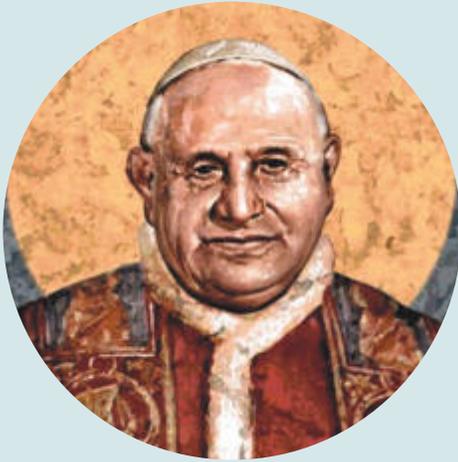


SUNDAY, JAN. 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2021



# St. John XXIII Catholic Parish

12100 Beech Daly Rd.,  
Redford, MI 48239  
(248) 800-6081  
[www.stjohnxxiiiredford.org](http://www.stjohnxxiiiredford.org)  
[office@stjohnxxiiiredford.org](mailto:office@stjohnxxiiiredford.org)

FR. GREG PIATT, PASTOR

### MASSES

Saturday 1/2 | 4 p.m.  
Sunday 1/3 | 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday 1/5 | 9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday 1/6 | 6:30 p.m.  
Thursday 1/7 | 12 p.m.  
Saturday 1/9 | 4 p.m.  
Sunday 1/10 | 9:30 a.m.

### LIVESTREAM MASSES

[www.stjohnxxiiiredford.org](http://www.stjohnxxiiiredford.org)  
[facebook.com/StJohnXXIIIRedford](https://facebook.com/StJohnXXIIIRedford)  
St. John XXIII Redford MI YouTube

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday 1/5 | 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

### BENEDICTION

Tuesday 1/5 | 7 p.m.

### CONFESSIONS

By Appointment



# UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL IN YOUR LIFE

# COMING SOON



We hope St. John XXIII Catholic Church is a blessing in your life. You are a blessing to us! Whether you're visiting us, looking for a new parish, returning to the Catholic faith or interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we're happy you're here! To learn more about St. John XXIII Parish, visit our website or Facebook page. If you are new to the parish, we encourage you to register at the parish office. We look forward to meeting with you!

### PASTORAL STAFF



Father Gregory Piatt, Pastor  
Fr.Greg@stjohnxxiiiiredford.org  
Laura Scanlan, Pastoral Associate  
Laura.Scanlan@stjohnxxiiiiredford.org  
Steve Morello, Deacon  
Deacon.Steve@stjohnxxiiiiredford.org

### PARISH STAFF

Linda Hudy, Secretary  
Linda.Hudy@stjohnxxiiiiredford.org  
Frank Munoz, Maintenance  
Maintenance@stjohnxxiiiiredford.org  
Colette Renaud-Maher, Bulletin  
stjohnxxiiibulletin@gmail.com  
Please email your bulletin submissions on or before Monday at noon.

### COUNCILS & LEADERSHIP

#### Finance Council

Jim Allan, Jim Francis, Michelle Poisson, Cheryl Roza, Fred Schneider & Jack Templin.

#### Parish Council

Mark Cochran, Denise Zuzow-DeKett, Maureen Franklin, Chuck Sudekum & Jim Vote.

#### Parish Leadership Team

Pam Condron, Shane Foley, Maureen Franklin & George Salloum.

## WEEKLY READINGS

- Saturday:** **Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church**  
1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28
- Sunday:** **The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week**  
Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- Monday:** **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**  
1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
- Tuesday:** **St. John Neumann, Bishop**  
1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44
- Wednesday:** **St. André Bessette, Religious**  
1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52
- Thursday:** **St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest**  
1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
- Friday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16
- Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30
- Sunday:** **The Baptism of the Lord**  
Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/  
Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

## PRAYER REQUESTS

† Eileen Roy, Dennis Sokol, Bob Frank, Joe Zasa, Enrico “Ricky” Canini, Ann Donoghue, Patricia Griffin, Fr. Larry Kaiser, Evelyn Martin and Bob Witt request your prayers.

† Pray for our priests, nuns, and those who do God’s work.

† Remember in your prayers all those affected by the coronavirus throughout the world.

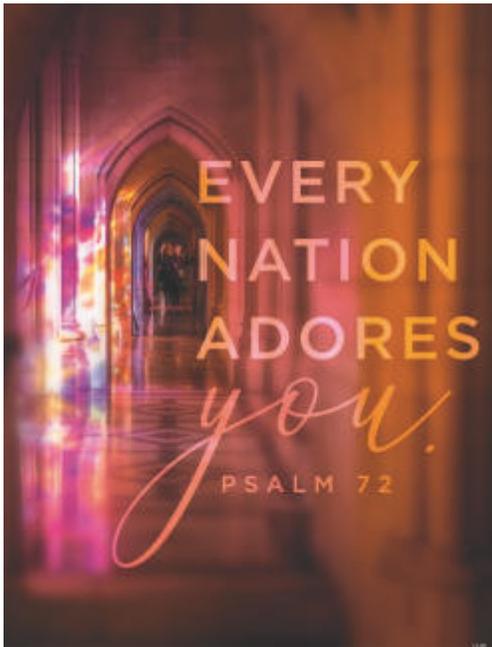
† Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for December: For a Life of Prayer— We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

## REST IN PEACE

- † Geraldine “Gerry” Wszola
- † Mary Wentworth
- † Delphine Holden



*St. John XXIII Parish has several ways in which we support each other in special personal prayer. Prayer requests and Mass intentions are accepted at the parish office. Mass Intentions are dedicated to the intentions of the petitioner and are mentioned out loud during the Prayers of the Faithful. Intentions for Mass may be for the support of the sick, for repose of the soul of a loved one, in thanksgiving, on the occasion of an anniversary or for other special intentions.*



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, Jan. 2

#### Mass at 4:00 p.m.

- † Peter and Genevieve Mucha By Son, Richard
- † Anna Mucha By Husband, Richard
- † Stanley Mucha By Brother, Richard

### Sunday, Jan. 3

#### Mass at 9:30 a.m.

- † Patricia Twomley (Anniversary) By Marcia Allen

### Tuesday, Jan. 5

#### Mass at 9:30 a.m.

- † The Parishioners of St. John XXIII

### Wednesday, Jan. 6

#### Mass at 6:30 p.m.

- † The Parishioners of St. John XXIII

### Thursday, Jan. 7

#### Mass at 12 p.m.

- † The Parishioners of St. John XXIII

### Saturday, Jan. 9

#### Mass at 4:00 p.m.

- † Stanley Mucha By Brother, Richard

### Sunday, Jan. 10

#### Mass at 9:30 a.m.

- † The Parishioners of St. John XXIII

## AGGIORNAMENTO!

By Fr. Greg

I want to wish all of you a **happy and blessed 2021**. May the Good Lord lead us from a dreadful 2020 and give us the grace to rebuild a normal life in this coming year.

+++



Over Christmas and last weekend, we asked parishioners who text and receive text messages to sign up for that function on our Flocknote program at the end of Mass.

Many of you receive the link for the live-streamed Mass and the parish bulletin's electronic version through Flocknote's email function.

We began using Flocknote when the pandemic hit and shuttered us in our homes back in March. We added the email addresses to Flocknote that we received when we held our parish reregistration in the fall of 2019.

However, the parish did not activate the text message function of Flocknote because it requires a sign-up, which makes it an option to join. Several parishioners were also familiar with the program who asked when we would activate the text messaging function.

We want to keep in touch with you in the coming year. Once society starts opening up because we are managing the pandemic, we hope to restart our Meals after Masses and offer more discipleship-forming programs to help you grow your relationship with Jesus. And we want to use Flocknote to help you stay informed.

If you want to sign up for Flocknote cell phone **text messaging**, text **STJOHNXXIII to 84576**.

+++

With all those returnable cans and bottles piling up from the holidays, just a reminder, the parish's Society of St. Vincent de Paul will hold a **bottle and can drive next weekend, January 9 and 10**, outside the parish hall.

Bring your bagged up bottles and cans to next weekend's Masses, and the Vincentians will take them before and after the Mass.

+++

Again, I want to thank **you for all your Christmas Cards and gifts** this year. I appreciate it very much. God bless you!



## SOUPS FOR A CHANGE

Is back for the 6<sup>th</sup> year of fundraising to help pay our CSA commitment! Give your friends & family something a little different and delicious in their stocking this year. \$10 each. Good for one quart of any flavor soup though the end of the 2020-21 season. Pre orders only.

### SOUP MENU SCHEDULE

#### Jan. 2-3

- Creamy Tomato Parmesan
- Southwest Chicken Tortilla
- Italian Wedding

#### Jan. 9-10

- Turkey Chili
- Broccoli Cheese
- Beef & Root Vegetable

#### Jan. 16-17

- Navy Bean w/ Ham
- Italian Sausage Zucchini
- Chicken Noodle

#### Jan. 23-24

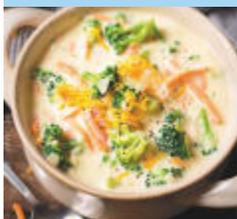
- Loaded Baked Potato
- Wild Mushroom
- Chicken Pot Pie

#### Jan. 30-31

- Minestrone
- Garlicky White Cheddar Bisque
- Chicken Butternut

#### Feb. 6-7

- Brisket Chili
- Tomato Basil
- Calico Bean w/ Ham



The soup cost is \$10 per quart, of which \$5.50 is donated to our parish CSA campaign. Orders must be

placed by 9 p.m. on Tuesday nights by phoning (248) 470-6611 or emailing jjvotes@aol.com. Due to the smaller capacity levels allowed in the building, there will be a smaller amount of extras for purchase after Mass, so PLEASE make sure that you pre-order so that you are not left out.

## STEWARDSHIP

Three Ways to Give:

In Person ~ By Mail ~ Online [www.osvonlinegiving.com/4663](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/4663)

### DEC. 20

66 Envelopes.....	\$1,827
12 E-Envelopes.....	485
Loose.....	\$168
All Saints' .....	\$5
All Souls' .....	\$5
Immaculate Conception...	\$15
Solemnity of Mary .....	\$23
Christmas Flowers.....	\$366
Utilities/Maintenance.....	\$85
Sub Total.....	\$2,979
Religious Retirement.....	\$100
Total.....	\$3,079

Sign up today



Receive St. John XXIII's Flocknote as a text message on your phone

Text STJOHNXXIII to 84576

### CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

Your generosity to our CSA appeal is appreciated. If you are paying by check, please make checks out directly to CSA and not St. John XXIII. Goal \$46,479 ..... Pledged \$22,387 ..... Payments \$19,643

### A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOUR PARISH

In order to balance our parish budget every year we rely heavily on the generous gifts that come to us through the Christmas collection. We also rely heavily on the weekly Offertory gifts that are made 52 weeks out of the year. Both your Christmas gifts to our parish and your weekly Offertory gifts help us manage our operating budget through winter when heating bills are high and unexpected costs arise for snow and ice removal. For this reason, we ask you to please be as generous as possible with your Christmas gift to the parish. We need your support. Thank you for your generosity both throughout the year and at Christmas!

Christmas gifts may be given until Jan. 3, but please clearly mark "Christmas Offering" on the memo line. The Christmas collection is not assessed the weekly archdiocesan offertory assessment of 7 percent. The Christmas collections remain in the parish. An end of the year donation to the Christmas collection will also help as a tax-deductible gift on your 2020 return.

### TIME • TALENT • TREASURE



**bottle drive**

St. Vincent de Paul of St. John XXIII will have our 2<sup>nd</sup> fundraiser bottle drive before and after Mass on Saturday, Jan. 9, and Sunday, Jan. 10. Bring your returnable cans and bottles, bagged up, to mass, and a member of the St. Vincent de Paul

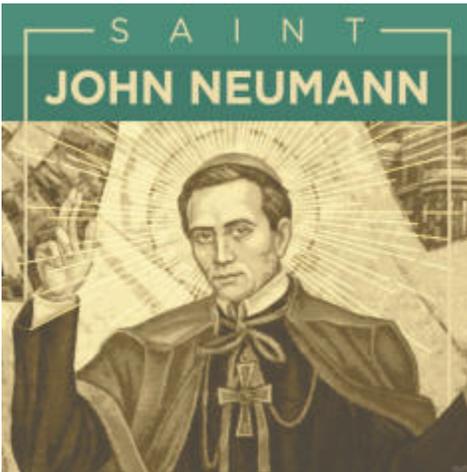
conference will be ready to accept them by the church's front doors. If you cannot bring your returnable cans and bottles to church, call Kandi Johnson (313) 854-9001 or Teri Carrier (734) 679-0330 for a porch pick up. Your donations will help our Neighbors in Need with multiple items from rent, food, gas, to utility bills etc. Thank you for your continued support of our Neighbors in Need!

Our parish has a phone outreach ministry called Phone Buddy! We believe it is essential to make daily contact with those who live alone, especially during these difficult times. Would you like to be a phone buddy—either receive calls or make calls? Please contact the parish office.

# ALL THINGS CATHOLIC

By Fr. Greg

## ST. JOHN NEUMANN, AMERICA'S FIRST SAINT



### America's first saint went about his work quietly and humbly

St. John Neumann is the first man to become a saint in the Catholic Church from the United States.

He was born in 1811, in Bohemia, which is now the Czech Republic. He was baptized and named after John Nepomucene, a patron saint of Bohemia.

While in school, John excelled in theology and natural sciences. At 24, he was fluent in six languages, including Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. After his schooling in Bohemia, he applied to seminary, but due to the abundance of priests in the region ordinations were suspended.

While in seminary, John discerned a call to become a missionary in the United States. With the surge in German Catholic immigrants to the United States, German-speaking priests became an urgent need.

Shortly after arriving in New York, he met Bishop John Dubois, who only had 36 priests to care for 200,000 Catholics in New York State and part of New Jersey.

John Neumann was ordained quickly as a deacon and then priest in 1836. Then he was named pastor of the whole Niagara

Frontier, 100 square miles of swampy forest.

At that time, priests traveled on horseback or on foot and traveled long distances to neighboring towns and villages.

Fr. John rode his horse clumsily because he was short, and his feet did not reach the stirrups. Children made fun of him, but the future saint remained silent and kept proclaiming Christ, teaching religion, visiting the sick, and training teachers.

From his headquarters near Buffalo, Fr. John made frequent journeys to visit parishioners, and he built churches and schools and taught school to the children in the area.

The strenuous pace soon took a toll on Fr. John's health. He decided to join the Redemptorists in 1842 and became the first person to make a religious profession as a Redemptorist in America in Baltimore.

He was a pastor in Pittsburgh and Baltimore and was the vice-provincial of the Redemptorists in America.

At 41, Fr. John was made Bishop of Philadelphia in 1852. The Diocese of Philadelphia was the largest in the United States at the time, including eastern Pennsylvania, western New Jersey, and Delaware. Some of his flock did not accept him because of his accent and his simple style.

Besides these people, Bishop Neumann had to deal with an anti-Catholic group burning convents and schools. This stressed Bishop Neumann, and he felt he wasn't capable of doing his job. He asked for a smaller diocese, but he was told to remain where he was.

Bishop Neumann promoted the

establishment of Catholic schools. He built more than 90 schools in 8 years as a bishop. He brought many teaching orders to his diocese and published two catechisms and many articles

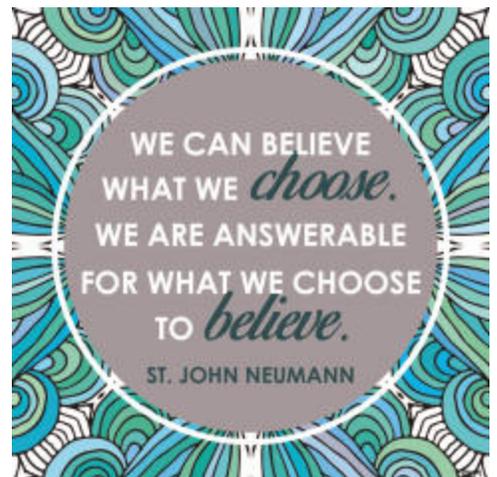
Though Bishop Neumann had suffered from frequent illnesses, his stroke in 1860 at 48 came unexpectedly while he was out for a walk.

Pope St. Paul VI at Bishop Neumann's 1977 canonization said for St. John to "accomplish his task, love was necessary. And love meant giving; love meant effort; love meant sacrifice. And in his sacrifice, Bishop Neumann's service was complete."

The cause of his beatification began in 1886. In February 1963, Pope St. John XXIII issued the proclamation for his Beatification, but our parish patron saint's death delayed the ceremony.

Pope St. Paul VI beatified Bishop Neumann in October 1963. He was canonized in June 1977, making him the first man from the United States to become a saint in the Roman Catholic Church.

"He led his people along the paths of holiness," Pope St. Paul VI said. "He was indeed an effective witness, in his generation, to God's love for His Church and the world."



# SPOTLIGHT



John's Christmas Gospel makes three striking points on what happened 2,000 years ago and with Christ in our lives today.

When St. John proclaims: "the Word became flesh," he says the God, who spoke the universe into existence and through His prophets became flesh and blood.

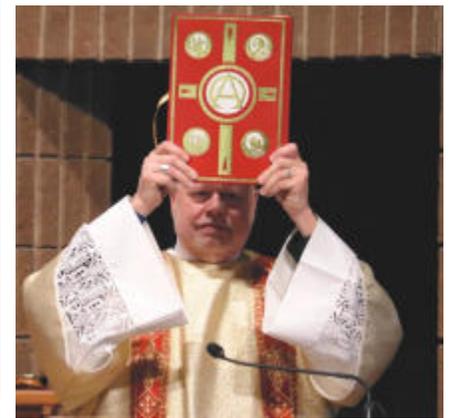
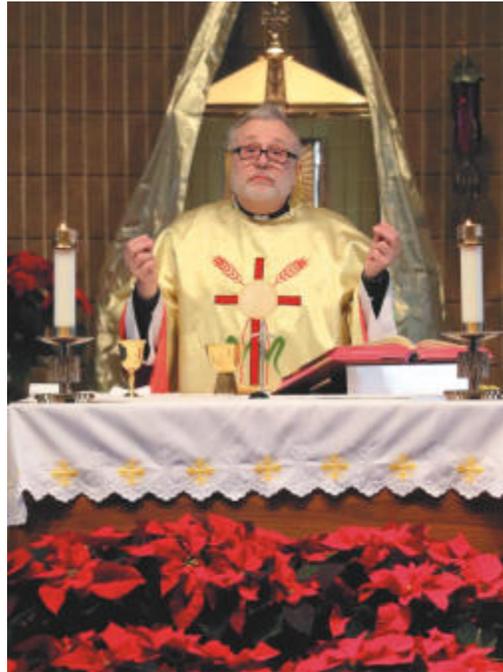
The Son of God became flesh 2,000 years ago, and He becomes flesh for us today in the Eucharist, other sacraments, and in the life of His Catholic Church. The Word became Flesh for our redemption and gave up His flesh and blood to die for us. Secondly, St. John declares the Word, then "dwelt among us."

God was not a tourist visiting, saying a few words, performing some miracles, and then returning to Heaven. He came to stay and die for us. And through His death and Resurrection, the Son of God never really leaves us.

In receiving the Eucharist, Christ in every tabernacle in a Catholic Church, in every Adoration chapel, and every moment of our lives as a disciple, Christ pitches His tent and dwells among us.

Lastly, St. John says those who accept and believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God; the Word made Flesh; He gave the power to become sons and daughters of God and to know God's life in their life.

If we make room in our hearts, Jesus will change our attitudes, motivations, desires, and your life. Then, we can be agents of God in this world by knowing God's life and sharing it with others.



## WISE MEN SEE GOD IN THE SIMPLE THINGS

By Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which.

After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what

was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: **God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love.** Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.



## LET GO & LET GOD!

By Laura Scanlan

Isaiah's reading talks about the great joy in Jerusalem as the Israelites return from exile. A new and glorious day of hope, light, and victory has dawned. The Israelites who were once in the dark now have a new light shining upon them.

In St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, we learn that God's plan was from the beginning to save all people. "Gentiles will be coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel." This plan had not been revealed to "other generations" but is being revealed, "to his apostles and prophets by the Spirit."

The Three Magi follow a star to pay homage to the newborn King of the Jews. They ask King Herod for help in finding this child. King Herod asks the chief priests and the scribes to tell him where the child is to be born. They said to him that he was to be born in Bethlehem. King Herod tells the Three Magi that once they find the newborn King of the Jews to let him also know to offer homage. The Three Magi find baby Jesus and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The Three Magi have a dream which warns them not to return to King Herod, so they go home by another route.

The Three Magi were opened to and searching for God's plan (to save all people). How open are we in searching for God's plan for us? The Three Magi went home another way and spread the good news of God being among us. Do we share Jesus with others either by words or deeds? Do we look for opportunities to learn more about our faith, or do we go from day to day, sometimes not even thinking about Jesus? Let us try to Let Go and Let God by setting aside some time to see where we are with our faith, what we need to learn more about our faith, and how we can spread our faith to others. The Three Magi followed the star and found Jesus. What will we see by letting go and letting God?



Suzanne Hauser  
Elaine Shemet  
Noah Cieglo  
Gail Witt  
Timothy Rajt  
Vicki Bury  
Susan Maher  
Carole Zwick  
Denise Dekett  
Luciano Vella  
Jean Barber  
Alfredo Faustino  
Rita Dziadzio

James Frank  
Beverly Balish  
Vida Florentino  
Thomas Hill  
Joyce Biga  
Kenneth Cunningham  
Edmund Morosky  
Sharon Knight  
Joseph Cadeau  
Timothy Fairgrieve  
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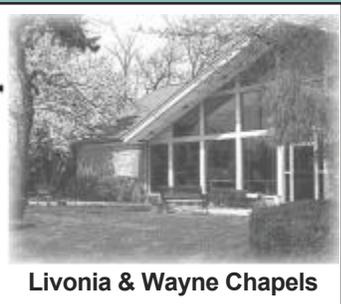
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