Holy Trinity Sunday | May 30, 2021

SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

The members of St. Joan of Arc Parish are disciples of Jesus Christ, who recognize God's love for the world & are empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel to all people through joyful worship, life-long education, compassionate service, responsible stewardship, & active community living.

~ Mission Statement - Pentecost 1998 ~

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THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." - Mt 28:18-19

PARISH CENTER
22412 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528
Website: www.sjascs.org
E-mail: sjainfo@sjascs.org

SCHOOL
22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-775-8370
Fax: 586-447-3574
Website: www.stjoan.net
E-mail: info@stjoan.net

FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION OFFICE
22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-772-1282
Fax: 586-775-8374
E-mail: repoffice@sjascs.org

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center
Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528

School
Phone: 586-775-8370
Fax: 586-447-3574

Faith Formation
Phone: 586-772-1282
Fax: 586-775-8374

Pastor
Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin
gmbugarin@sjascs.org

Associate Pastor
Fr. Andrew Dawson
adawson@sjascs.org

Non-Resident Associate Pastors / Weekend Assistants:
Fr. Rich Bartoszek
Fr. James Grau

Permanent Deacons
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tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore
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Youth Group
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llietaert@stjoan.net

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays
Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

Weekends
Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am
& 12:00 pm

Holy Day Masses
Vigil Mass: (evening prior) 7:00 pm
7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

Reconciliation
Saturdays ~ 11:00am—12:00pm
in the Sister Carol Center (adjacent to church)

Holy Hour
Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary
Monday - Friday after the 7a mass outside by the Holy Trinity statue.

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center is open Monday—Thursday from 8:30am-5pm and Friday from 8:30-4pm.

MASKS ARE MANDATORY WITHOUT EXCEPTION

For mass intentions or any service we may be reached at 586-777-3670 during these hours.

For any urgent needs when we are not open, please call our after-hours emergency number: 586-777-1342.

Baptisms: Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out the Baptism request form.

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months prior to the desired date. Pre-marriage series required.

Registration: It is very important that every family and independent adult be registered in the Church in order to keep our records and mailings current. Please contact the Parish Office to register at your earliest opportunity.

RCIA: Please call the Parish Center (586-777-3670).

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, at this time please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone to get further information OR by calling us at 586-777-3670 during office hours.

Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Though we have returned to public masses we will continue our Live Stream Broadcasts of all celebrations.

- **Weekdays -7 am Mass - (Monday thru Friday)**
- **Saturdays - 4 pm and 6 pm Masses**
- **Sundays - 8 am, 10 am & 12 pm Masses**
- **Thursdays - 7 pm Holy Hour**

Go to: livestream.stjoan.church to watch all live streaming and to view archived celebrations.

TALLer Tales

Annual Festival Stress Test: Our annual SJA Festival often brings with it several "stress tests!" For me, the "stress tests" often involve some electrical or technology issue. Unfortunately, the problems don't usually repeat themselves, so there is never a clear-cut pattern or a quick tried and true solution to whatever situation we may be facing.

You may not know this, but we print all of the raffle tickets in-house. We buy the paper stock perforated to our specifications, so all we have to do is print them. Having watched for many years what we have to do for the State of Michigan to track the raffle tickets, I decided to automate the process a bit many years ago. Using a combination of Excel charts and Word documents, I figured we could assign a beginning ticket number to each family and then create the ten tickets based on that beginning ticket number. With this method, we then account for every ticket given or mailed out.

A few years ago, knowing we were tracking the tickets going out, I decided it was time to track all of the tickets being returned. Having this data would allow us to run a ton of statistics based on those returns. This would also help us automate our 100% listing at the end of the Festival. Having seen some other charity raffle tickets with barcodes, I decided it was time to up the ante and apply barcodes to our tickets to easily record every returned ticket. All we would have to do is scan every single incoming ticket.

After doing some research, I learned a lot about barcodes. I had NO CLUE how many barcode standards existed. This meant I had to be very accurate in my work because if I got the barcode wrong or used a different barcode standard on our ticket scanners, I would be in trouble. Everything had to match up, or it wasn't going to work.

We've used barcodes on the tickets now for three years. Because I usually have lots of time and like to work weeks and months in advance, I have time to test and retest my systems. WRONG. This is Church people, and things get done at the 9th hour! Since last year's system worked, I used last year's work as a template, made some changes, and printed away. After all, if it worked last year, it was going to work this year.

Shortly after the tickets were printed, stuffed, and mailed, I went looking for the two barcode scanners we've used the past two years. Unfortunately, they were nowhere to be found. So, of course, I had EVERYONE looking for them. Of course, everyone kept asking if the scanners were "lost" in my office. We spent a week looking for these scanners. Then, we did what everyone would do, blame the guy who just left (Father John). We thought that maybe he accidentally took them when he packed up to go to St. Daniel's last June. Highly unlikely, but we had to blame someone. Sorry, Father John!

With the ticket scanners lost, I decided to buy a new one. Based on my Amazon purchase history, I was able to find the manufacturer of the barcode scanners we lost (or Father John took). The scanner arrived a few days later. With the new scanner in hand, I got my Excel chart up and running. I created a few test raffle packets to ensure all was in working order (something that should have happened before I printed all the tickets). As I was scanning, I noticed an issue. A few of the tickets returned some odd numbers that didn't match what was on the ticket. My heart sank. What did I do wrong? Suddenly, I was trying to figure out how to tell our Ticket Chairs they would have to enter all of this data manually. Gulp. It didn't make sense. Then, I saw a pattern. All of the tickets scanned okay except for the top left ticket of every packet. I checked and rechecked my formulas and merge codes, and everything was correct. But the first ticket and sixth ticket returned an odd number that didn't make sense. I was starting to sweat big time at this point. I was now in hyper-drive because they were waiting to start scanning the incoming tickets so we could get things rolling for the early bird drawing. I then did what most people do, turn to Dr. Google. After some research, I decided to narrow down the standards being used on the new barcode scanner. After narrowing the scanner to only the standard I used on the ticket, it started to read the barcodes accurately. I was breathing a sigh of relief. Scanning some 16,000 tickets was one thing. Manually entering them was another thing. That would not have been a good conversation and would have been one stress test I would have failed big time! But I corrected the problem, and all was fine. These stress tests are … stressful! Maybe next year, I'll test my systems and work ahead of time. Fat chance! But then again, these yearly "stress tests" keep me young and on my toes!

Festival THANKS! First of all, THANKS to all of you who helped support this year's mini-festival. What a response! With all of the ticket sales and donations, we brought in just over $190,000. GOD BLESS YOU! SJA is the BEST!

In the next week or two, we will publish the FULL list of 100% "Club Members" and all the financial data.

Congrats to our winners: *$10,000:* Fr. Rich. *$5,000:* Gloria Coatney. *$2,500:* George Thomas. *$1,000:* Jack Greer. *100% Winners:* Nicole McCoy, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Allemon, Dr. Prakash and Dr. Marivac Massand, Nancy Voss, and Jill Gutierrez.

I'm grateful to: *Festival Chairs:* Dina Ciaffone, Patti Kesner, and Emily Radatz. *Ticket Chairs:* Anne Radatz and Peggy Venditti. *Food Truck Chair:* Mary Garofalo. *Security:* Ryan Schroerlucke. *Clean-Up:* Rachel Gerard, Annabella Dillenbeck and Cam Vitale. *Signs:* Chuck Moore and Charlie Moore of Chuck Moore Signs. *Raffle Ticket Sponsors:* A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Autumn Heating and Cooling, Gilbert's Pro Hardware, Pointe Lamp and Lighting, and Zeppelin Cleaning Services. *NAME:* Blake Huston. *Food Trucks:* BBQ Daddy, Tim's Good Food Grill, Cosmic Burrito, Grillwich Tot Shop, Batter Up Waffle, Kona Ice, Deutschtroit, Raquel's Cucina, Estia Greek Street Food, Aruba Freeze, Grampy's Clam Shack, and Full Rack BBQ.

I'm also grateful to the Parish Nurses and Ascension Health for all the work done with the Vaccine Clinic that coincided with the Festival. In total, we had 140 vaccinated at our site.

And talk about God watching over us. It didn't start raining until 6:01 PM on Sunday, a minute after we closed down. Thank you God! AMEN!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org

St. Joan of Arc

Online Giving

Manage your
Online Giving account
with the app!

Download the Online Giving app
today at **OLGApp.com**

Donations

Payments

Give online at
stjoan.church
or from the app

REGISTER THE APP WITH OUR ORGANIZATION ID#

4719

ANDROID APP ON Google play

Download on the App Store

Reporting Sexual Abuse

Individuals with knowledge of sexual abuse by clergy or other Church representatives are urged to contact local law enforcement and/or the Michigan Attorney General's Office at 844-324-3374 or aginvestigations@michigan.gov.

Individuals also may contact the Archdiocese of Detroit by visiting protect.aod.org calling the toll-free, 24/7 victim assistance line at 866-343-8055 or by emailing vac@aod.org. There are no time limits or restrictions on individuals wishing to report abuse.

Every complaint shared with the Archdiocese of Detroit, regardless of its source or the date of the alleged activity, is reported to civil authorities. No complaints are held back, pre-screened or disregarded.

SJA Is Asking For Your SMILE!

Make all your Amazon purchases through Amazon Smile!

You can use your current Amazon account and search for St. Joan of Arc. Visit smile.amazon.com there are no additional fees and .5% of all sales will be donated back to our parish/school.

Can Tab Recycling

We are back to recycling can tabs. All proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

How you can help: Spread the word! Let your family, friends, co-workers, and classmates know that their small pop tabs, food can tabs all can make a big difference for Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Donations can be dropped off in the buckets at church, brought to the Parish Center, or
pick-up may be arranged by calling:

Frank Poeschel at #586-776-8746.

Electronics Recycling Event

Saturday, June 5, 2021 10am-2pm

Holy Innocents/St Barnabas Parish
(Holy Innocents Site)
16359 Frazho Road, Roseville, MI 48066
(West of Gratiot)

What we take for only $5.00 a car load

All Computer Equipment & Attachments (Peripherals)
Desktop PCs & Workstations: Notebooks, Laptops & Tablet PCs
Flat Panel Monitors & Flat Panel TVs
Printers: Both Ink, Laser And Copier Machines
Speakers, Keyboards, Mice & Scanners
Toner Cartridges & Ink Cartridges New & Used (Please Bag Used Cartridges That Are Leaking)
Audio, Video & Projection Equipment (Stereo Recorders, etc.
Cameras: Both Old Style & Digital
PDAs & Cell Phones: Both Old Style & New Smart Phones
Calculators, Desk & Hand Held Servers, External Hard Drives
Drives: CD, DVD, Hard, Floppy, All
All Cords & Wires: Computer, Electrical, Cable Type
Miscellaneous Electronic Small Items:
Digital Picture Frames, Clocks, Personal Music Players, Tablets, Toys & Video Games
Microwave ovens, small appliances

*Sorry NO Batteries, CRT Monitors, CRT TVs, Light Bulbs or Wood

Fundraiser for Holy Innocents/St. Barnabas Parish

8th Grade Can and Bottle Drive

The Class of 2022 is now responsible for the can and bottle drive.

This is an important fundraiser that helps defray the cost of their graduation events.

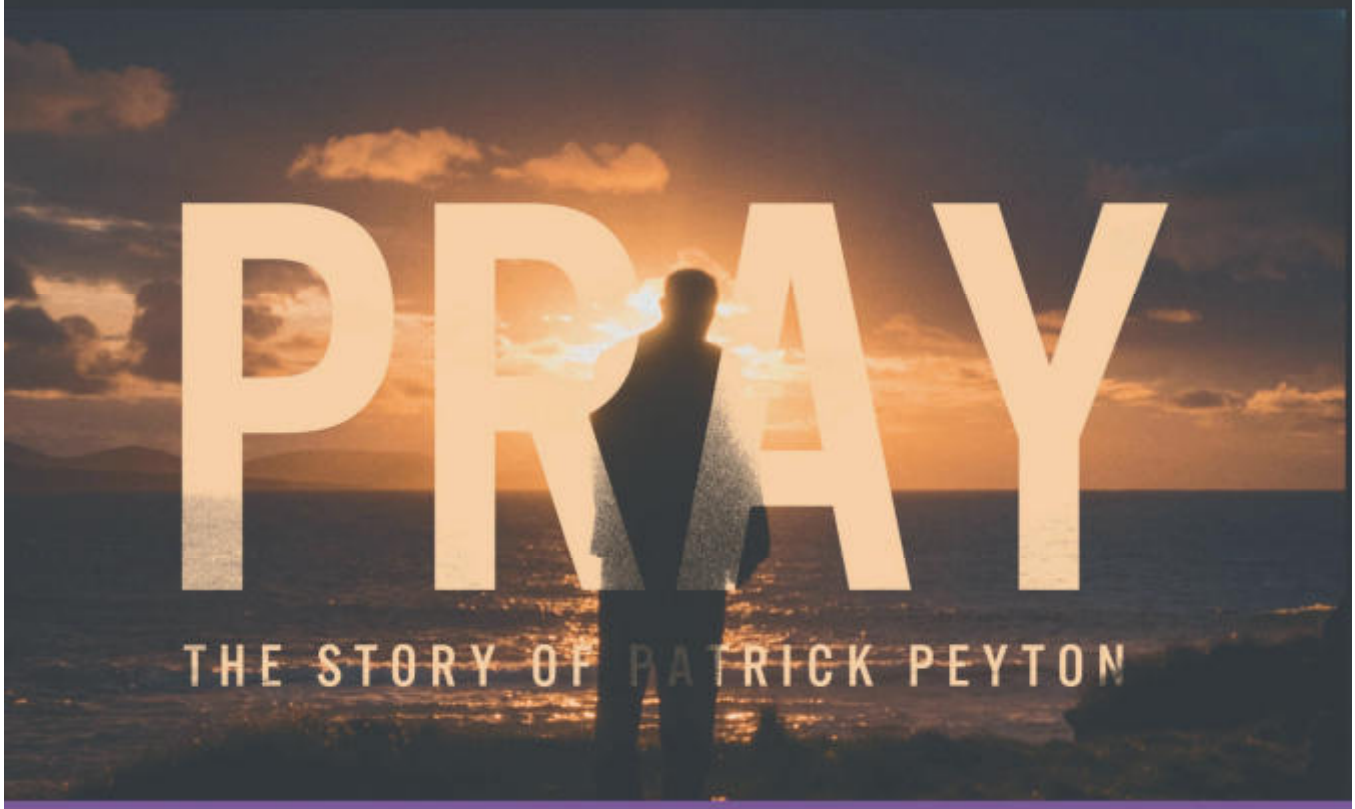
Bring your returnables in bags to the Parish Center - West SIDE DOOR - (near Father Andrew's House) please. There is a large plastic bin with a lid that they can be placed in..

Or you can arrange a pick-up by calling or texting Matt at 313-683-1972.

Thank you for your support.

The Class of 2022

GET YOUR FREE DIGITAL TICKET FOR A SPECIAL LIVE STREAM SCREENING OF



JUNE 3, 2021 at 7 pm ET

Register here for your free digital ticket:

https://watch.showandtell.film/watch/pray-2021-06-03

Your digital ticket is good through June 5 at 7 am

This inspiring documentary profiles Hollywood's favorite priest who promoted the power of prayer among America's most iconic celebrities.

email questions or to request notices of future events to iCtheLight33@gmail.com

Sponsored by

iC Ministries

Find us on Facebook

@iCtheLight33

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, May 31st

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, June 1st

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

8:30 am School Mass (5th –8th Gds) Live Streamed

Wednesday, June 2nd

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

8:30 am School Mass (1st –4th Gds) Live Streamed

Thursday, June 3rd

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 pm Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, June 4th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

6:30 pm 8th Grade Graduation

Saturday, June 5th

10:00 am Funeral Mass for James Kosakowski

11:00 am Reconciliation

12:30 pm Baptism of Evelyn Mastay
1:30 pm Baptism of Corenzo Gino
2:30 pm Baptism of Maggie Louise Kanenko

4:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, June 6th

8:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

1:30 pm Baptism of Grant Vovos

Words on the Word

May 30, 2021 – A Promising Path

Local folks of a certain age will recall when the Detroit riverfront paled in comparison to the waterfronts of other cities.

Chicago's lakefront. No way.

Grand Rapids? Not even close.

And so on. But there were numerous headlines a few weeks ago noting that the last portion of Detroit's celebrated east Riverwalk project has now begun. That section, for which ground was broken on the old Uniroyal site by the Belle Isle bridge, is the last piece left on the 3.5 mile greenway between there and the Renaissance Center.

It will replace, in the words of one of the officials who participated in the groundbreaking, "a desolate, underutilized part of the city" with a beautiful, navigable, friendly walkway/bicycle path.

All of which is great news for the generations of Detroiters to come.

It's a promise, in many ways, of better things on the horizon as we stand at the precipice of positive progress.

And, in its own small way, it's not unlike where Israel found itself, as a people, as they prepared to enter the promised land of Canaan, leaving behind a difficult past and looking ahead to the promise of tomorrow.

For our part, we just need to remember the source of goodness, and keep God at the forefront.

"This is why you must now know, and fix in your heart, that the Lord is God in the heavens above and on the earth below, and there is no other," we hear in today's first reading from the book of Deuteronomy. More to it, then, comes this:

"You must keep his statutes and commandments that I enjoin on you today, that you and your children may prosper, and that you may have long life on the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you forever."

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Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday May 31, 2021 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (White)

7:00 a.m. Arline Heckman and a Special Intention for Michael and Tom Urso

Tuesday June 1, 2021 Saint Justin, Martyr (Red)

7:00 a.m. George J. Bugarin and a Special Intention for Linda and Ed Hollern

Wednesday June 2, 2021 Weekday Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs (Green/ Red)

7:00 a.m. Evan Battani and Wallie Gray

Thursday June 3, 2021 Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs (Red)

7:00 a.m. Rick Pine

Friday June 4, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Louis Joseph and Dennis Fleming

Saturday June , 2021 Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr (Red)

4:00 p.m. John Armaly Sr. Bonnie Batche, Joseph Naglich, Elisabeth and Joseph Tolkacz, Dolores Buschlen, for the deceased members of the Walsh Family, Special Intentions for the Thomas Family and the J. Champine Family, for Nichole and Daniel Lawrence on their 8th Wedding Anniversary and Prayerful appreciation for the work of the priests and staff of St. Joan of Arc.

6:00 p.m. A Special Intention in thanksgiving for the Dinser Family

Sunday June 6, 2021 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (White)

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Joan of Arc Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Anthony Frattini

12:00 p.m. Donald Ferraro, Josephine Ascione, the deceased members of the Pasquale Urso Family, the deceased members of the Rogier and Dettloff Families and a Special Intention for Kayla Stypinski

Weekly Readings

Monday, May 31

Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Luke 1:39-56

Tuesday, June 1

Tobit 2:9-14
Mark 12:13-17

Wednesday, June 2

Tobit 3:1-11a, 16-17a
Mark 12:18-27

Thursday, June 3

Tobit 6:10-11; 7:1,bcde 9-17; 8:4-9a
Mark 12:28-34

Friday, June 4

Tobit 11:5-17
Mark 12:35-37

Saturday, June 5

Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20
Mark 12:38-44

Sunday, June 6

Exodus 24:3-8
Hebrews 9:11-15
Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

I Am The Resurrection & The Life

"Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families."

Marie Terese Tobin
Robbie Battani
Fr. Dan Jones
Fr. Al Miller
George Petroff
Florence Black
Edward Eissa
Bonita and Ray Rodriguez
April Cheesewright

"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. and he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."

Minnie Louise Haskins

Light of the Spirit Prayer Group

2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at

St Basil the Great
Community Room
22851 Lexington Avenue
Eastpointe, MI 48021

We pray the Rosary @ 6:30 pm, followed by a meeting at 7pm.

We hope that you can join us!

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc

"Tails" of Trails: Last week I got around to replacing the computer on my bike. The new one doesn't rattle, which is probably a good sign. My work was being observed by an inquisitive and sociable squirrel. This bike, as I've mentioned before, has travelled the country with me. I took it to Omaha when I was there for 10 weeks for a seminary summer program. The program began with an 8-day silent retreat. I would go out every day, often down to the river-front. One day I stopped in a park by the river. When I got back on the bike, I knew it was in the wrong gear, so it was tough peddling uphill, but no problem, I'd get going, I thought. But it was much harder than expected. I looked down and I had a flat tire. So I jumped off the bike and then realized I had not one flat tire, but two! So I pushed the bike two miles uphill back to Creighton University, where I was staying. The next day, by permission of my spiritual director (silent retreat, remember!), I took the bike to a repair shop, realizing that I'd walked past it on my way home the day before, not knowing the city. The bike shop found thorns in both tires that they said they see a lot in the area. Those were the first of 4 flats that summer. A deacon on the same program picked up 13 flats that summer!

This could not happen the next summer—I was headed to Irene, South Dakota for a 30 day silent retreat, in the middle of nowhere. There were no bike shops there! So I bought Kevlar tire-liners—the same product race cars are made of. But I also took 7 spare inner tubes. The Kevlar worked. Seven years later I still have 7 spare tubes.

But that summer, my bike certainly had its share of adventures. I doubt this new bike computer will see the top speed I reached on that month in South Dakota. Again, I would try to go out riding most days, but it was a very different landscape to Omaha. In Omaha, I recall being told that if, on a silent retreat, you find yourself talking to squirrels, it's fine, don't worry about it. I feel like we were being set-up for failure, because in South Dakota, trees are the rarity. Open spaces are the order of the day and in an entire month, I saw a total of one squirrel!

A lot of these rides were along long, straight and almost flat roads. But… one day I discovered there was a hill…. A long hill… a really steep hill. This, in South Dakota, was an unusually exciting find. And I determined to see how fast I could go downhill. (I'm a middle child). The turn I wanted to take was half-way down the hill, but I decided I would go to the bottom and turn around and ride back uphill to the turn and continue on my route.

And so I reached the top of the hill and put my head down, crouched as low as I could and started peddling faster. The bike took off down the hill. I was heading into the wind and the sound was deafening as it rushed by. Then the front of the bike started to shake and wobble. This was a mountain bike and these tires were not designed for this kind of speed. Don't try this at home! I was young and foolish. But the computer topped out at a little over 38 mph. I have the feeling I won't be seeing that in St. Clair Shores.

Having survived the land-speed record attempt, I turned around and headed back uphill to take the dirt road half-way up.

As I made the turn, a HUGE dog came bounding toward me. This road was flat, and I didn't look at the computer this time, but I may have reached a higher speed this time, escaping the dog! He eventually got tired of the chase and gave up. Another 5 miles up the road I came to my next planned turn. But, there was a barrier across the end of the road, with a big, "Road Closed" sign on it. "Hmmm," I thought, "that's not convenient." Down the road I could see some construction work. "But surely it can't apply to bikes? I can go around on the grass verge."

It was a terrible dirt road, rutted by vehicles and the dry weather. But I slowly rode toward the construction. A few hundred yards before it was a house and as I rode by, a HUGE, LOUD, ANGRY dog bounded across the yard and chased me down. I set off peddling as fast as possible and as I approached the construction, my heart sank. Yes, that sign meant "closed to bikes too!" The construction went all the way to the barded-wire fence outside the verge. I stopped, got off the bike, turned around and waited to be mauled. The dog came bounding up…. and stopped, stood there, and looked at me. Behind me was a 12 ft deep trench across the road, where a drain was being installed. Deciding that just maybe I wasn't going to be eaten, I squeezed through the barbed-wire fence, dragging my bike, clambered down the hole, through the water and out the side into a field. Now I was stuck on the wrong side of a creek. In the middle was a sandbar, so I looked around for something to bridge the gap. Of course, very few trees, but I did find a dead piece of wood. I set it down across the water and step on it. It broke in half and I fell in the muddy creek with my bike. I dragged the bike out of the mud onto the sandbar. Half way! Same problem. Repeat. The only resource I had was the same broken piece of wood. So I managed to bridge the gap to the other side. "Avoid tall grass because of ticks," they said. "Ha!" I said. "Too late," as I staggered up the grassy hill to reach the road, now on the other side of the construction. I reached the road, climbing through the barbed-wire again, only to be greeted by the same dog! Somehow, while I was doing my best *MacGyver* impersonation, the dog had quietly made his own way across the gap. For the next 5 miles, that dog refused to leave me, literally trying to run between my wheels, almost knocking me off. I got so annoyed that I stopped and started yelling at the dog to leave. I scared him and he ran into a field and hid behind some tall grass. There was a silent pause, then he popped his head up over the grass to see if I was still watching him. I got back on the bike and set-off back to the retreat house, the dog still under my wheels. One mile from home, he left. By then I wanted him to follow me all the way home as I was curious as to what the reaction of the two retreat house dogs would be.

Happy Memorial Day to you all!

You are in my prayers this week.
Fr. Andrew adawson@sjascs.org

An Act of Spiritual Communion

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion which is a source of grace.

Spiritual Communion means uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass.

Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there
And unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

St. Joan of Arc

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST – JUNE 6 B

Reading 1 – Exodus

When Moses came to the people and related all the words and ordinances of the LORD, they all answered with one voice, "We will do everything that the LORD has told us." Moses then wrote down all the words of the LORD and, rising early the next day, he erected at the foot of the mountain an altar and twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then, having sent certain young men of the Israelites to offer holocausts and sacrifice young bulls as peace offerings to the LORD, Moses took half of the blood and put it in large bowls; the other half he splashed on the altar. Taking the book of the covenant, he read it aloud to the people, who answered, "All that the LORD has said, we will heed and do." Then he took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words of his."

Responsorial Psalm 116

R. I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.
How shall I make a return to the LORD for all the good he has done for me? The cup of salvation I will take up, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.
R. I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.
Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds.
R. I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD. My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people.
R. I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

Reading 2 – Hebrews

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came as high priest of the good things that have come to be, passing through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made by hands, that is, not belonging to this creation, he entered once for all into the sanctuary, not with the blood of goats and calves but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkling of a heifer's ashes can sanctify those who are defiled so that their flesh is cleansed, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works to worship the living God. For this reason he is mediator of a new covenant: since a death has taken place for deliverance from transgressions under the first covenant, those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel – Mark

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city and a man will meet you, carrying a jar of water. Follow him. Wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"' Then he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Make the preparations for us there." The disciples then went off, entered the city, and found it just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover. While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

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May 30, 2021

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Dt 4:32-34, 39-40 | Rom 8:14-17 | Mt 28:16-20

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

The first thing that came to mind when hearing the readings for this feast was the song, *How Can I Keep from Singing?* Moses' words attest to the wonders of God and his continual care and "championing" for us. This all-powerful God chose us to be his own; he created us in love and desires for us to be with him forever. He loves us enough to have become one of us – to live and breathe and suffer as one of us! While on earth as Jesus Christ, he showed us, in healing and forgiving, the depth of his merciful and unconditional love. Through the Son we are made adopted children of God, co-heirs with Christ to the promises of the Kingdom. The Holy Spirit is sent to remain with us – always – demonstrating the steadfastness and faithfulness of God to his people and drawing others to the Father's love. And we, members of the Body of Christ, are commissioned to go "and make disciples of all nations," that all may be given the pathway to the Kingdom. With all this Good News, how *can* we keep from singing?

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

"When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted." These words jumped out at me from today's Gospel. After all the Apostles had witnessed, even after their encounters with Jesus following his resurrection, they doubted. That is, until Jesus reassured them that "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me." Then, look out! Once empowered by the Spirit, the disciples no longer doubt. In readings from the Acts of the Apostles throughout the Easter season, we have heard how the Apostles are transformed into bold and relentless preachers and leaders, healers and miracle workers, by their belief in the power of the Holy Spirit. And they can't suppress the joy they know in believing the Good News. We were made for this joy, and for sharing it as the earliest disciples did. Given all that God has done for us, how can we not?

STUDY Read Scripture verses or hymns that rejoice in God's love and bring you joy (Phil 4:4-9 is a good start). Pray the Act of Faith to reaffirm your belief in the Trinity. Be a joyful Christian!

Spend an hour with me.
-Jesus
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GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Let God be who God is. This is often one of the hardest things to do. Rather than allowing the mystery of being created in the image and likeness of God unfold and take root in our lives, we change the dynamic. We want to be the creators who want to make God into the image and likeness we need God to be. We have a hard-enough time letting the people in our lives be who they are. We struggle even more so with God. It is almost as if we want God to be our imaginary friend who is not only with us whenever we need but becomes the Being we need God to be. Who is it that we want God to be today? A protector, disciplinarian, champion for justice, healer, advocate for our cause, grantor of prayers, guardian of my life, or the avenger? Our prayers tell an interesting story. When you pray, what does God look like?

Recently, a young woman who was feeling invisible, overlooked, ignored, and misunderstood by her husband struggled to make her feelings known and get his attention. Finally, she screamed, "I listen to me!" Thus, birth was given to a renewed and healthier relationship. We spend so much time storming heaven with our agenda and trying to make God into a "god" of our desires that we do not hear God saying, "Listen to me!" God is desperately trying to get our attention. God is saying, I am here among you as not one but three, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Many people seldom notice God's presence because they are so caught up with other spiritual cares and concerns. And, when the "god" they fashion and create doesn't produce as they desire, they shake the dust from their feet and move on. "I tried," they exclaim, "but God didn't listen."

Healthy relationships aren't built on making someone be who we need them to be. Healthy relationships are built on encounters of persons and the development of an appreciation of someone solely for who they are. Deeper relationships can even be found with two people marveling at each other and almost experiencing a childlike joy and giddiness when they see the other coming. Do you ever have these feelings about God? Believe it or not, God does for you! There is a joyful laughter that gives rise to and connects all three members of the Holy Trinity. It is this laughter, flowing from the very depths of the Godhead that not only keeps the Trinity in joyful unity but spills over into the creation of all beings and things. It is an expression of Divine Delight! Have you ever taken time away from your agenda to experience the Divine Joyfulness of God?

We can reach a connection of Presence wherein even the smallest of creatures suddenly radiate the fullness of God: the wonderful creation of their being, the innocence and playfulness of their movements, and the sustaining life breath that flows through their veins. The same God who created the heavens and the earth is the same God who wants you to call him 'Dad' and the same God who preserves your life and has all things in His care.

Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." - Mt 28:18-19

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MAY 30, 2021

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Pray for the Sick List: Please note that we regularly clear the "Pray for the Sick List" because the list grows beyond our space allocation and we don't always hear from people when they've gotten better. If you would like to add a person please call the Parish Center front desk at 586.777.3670 or send an email to our general inbox at info@sjascs.org.

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Bringing Home the Word

Most Holy Trinity (B)
May 30, 2021

The Mission of the Trinity

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The very first fresco Raphael painted for Pope Julius II, *The Disputation of the Holy Sacrament*, includes a representation of the Trinity. Christian iconography commonly depicted the Godhead as a triangle with the all-seeing eye in the center, often with rays of glory flooding forth. Yet Raphael chooses to make it much more personal, more real. He depicts the three persons of the Trinity.

God is not merely an idea, a first principle, or a mental criterion for moral choosing, but three real divine persons, each one active in your life. A triune God, an eternal explosion of love in which the Father begins by creating you; the Son continues by saving you; and the Holy Spirit consumes their love by inspiring and sanctifying you.

Although all things change, God never changes. He is still, the point of the pendulum from which all things hang and are supported. He wisely governs with his one hand lifted in authoritative and assuring purpose. In his other hand, the sphere of the world rests secure. His decisions are not arbitrary, swayed by public opinion, or motivated by insecurity needing affirmation. He is who is. It is we who need him and not the other way around.

Yet, his absolute authority doesn't convert him into an aloof despot. God lovingly takes interest in everything! Nothing is unimportant—from the greatest things on earth to the smallest minutiae of my day. If it is important to me, it is important to him, and his providential hand keeps it all in balance. +

God lovingly takes interest in everything, from the greatest things on earth to the smallest minutiae of my day!

Sunday Readings

Deuteronomy 4:32–34, 39–40

Ask from one end of the sky to the other: Did anything so great ever happen before? Was it ever heard of?

Romans 8:14–17

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

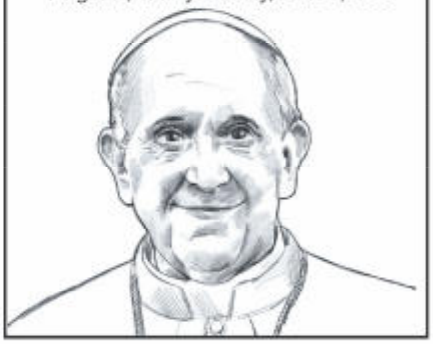
Matthew 28:16–20

[Jesus said,] "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

A Word from Pope Francis

God loves each one of us even when we make mistakes and distance ourselves from him. God the Father loves the world so much that, in order to save it, he gives what is most precious to him: his only-begotten Son. ...The Trinity is therefore love, wholly at the service of the world.

—Angelus, Trinity Sunday, June 7, 2020



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- The Trinity shares their life with me through grace. Do I care for that gift in my soul?
- In the Holy Trinity the Father creates, the Son saves, and the Holy Spirit sanctifies. Do I thank each for these gifts?

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Called to Follow Jesus

By Johan van Parys

Every time I sit at the desk in my home office, I glance at the small crucifix lying on it—a simple wooden cross with a small metal corpus. It was given to me by one of the late abbots of the Benedictine abbey of Mont César in Leuven, Belgium. He had received it from the late Bishop Boleslavs Sloskans, a Latvian national who had secretly been ordained a bishop in 1926 for a diocese in the former Soviet Union.

When authorities found out, he was arrested and sent to a Soviet work camp. He managed to keep a small crucifix during his imprisonment. At the beginning of World War II, Bishop Sloskans found refuge at Mont César, where he spent the rest of his life. The crucifix rested on his desk at Leuven until it was passed down to the abbot.

I remember the day father abbot gave it to me with great clarity. It was the day I decided not to become a priest. I had always wanted to be a priest, thinking that I had the calling. In prayer, I heard Jesus say, "Come and follow me," which I understood to mean "become a priest." When I turned seventeen, I applied to our local seminary; thus began a circuitous trajectory in and out of seminaries until I finally decided that I must not have *the calling*.

That was a difficult moment. I visited the abbot who was my spiritual director and said that I was sad not to have "the calling." He said that while I may not be called to be a priest, surely I am called to follow Christ. The latter, he continued, is much more important than the former.

He then recounted the life of Bishop Sloskans and gave me the small crucifix. He explained that what made Bishop Sloskans such a great Christian was not his calling to the priesthood, but the way he lived out his calling to follow Christ wherever he found himself—even in prison.

At that moment I realized that I had received the calling—maybe not to be a priest, but to follow Jesus. There is no higher or better calling. There is only one calling, and it is the one Jesus addresses to each of us: "Come and follow me."

The way each of us lives out this calling can be very different. Mostly it is informed by our personal strengths and talents. Yet in the end, our fundamental calling as Christians is to become more and more like Christ regardless of who we are, where we live, or what we do.

Every time I glance at the simple crucifix, I think of Bishop Sloskans and I am reminded of his commitment to Christ. His example, like that of many saints, is an inspiration to us all.

Let us pray daily for the grace to be faithful to our calling as followers of Christ—no matter where life's path takes us. +

There is only one calling, and it is the one Jesus addresses to each of us: "Come and follow me."

PRAYER

Lord, you command me to love all people. Remove the prejudice that keeps me from loving my brothers and sisters.

—From Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter through Pentecost, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

WEEKDAY READINGS

May 31-June 5

Monday, *Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary:* Zep 3:14–18a or Rom 12:9–16 / Lk 1:39–56

Tuesday, St. Justin: Tb 2:9–14 / Mk 12:13–17

Wednesday, Weekday: Tb 3:1–11a, 16–17a / Mk 12:18–27

Thursday, St. Charles Lwanga and Companions: Tb 6:10–11; 7:1bcde, 9–17; 8:4–9a Mk 12:28–34

Friday, Weekday: Tb 11:5–17 / Mk 12:35–37

Saturday, St. Boniface: Tb 12:1, 5–15, 20 Mk 12:38–44

Bringing Home the Word
May 30, 2021

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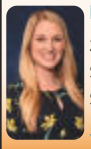
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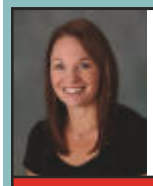
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