

Come Fly with Me



Dear youth and friends in Christ, This summer, as the sun brightens our days, let us remember that God's mercy brightens our hearts. No matter how far we've

fallen, how heavy our guilt, or how broken our past—our Heavenly Father invites us into complete renewal. Isaiah 1:18 reminds us that God doesn't just forgive—He transforms. He takes what is stained, shamed, and scared, and makes it clean, whole, and beautiful again. Like the eagle that soars high above the clouds, we too are called to rise—leaving behind sin, shame, and fear. This month, I invite you to:

- Reflect on the areas of your life that need healing
- Trust that God's mercy is greater than your past
- Encourage someone else to believe in second chances
- Let your testimony give hope to others You are not defined by where you've been, but by who you are becoming in Christ. Fly free, beloved children, with courage, grace, renewed purpose, and blessings.

"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." – Isaiah 1:18

~ Fr. Samy, Spiritual Director ~

Founder's Message



"You shall love your neighbor as yourself," states Matthew 22:39. While we all acknowledge that this is wise instruction, it is perhaps one of the hardest things to

do in practice. How do you love someone who has wronged you, hurt you, harmed you—or worse, taken something from you: your valuables, your home, your livelihood, your peace, your modesty, or even your hopes, dreams, and goals? Jesus refers to this in the Gospel of Matthew as "the second commandment." In essence, He is summarizing the latter part of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 5:7), which focus on our interactions with others—including our parents, spouses, loved ones, and neighbors. This Golden Rule—akin to the phrase, "swing your umbrella but don't hit anyone"—is paramount. We must respect our family, our fellow brethren, and our environment to function as a true community.

In Matthew 18:21, when Jesus is asked if one should forgive a brother up to seven times, He responds instead, "seventy times seven" (Luke 17:4; Genesis 4:24). While this may seem excessive—or even humanly impossible— the message is clear: there should be no limit to our

In Focus

July is a time for sunshine, fireworks, family, fresh air—and reflection. As we soak in the warmth of summer and make memories with loved ones, it's also a perfect season to check in with our hearts. Have we been holding onto things that God wants us to release?

This month let's reflect on mercy. God's mercy is like a reset button—a fresh breeze that clears the air, softens our hearts, and gives us space to begin again. He offers us chance after chance, no matter where we've been or what we've done. And when we show mercy to others,

we reflect on his heart.

This July, let's:

- -Be quick to forgive -Assume the best in
- others
 -Speak gently, even
- when we're upset
 -Practice patience
 with our family and
- -Make space for

friends

peace in our homes and hearts.

As we celebrate freedom this month, let's also celebrate the deeper freedom that comes from mercy—given and received. Whether we're at home, at camp, or at church, let's be people of mercy wherever we go.

Scripture Inspiration:

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." — Luke 6:36



Saint of the Month: Saint Mary Magdalene

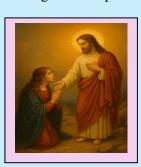


Feast Day: July 22. Saint Mary Magdalene is one of the most powerful examples of redemption and grace in the Bible. In Scripture, she is

introduced as a woman from whom Jesus cast out seven demons (Luke 8:2)—a sign of deep spiritual suffering and inner torment. She was likely judged and rejected by society.

Throughout history, many have believed that Mary lived a life of prostitution or public shame. She is often identified as a woman with a sinful past, burdened by immorality or disgrace. Regardless of the exact details, what matters most is this: Jesus forgave her, healed her, and gave her a place of honor among His closest followers.

Despite being labeled and shunned, Jesus saw her worth—not her wounds. Mary became a devoted disciple who remained with Him through His crucifixion and was the first to witness the Resurrection (John 20:1–18). It was to Mary that Jesus first appeared after rising from the dead, and it was she who was entrusted to carry the message to the Apostles—earning her the



title, "Apostle to the Apostles." Her story is a beacon of hope for anyone who has ever felt ashamed, judged, or counted out. It reminds us that no one is too far

gone to be transformed by Christ's mercy. People may try to define you by your past, but God defines you by your purpose. His love rewrites your story. Like Saint Mary Magdalene, we are all called to turn our pain into purpose, our shame into testimony, and our wounds into witnesses. Her life teaches us to cling to Christ through suffering, to rise again through grace, and to boldly proclaim the Good News, no matter where we've been. ~Andrea, Chairperson~

The founder's message continued.

forgiveness', no matter how often we are wronged.

Indeed, if we do not forgive others, how can we expect our Father in Heaven to forgive us? In the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9), we are reminded: "...forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." Romans 12:14 urges us to "bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them," while verse 20 adds, "...if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For by doing so, you will heap burning coals on his head" (Psalm 140:10; Proverbs 25:21).



As emphasized again in Matthew 5:45 and Luke 6:27, Jesus instructs us: "bless those who curse you and pray for those who abuse you." After all, if

Christ Himself endured in order to receive God's blessing, shouldn't we also endure—patiently and faithfully—as Christians?

~Vic Joseph, Founder~

OUR PRAYER

Lord, guide us to be of service to you and others. Inspire us to care for all your creation, especially the youth. Fill us with truth, hope and love in all that we do. Unite us to faithfully journey together with you, as we work to build Your Kingdom within our community. ~Serviam~





Youth Corner

June Recap: The Prodigal Son & The Power of Coming Home

In June, we explored one of Jesus' most

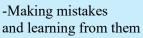


well-known parables—the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). We reflected on how God is always ready to welcome us back with open arms, no

matter how far we've strayed. Just like the father in the story, God runs toward us

with love and mercy when we turn back to Him.

Through games, discussion, and Scripture, we talked about:



-The power of asking for forgiveness



-Why God's love never gives up on us -How we can reflect that same love toward others.

Scripture Focus: Luke 15:24

"For this son of mine

was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

This parable reminded us that God's love

is never-ending, and He's always waiting to welcome us home. We ended the night with a reminder: It's never too late to come back to God.



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