

# LIVING FAITH

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

#### Luke 10:25-37

A lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.' But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

### TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

Jesus says to the lawyer who tried to test him, "Go and do likewise." Imagine that you are that lawyer. After listening to the story that Jesus tells, he asks you, "Which one of the people in my story shows themselves to be a neighbour of the man who was robbed?" Deep in your heart, you know the answer. It was not the priest. It was not the Levite. Both of these people passed by the man. No, the person who showed himself to be a neighbour was the Samaritan, a most unlikely hero in any Jewish story, for the Jews did not think very highly of Samaritans. And then, Jesus issues you a challenge, "Go and do likewise. Go out there and be a neighbour, especially to those who are hard to love."

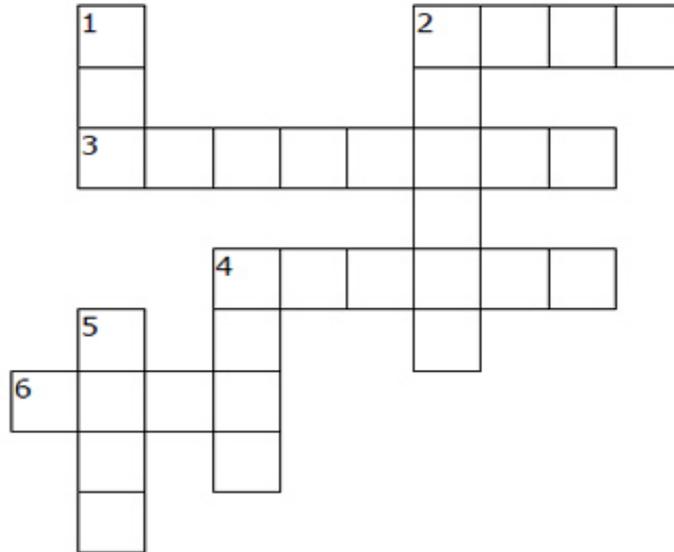
### PONDER AND DISCUSS

- When is it easy for you to be a good neighbour?
- When is it hard for you to act like a good neighbour?
- Why do you think it's so important to be a good neighbour to others?

# Parable of the Good Samaritan

" 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' " Luke 10:27

Based on Luke 10:25-37



## ACROSS

2. A pathway for vehicles, people, and animals
3. Someone who lives very near to you
4. A person who performs religious duties in the church
6. To hit someone again and again

## DOWN

1. An adult male human
2. Someone who takes money or property illegally from another person
4. To feel sympathy and sorrow for the misfortune or suffering of another
5. Not living

MAN	PRIEST	PITY	ROBBER
ROAD	BEAT	DEAD	NEIGHBOR

**THE CHURCH TEACHES**  
**CHRISTUS VIVIT (CHRIST IS ALIVE!)**  
**A POST-SYNODAL EXHORTATION FROM POPE FRANCIS**  
**TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**MARCH 25, 2019**  
**CHAPTER 2**  
**Jesus, ever young**

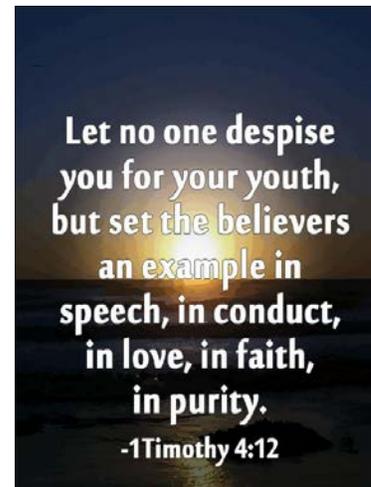
Pope Francis tells us that “the Synod said that “youth is an original and stimulating stage of life, which Jesus himself experienced, thereby sanctifying it”. Pope Francis says, “It is important to realize that Jesus was a young person. He gave his life when he was, in today’s terms, a young adult.” Jesus gave his whole youth, his entire life, to the mission of announcing, proclaiming and building the Kingdom of God.

Pope Francis tells the story of the Finding in the Temple (Luke 2:41-51) as an example of the tasks of youth. This story, he says, “shows Jesus as an adolescent, when he had returned with his parents to Nazareth, after being lost and found in the Temple (cf. Lk 2:41-51).



In Chapter 2, Pope Francis also gives the examples of Mary and many young saints.

There we read that “he was obedient to them”; he did not disown his family. Luke then adds that Jesus “grew in wisdom, age and grace before God and men”. In a word, this was a time of preparation, when Jesus grew in his relationship with the Father and with others.” Jesus’ whole youth was training, being prepared to fulfill the mission He was given by the Father. Jesus’ life can prove inspiring for all those young people who are developing and preparing to take up their mission in life. This involves growing in a relationship with the Father, in awareness of being part of a family and a people, and in openness to being filled with the Holy Spirit and led to carry out the mission God gives them, their personal vocation.

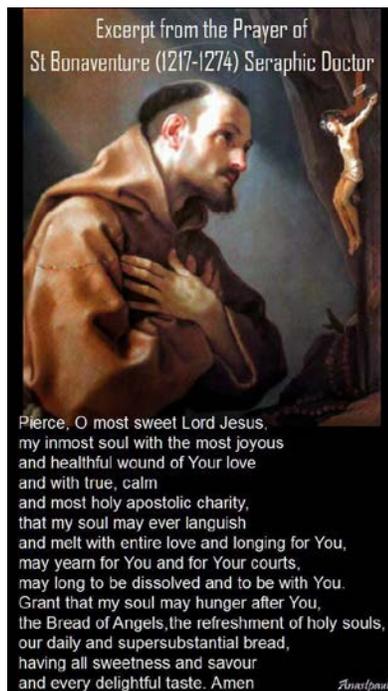


## ST. BONAVENTURE BISHOP DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Born in Bagnorea, Italy, to Giovanni di Fidanza and Maria Ritell in 1221, just five years before the death of Saint Francis, Saint Bonaventure was baptized John. He received the name Bonaventure when he entered the Order of Friars Minor. Bonaventure entered the Franciscans around 1243 as a member of the Roman Province.

He attended the University of Paris studying under the founder of the Franciscan school there, Alexander of Hales, receiving his *licentiate* in 1248. This degree afforded him the right to teach, which he did until his election as Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor in 1257, an office he held until May 1274.

His biography of St. Francis was adopted as the official biography of the Order in 1263. In 1273, he was made a cardinal and named the bishop of Albano by Pope Gregory X. While attending the Council of Lyon, he died suddenly on Sunday, July 15, 1274.



Excerpt from the Prayer of  
St. Bonaventure (1217-1274) Seraphic Doctor

Pierce, O most sweet Lord Jesus,  
my inmost soul with the most joyous  
and healthful wound of Your love  
and with true, calm  
and most holy apostolic charity,  
that my soul may ever languish  
and melt with entire love and longing for You,  
may yearn for You and for Your courts,  
may long to be dissolved and to be with You.  
Grant that my soul may hunger after You,  
the Bread of Angels, the refreshment of holy souls,  
our daily and supersubstantial bread,  
having all sweetness and savour  
and every delightful taste. Amen

Bonaventure remained a simple man of faith and holiness; his life and administration governed by prayer and reflection. Legends have it that when the papal legates came to give him his cardinal's hat, they found him washing dishes. As a theologian, Bonaventure was able to reflect on the practical aspects of life and see how they interacted with the insights of faith—truly an incarnational approach, which is so typically Franciscan. He was a well-seasoned philosopher and theologian capable of thinking things through carefully in the light of reason drawing truly academic yet pastoral conclusions. He is considered the second founder of the Franciscan Order.

When Bonaventure was canonized, Pope Sixtus IV wrote: *Bonaventure was great in learning, but no less great in humility and holiness. His innocence and dove-like simplicity were such that Alexander of Hales, the renowned doctor whose disciple Saint Bonaventure became, used to say of him that it seemed as though Adam had never sinned in him.*