so that we may inherit eternal life? Jesus tells the scribe who asked this question that He has a proper reading of the Law when the scribe responds: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as

yourself." No doubt, the scribe has heard how Jesus combined love of God and love of neighbor as the greatest commandments of the Law.

Jesus says, as Nike puts it in our time: "Just do it." Jesus tells the scribe: "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live." The scribe wants to justify his questioning by inviting Jesus to be clearer. "And who is my neighbor?" The response is the story of the "Good Samaritan."

Many times, we respond to the simple truths given to us by the Scriptures and by the Church by trying to make them complicated, to free ourselves from the obligations they imply by feigning misunderstanding. Our imagination can justify any choice we make by pretending that it is not clear.

The games we play are denial of responsibility and blame. If someone else gets it wrong, then we believe it is okay for us to do what we please. The Samaritan was the last person any Jew of Jesus' day would have given credit for getting it right. But Jesus leads the scribe to see that it is possible.

In simple terms, why does the world reject the teachings of Jesus and of His Church? Because we fail to live them. We hold others accountable, but not ourselves. We see leaders and those who should know better, fail, so we don't even try.

Who is your neighbor? Ask Jesus that question and be ready to be challenged in your views. Let truth sink in that every human being you encounter has dignity and worth and is important to God. It is not okay for us to judge and dismiss others as not worthy of our attention and care. Who does God consider your neighbor? Who needs you to be the reminder of God's mercy?

Step away from the blame game. Take responsibility and just do it! See what the Samaritan does and hear Jesus' encouragement to you: "Go and do likewise."

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes  
Pastor

## Notes from the Loft



### Prelude

Excerpts from The Liturgical Organist (arr. C. Rossini)

### Introductory Rites

Opening: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (#551)

Gloria: Mass of Christ the Savior (#897)

### Liturgy of the Word

Psalm: Ps. 69: Turn to the Lord... (p. 190)

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia... (p. 191)

### Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory: The Church's One Foundation (#446)

Holy, When We Eat, Amen: Mass of Christ the Savior (#900, 902, 904)

Lamb of God: Mass of Christ the Savior (#905)

Communion: Christians, Let Us Love One Another (#425)

### Concluding Rite

Closing: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (#434)

### Postlude

### Cantors

5:00 p.m. TBD

8:15 a.m. Michael Whiting

10:45 a.m. Kayla Drummond

♪ Like most parishes in the United States, we sing hymns that originated in many different countries. Today's opening hymn – "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" – is British through and through. Its text, a paraphrase of Psalm 103, was written by Anglican priest Henry Francis Lyte in 1834. About a generation later, English musician John Goss composed its triumphant, stately melody. Over the years, it has been adapted and has grown in popularity among English-speaking Christians around the world. It is now a standard in hymnals of many different denominations.

~ Paul Radkowski,  
music@saintedwards.org,  
740-587-3254