

*"Good Works are links that form a chain of love." (from Mother Teresa: In My Own Words, compiled by Jose Luis Gonzalez-Balado, 1996, p. 37).*

Not only did the biblical Good Samaritan traverse the same road as the wounded traveler, the Good Samaritan also shared the traveler's journey by tending to his wounds; Mother Theresa often spoke of the wounds of loneliness. In keeping with the spirit of the parable and Mother Theresa, the Good Samaritans of St Matthew's would like to share the life journey of fellow parishioners who are either temporarily or indefinitely confined to their homes, the hospital, or rehabilitation/nursing homes, by visiting with them at the parishioner's discretion. The premise of this ministry is simply one of companionship or presence - to be present to, to listen to, to read to, to pray and converse with - the person being visited; we follow their lead, hopefully providing a link or connection to the parish community. We also visit with those who, though not homebound themselves, may want to be visited: caretakers, the elderly, or those who are alone after the death of a spouse. The Good Samaritans seek to bring God's love to others through prayer, word, and action, for as St. Peter has instructed us, "... all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another..." (1 Peter 3:8).

If you would like to be visited by the Good Samaritans or to learn more about this ministry as a possible volunteer opportunity, please contact Deacon John, through the Parish Office, 540-582-5575