



# Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 28, 2020

Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple — amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.

Matthew 10:42

**St. John the Evangelist Church  
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503  
[www.stjohnsaltoona.org](http://www.stjohnsaltoona.org)**



Deacon Gene, Monsignor Becker, Lexi, Iris and Christopher Tatar

*Congratulations,  
Lexi Tatar!*

*Lexie received her First Holy Communion on Sunday, June 21 at the 10:00 Mass.*

*We pray that God will bless her and draw her nearer to Him today and always.*

## NEXT WEEKEND'S APPOINTMENTS

### LECTORS

- Sat. July 4- 4:00 PM - Maria Spayd, NOT FILLED
- Sun. July 5 - 8:00 AM - Diane Turcovsky, Russell O'Reilly
- Sun. July 5 - 10:00 AM - Bill Foose, Norma Foose

### EUCARISTIC MINISTERS

- Sat. July 4- 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED
- Sun. July 5 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
- Sun. June 28 - 10:00 AM - Donna Moyer, Barbara Bundy, Kenneth Gorman

### ALTAR SERVERS

- Sat. July 4- 4:00 PM- Keaton Swope, NOT FILLED
- Sun. July 5 - 8:00 AM - Nicholas Helsley, Amber Yasolsky
- Sun. July 5 - 10:00 AM- Evie Koch, Estella Koch

### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

- Sat. July 4- 4:00 PM - Judy Sneath, Billy Sweet, Connie Baker , NOT FILLED
- Sun. July 5 - 8:00 AM - Mike O'Neill, John Becker, Jane Becker, Jane Strasser
- Sun. July 5 - 10:00 AM – Lou Ann Clark, Dolores Capriotti, Walter Bloom, Mary Grace Horton

### SACRISTAN

- Sat. July 4- 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne
- Sun. July 5 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
- Sun. July 5 - 10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

### SCRIP

- Sat. July 4- 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger , Becky Merilli
- Sun. July 5 - 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, NOT FILLED
- Sun. July 5 - 11:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** With the civic unrest and division that we are experiencing here America, where the "US vs. THEM" mentality has become a spiritual virus infecting our society, it would be worth taking a moment to reflect upon the words of Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, (the religious leader of Islam), who signed a **Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together** in Dubai last year. This rather brief document is addressed to all people of all faiths and people of good will. It begins: "Faith leads a believer to see in the other a brother or sister to be supported and loved. Through faith in God, who has created the universe, creatures and all human beings (equal on account of his mercy), believers are called to express this human fraternity by safeguarding creation and the entire universe and supporting all persons, especially the poorest and those most in need." The words of these holy men are both inspirational and powerful in their call for peace and justice in our world. It ends this way:

*In conclusion, our aspiration is that:*

*this Declaration may constitute an invitation to reconciliation and fraternity among all believers, indeed among believers and non-believers, and among all people of good will;*

*this Declaration may be an appeal to every upright conscience that rejects deplorable violence and blind extremism; an appeal to those who cherish the values of tolerance and fraternity that are promoted and encouraged by religions;*

*this Declaration may be a witness to the greatness of faith in God that unites divided hearts and elevates the human soul;*

*this Declaration may be a sign of the closeness between East and West, between North and South, and between all who believe that God has created us to understand one another, cooperate with one another and live as brothers and sisters who love one another.*

**ON-LINE MASS TO CONTINUE** - Although we have begun celebrating Mass with the congregation, we will continue to broadcast Sunday Mass on our website.

**WEEKDAY FEASTS:** On Monday we celebrate the glorious feast of the two founding apostles of the church, Saints Peter and Paul. On Friday, we honor St. Thomas, the apostle most noted for his desire to touch the wounds of Christ to confirm his faith in the risen Christ.

**HOME AGAIN TO MASS:** Our first weekend back to Mass went very well! We still have plenty of room at each of the Masses. If you have already signed up for this past week, no need to re-sign. If you are planning to come for the first time, please let us know. Our Summer Mass schedule is in effect, with 4 o'clock Mass on Saturday and 8 and 10 o'clock Masses on Sunday.

**DAILY MEDITATIONS:** During the pandemic we have begun providing daily meditations on our website. We have received a positive response to this ministry, and intend to continue. Your comments and recommendations are appreciated.

**FIRST COMMUNIONS:** Over the next number of weekends our First Communion children will be receiving their first Eucharist with their family. We congratulate them, and will be featuring their pictures on the front of the bulletin! Blessings upon these children and their families!

**WHAT'S DIFFERENT?** - Diocesan guidelines require participants at Mass to **wear a mask, and to use hand sanitizer when entering the church**. Reception of Communion on the tongue is strongly discouraged, given the infectious nature of the virus.

**BIBLE STUDY ON TUESDAY EVENING:** All are most welcome to join our Tuesday evening zoom Bible study, which meets online at 7 PM. We typically review the readings to be done the coming Sunday, which allows all of us to be better prepared to hear God's word when we gather for the Eucharist. To join, please provide me with your email address.

**ONLINE GIVING** - In these uncertain times, the financial support of your parish remains important. Have you considered online giving? Whether you are able to get to Mass or not, a direct deposit from your checking account to our parish account allows you to sustain your giving without interruption. Because of the pandemic, an increased number of parishioners have begun to utilize this important process of parish giving. We currently have 66 parishioners who give online, an increase of 10% since mid-March. We so much appreciate your continuing support of our parish!

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** In the United States and other nations, a dominant secular culture often contradicts religious convictions about the meaning of life. This culture frequently encourages us to focus on ourselves and our pleasures. At times, we can find it far too easy to ignore spiritual realities and to deny religion a role in shaping human and social values. (Stewardship, A Disciple's Response, USCCB 1993) It has become very evident these past months in the United States and many nations that the world citizenry has changed their actions and attitudes against the blind acceptance that the secular culture is in fact the acceptable way to live. It has been said by some that as we become more affluent, our hospitality lessens. We can see very clearly now in today's climate that this statement indeed is the very opposite of an extreme movement of heart to care for one another, "as I have loved you." The life of a Christian steward models the life of Jesus. It is challenging and even difficult in many respects; yet intense joy comes to those who take the risk to live as Christian stewards.

Regardless of how wealthy you perceive yourself to be, make time this week to help build up the Kingdom in our midst by being spontaneously hospitable to someone who could not return your kindness.

### Stewardship at St. John's

**June 14, 2020**

Envelopes	\$ 6,394.00
Loose	\$ 399.00
Catholic Comm. Campaign	\$ 26.00
Ascension of the Lord	\$ 65.00
Catholic Education	\$ 101.00
Peter's Pence Collection	\$ 10.00
Food Bank Donations	\$ 265.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$ 7,260.00</i>
Online Giving	\$ 1,613.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 8,873.00</b>

#### ***Restore\*Repair\*Rejoice***

Payments/Donations \$147,660  
 Pledge Payment Committed 28,08  
 Total Pledges/Donations \$176,468

#### ***Catholic Ministries Drive***

Last Update: May 31, 2020  
 Target \$ 44,423

Payments/Donations \$ 32,655  
 Pledge Payments Committed \$800  
 Total Gifts \$ 33,355

### **June Prayer Intention of Pope Francis** **The Way of the Heart**

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.



### ***ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST***

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [gyny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:gyny.reeder@gmail.com) to add or remove someone from the prayer list. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

**Baby Adam • Baby Aiden • Baby Maddie • Cari Ann James Aubrey • Julie Beiswenger • Robert Cole Millie Grace Capon • Betty Dennis Michael DeStefano • Jim Duffy • Bernadine Farrell Kathy Felty • Christine Finklestine • Mary Ann Flinn Helen Fornwalt • Leann Frazier • Molly Grenfell Ken Hartman • Denny Horton • Randy Horton Brian Kopp • Lisa • Joan Litzinger • Sherri Maffettone Louis Jack Mathias • Bryson Miller • Mildred Miller Susie Miller • Barbara Moore • Donna Moyer Alani Myers • Nancy • Stan Neal • Patricia Olson Mary Oricko • Linda Pletcher • Karen Price Ron Peschock • Mary Rajnish • Allison Recker Vicki Riley • Allison Ritchey • Olga Romerowicz Cari Roth • Mike Rudolph • Fr. Robert Rustin Peggy Seiler • Bruce Shank • Anne Showalter Tim & Dina Temofonte • Patty Teufel • Rose Wargo Lois Werfel • Carol White • William Wieland Noah Wills • Milan & Family • Dorothy Yingling**

**HOME WITH THE LORD:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

**Dorothy M. Itell- Mother of Sharon Itell**

May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

*Please respect the person's right to privacy and secure permission before placing a name on the Prayer List.*

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

**Monsignor Michael Becker** - [mbecker253@aol.com](mailto:mbecker253@aol.com)

**Deacon Gene Neral** - [gene@lifeinfocus.net](mailto:gene@lifeinfocus.net)

**Mr. Chris Ringkamp** - Parish Council President  
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**Ms. Jena Bowman** - Business Manager  
[stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net)

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[mswope726@gmail.com](mailto:mswope726@gmail.com)

**Mr. Mark Krepich** - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults  
[mark.krepich@gmail.com](mailto:mark.krepich@gmail.com)

**Mr. Ken Dunmire** - Maintenance

**MY OWN CHURCH:** Help us keep our records up to date! Just visit our parish website at [stjohnsaltoona.org](http://stjohnsaltoona.org) and click on the My Own Church link on the left side of the page. Here you can login and update your information. If anything has changed, go ahead and update your info, and our staff will be notified. We'd really need to have current email addresses and phone numbers for all of our parishioners! Also, if you have not been receiving Monsignor weekly phone messages, let us know. If you have questions, please call the church office at 814-942-5503. Thanks for helping us update our records!

**SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE**  
SATURDAY - 4:00PM  
SUNDAY - 8:00AM & 10:00AM  
MONDAY • WEDNESDAY • FRIDAY - 6:00PM  
TUESDAY • THURSDAY - 8:30AM

Due to social distancing, our weekend capacity is limited, so please call the office (942-5503) to let us know which Mass you plan to attend.

We will continue to record Sunday Mass for those unable to attend and post it on Facebook and our website.

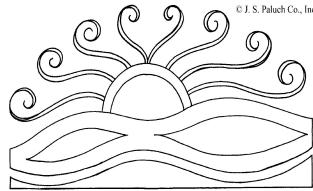
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**THE FRIAR'S NOOK GIFT SHOP:** The Friar's Nook Gift Shop is open and is stocked for your First Communion and Confirmation gift needs! The modified hours for June are Friday and Saturday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The shop is located on the campus of St. Bernardine Monastery at 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg. For any questions, please call 814-695-3802.

**FRANCISCAN MASS ASSOCIATION:** The Franciscan Friars, TOR Mass Association now has office hours Tuesday-Thursday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Masses can be requested anytime by mail, phone, e-mail, or website with the below information:

The Franciscan Friars, TOR  
PO Box 139  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648  
Phone: 814-695-3802 ext. 211  
E-Mail: [Suzi@thefranciscanfriars.org](mailto:Suzi@thefranciscanfriars.org)  
Website: [www.TheFranciscanFriars.org](http://www.TheFranciscanFriars.org)

**SCRIP SALES BEGIN AGAIN:** Next weekend we will begin filling scrip orders during the masses. In addition to gas and groceries, don't forget to buy scrip for your home improvement purchases! Whether you're picking out new furniture, remodeling the kitchen, or repainting your favorite room, big projects don't come cheap. On the plus side, big spending means big rebates for St. John's, so don't forget to order scrip for purchases at Lowes, Home Depot, etc. Stop by the scrip table this weekend to pick up an order form to see what is available immediately and what can be ordered and picked up next week.



Thirteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
June 28, 2020

Think of yourselves as dead to sin  
and living for God in Christ Jesus.

— Romans 6:11

### ***Schedule for the Week***

#### **Sunday June 28 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00AM- Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by  
John Prosperi

10:00AM- Mass for *People of the Parish*

#### **Monday June 29 – Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles**

6:00PM- Mass for *Sam Neal* requested by  
Julie & Bernie Beiswenger

#### **Tuesday June 30 – Weekday**

8:30AM- Mass for *Peggy Harber* requested by  
Richard & Joyce Lowe

#### **Wednesday July 1 – Weekday**

5:00PM- Confessions  
6:00PM- Mass for *Regina Feryok* requested by  
Marian Monios

#### **Thursday July 2 – Weekday**

8:30AM- Mass for *Edward Bastian*

#### **Friday July 3 – Saint Thomas, Apostle**

6:00PM - Mass for *Clarence & Eileen Becker* requested by  
Diana Fanale

#### **Saturday July 4 – Vigil of 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

3:00 PM- Confessions  
4:00PM- Mass for *Joe Robeson*

#### **Sunday July 5 – 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00AM- Mass for *People of the Parish*  
10:00AM- Mass for *Matthew Geishauser* requested by  
Mike Kwolek, Maryanne Burger & Joseph Dumm

### ***READINGS FOR THE WEEK***

Monday: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9;

2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Ps 5:4b-8; Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24; Ps 50:7-13, 16bc-17;  
Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Am 7:10-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 20:24-29

Saturday: Am 9:11-15; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 9:14-17 or,  
for Independence Day, any readings from the  
Mass "For the Country," nos. 882- 886, or "For  
Peace and Justice," nos. 887-891

Sunday: Zec 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14;  
Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30



Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple — amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.

Matthew 10:42

## Sunday Readings June 28, 2020 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Reading 1

**2 Kgs 4:8–11, 14–16a**

One day Elisha came to Shunem, where there was a woman of influence, who urged him to dine with her. Afterward, whenever he passed by, he used to stop there to dine. So she said to her husband, “I know that Elisha is a holy man of God. Since he visits us often, let us arrange a little room on the roof and furnish it for him with a bed, table, chair, and lamp, so that when he comes to us he can stay there.” Sometime later Elisha arrived and stayed in the room overnight.

Later Elisha asked, “Can something be done for her?” His servant Gehazi answered, “Yes! She has no son, and her husband is getting on in years.” Elisha said, “Call her.” When the woman had been called and stood at the door, Elisha promised, “This time next year you will be fondling a baby son.”

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 82:2–3, 16–17, 18–19**

**R. (2a) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

The promises of the LORD I will sing forever,  
through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness.  
For you have said, “My kindness is established forever;”  
in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

Blessed the people who know the joyful shout;  
in the light of your countenance, O LORD, they walk.  
At your name they rejoice all the day,  
and through your justice they are exalted.

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

You are the splendor of their strength,  
and by your favor our horn is exalted.  
For to the LORD belongs our shield,  
and the Holy One of Israel, our king.

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

### Reading 2

**Rom 6:3–4, 8–11**

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God. Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

## Gospel

### Mt 10:37–42

Jesus said to his apostles: “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.”

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# THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 28, 2020



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We know that Christ,  
raised from the dead, dies no more;  
death no longer has power over him.

Romans 6:9

## GRACE AND HOPE

Which should we do? Turn our backs on our loved ones, or offer hospitality to all who come to us as Christ? Today we are told to do both, and yet there is no inherent contradiction here. Following Christ might mean that we need to be aware both that Christ comes first in our lives, and that losing our life for Christ's sake means to find it. We also are reminded that when we were baptized, we died with Christ, to sin and to the pull of the world, and live with him in a new life. No contradiction, no necessary confusion. Just grace and hope.

## DYING AND RISING

The words of Saint Paul hit us smack in the face: "Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" (Romans 6:3). This epistle is one of the choices to be read at Catholic funerals. It generally comes as something of a shock to the listeners. But the reading goes on to offer great comfort to us as Christians. "[w]e have died with Christ . . . we shall also live with him . . . raised from the dead, [Christ] dies no more . . . [Christ] lives for God . . . you too must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus."

## HOSPITALITY

One of the ways we live in God is to extend God's hospitality to all. As an old Irish rune says, "Often goes the Christ in the stranger's guise."

The woman of Shunem offered hospitality to the prophet Elisha in the form of dinner and a place to stay. He rewarded her hospitality with the promise of a son. Christ explains to us just what hospitality means: "Whoever receives you receives me" and shall not lack for a reward. As theologian Paul Wadell teaches, when we offer hospitality, we not only offer food and drink, or a place to stay, or other kindness, we offer ourselves; we offer our attention to a stranger's story, wherein we learn another person's perspective, and in doing so we listen to God's story.

In warning us that "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me . . ." and also, "Whoever finds [their] life will lose it, and whoever loses [their] life for my sake will find it" Jesus proposes that we cultivate detachment from things that we now consider primary in our lives. Christ loves us and wants us to put him first before other commitments or desires. Our hospitality to strangers puts Christ before ourselves in just this way.

## TODAY'S READINGS

2 Kings 4:8–11, 14–16a  
Psalm 89:2–3, 16–19  
Romans 6:3–4, 8–11  
Matthew 10:37–42

# God's Word for Children

A woman from Shunem gave Elisha  
a place to eat and sleep when he was in town.  
She told her husband to set aside a room on the roof for this friend.

That way he could stay with them any time.

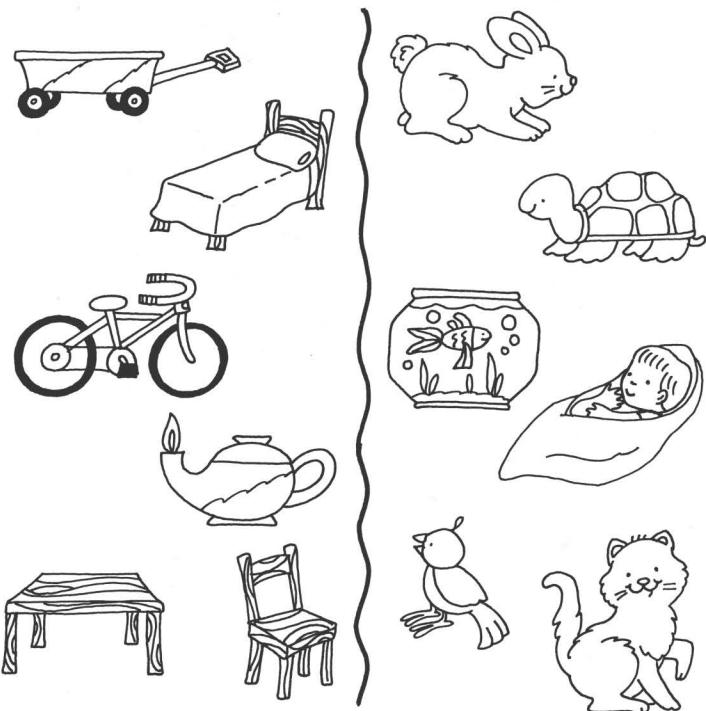
The woman wanted to put four things in the room.

Circle them on the left.

Later Elisha promised that in a year she would have something.

Circle that on the right.

(You can read the story in your Bible in 2 Kings 4:8-17.)



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## Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

When we do kind and good things for others we are pleasing Jesus.  
We need to welcome and help everyone as if they were Jesus himself.

The scrambled words below are deeds we can do for others.

Look at the picture clues for help.

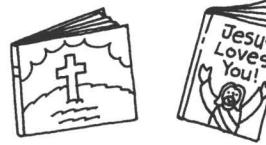
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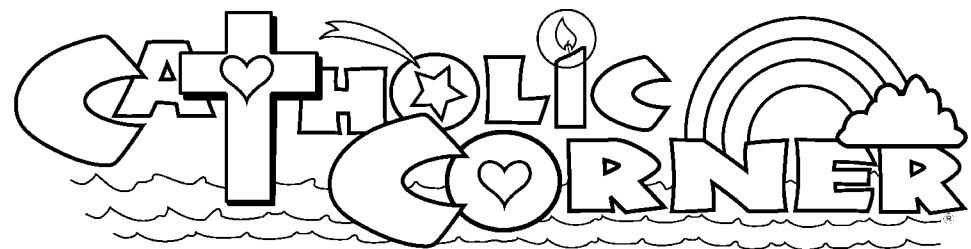
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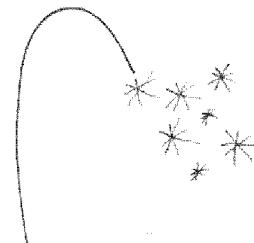
"Let us arrange a little room  
on the roof and furnish it  
for him with a bed, table,  
chair, and lamp"

2 Kings 4:10



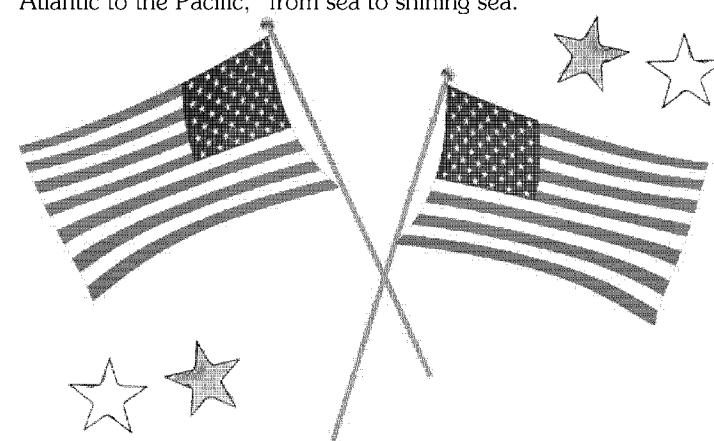
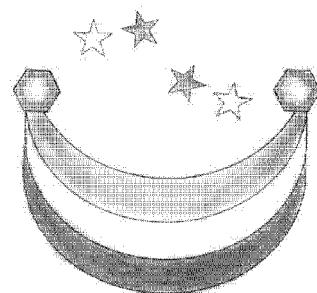
## FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA

This week, on the Fourth of July, we celebrate the birth of our country. When a baby is born it cannot take care of itself. It must be cared for and loved by its family and community. The same thing is true of a country.



Our country was founded on wonderful ideals. The Declaration of Independence proclaims that all people are equal and should be treated with dignity and respect. It also states that all people are entitled to certain rights, for example, the right to live a good and safe life, enjoy freedom, and be able to pursue what brings them happiness and fulfillment. These goals are hard to achieve. They require that every person work hard to make them a reality for everyone.

These goals need one more thing—the grace and care of God. It is important that everyone who believes in God ask God's blessings on our country so that it can continue to grow and be a light to other nations. Katherine Lee Bates, who wrote the words to the song "American the Beautiful," believed this and included it in the lyrics. The song asks God to bless our country and unite all of its citizens as one people, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, "from sea to shining sea."



As you and your family celebrate this day with barbecues and fireworks, sing "America the Beautiful" together. In the spirit of that song, make a promise to pray for God's continued blessings, and to work to create a brotherhood and sisterhood of citizens throughout the entire country.



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