



# 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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## 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?’ Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.” - Lk 12:20-21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**PARISH CENTER**  
**22412 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-777-3670  
Fax: 586-774-5528  
Website: [www.sjascscs.org](http://www.sjascscs.org)

**SCHOOL**  
**22415 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-775-8370  
Fax: 586-447-3574  
Website: [www.stjoan.net](http://www.stjoan.net)

**FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION OFFICE**  
**22415 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-772-1282  
Fax: 586-775-8374

# 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

### In-Solidum Priest

#### Team:

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin  
gmbugarin@sjascs.org  
Lead for SJA

Fr. Andrew Dawson  
adawson@sjascs.org

Fr. Jim Commyn (Moderator)  
parish@stlucychurch.com

Fr. Eric Fedewa  
fericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla  
stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Msgr. Gary Smetanka  
msgsr.smetanka@stargp.org

### Non-Resident

#### Sacramental Minister

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

### Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz  
tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore  
dpastore@sjascs.org

### Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone  
dciaffone@sjascs.org

### Music Director

Catherine Thomas  
cthomas@sjascs.org

### Principal

Amy Pattie  
apattie@stjoan.net

### Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser  
ckaiser@stjoan.net

### Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass  
khass@sjascs.org

### Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

### Youth Group

Linda Lietaert  
lletaert@stjoan.net

### Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser  
ckaiser@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

### Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

### Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7am mass

## PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

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

Mass intentions and most services can be done in person or by calling us at 586-777-3670 during these hours.

Our after-hours emergency number: 586-777-1342.

**Baptisms:** Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out the Baptism request form. You will be contacted to make further arrangements based on submission of that 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: 586-777-3670.

**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, please register at [stjoan.church](http://stjoan.church) and we will contact you by phone. Or by calling us at 586-777-3670 during office hours.

## Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Live Stream Broadcasts have become a standard part of our celebrations at St Joan of Arc. This has increased our mass participation at daily and weekend masses. It has also allowed many of our parishioners to stay in touch with their faith community remotely.

**Go to: [livestream.stjoan.church](http://livestream.stjoan.church) to watch all live streaming and to view archived celebrations.**

### Weekday Masses

Monday thru Friday @7am

### Weekend Masses

Saturdays @ 4pm & 6pm  
Sundays @ 8am, 10am, 12pm

### Holy Hour

Thursdays @ 7pm





### It's ALL a Matter of Perspective:

Two weeks ago, I accompanied my mom on a trip to the UP. She had several bucket list items she wanted to accomplish, so

I said I would help her check off a trip to the UP to see Lake Superior, Pictured Rocks, Tahquamenon Falls, and the Soo Locks. A bonus for us was to visit the Museum Ship Valley Camp in Sault Saint Marie, Lakenenland Sculpture Park in Marquette, and several spots honoring Venerable Bishop Frederic Baraga, the first bishop of Upper Michigan and adjacent islands (1853-1868). It was a spectacular trip.

This trip was unique because it was just mom and me! Given that we would be traveling through some pretty rustic areas in the UP, I rented an RV through [Outdoorsy.com](#). Consider Outdoorsy like the “Airbnb” of the RV world. We previously rented through General RV and Cruise America, but I thought I would give Outdoorsy a try. I’m glad I did. I found a beautiful Class B RV (a smaller one (20 foot) that was more like a large mini-van with all the amenities of an RV). After email exchanges with the owner (they wanted to know who was traveling and where we were going), she accepted my request. The Outdoorsy site and process protect both the owner and the renter. For example, when you first pick up the RV, the owner AND renter upload pictures of the vehicle to the site. Once all the pre-trip tasks are accomplished, there is an official electronic handoff of the keys. The same happened on the return. It worked well, and I would consider using Outdoorsy again.

The RV we rented was a brand new 2022 Thor Sanctuary. It was a dream to drive and was outfitted with the latest and greatest technology. It was equipped with the latest battery generator, solar panels on the roof, a retractable awning, and a fully rigged rooftop cell booster antenna. I was in my glory! The cell booster antenna option allowed us to use wifi calling and thus lessen the battery drains on our phones trying to reach cell towers up north. As you can imagine, there aren’t a lot of cell towers outside of the bigger cities, so your cell phone races through a full battery charge just because of all the work it has to do. Even though we had an RV (aka Monsignor’s traveling office), we stayed at

hotels at night. We were using the RV to make the journey easier and not have to worry about making stops in the remote places through which we were traveling. On the first day, we traveled for almost 2 hours at one point without passing a gas station! And we thought Allenton was in the middle of nowhere!

When we arrived in Marquette, my mom looked at the weather forecast for the week and decided to rebook our cruise to see the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore from Tuesday to Monday. Monday was turning out to be a spectacular day, while the forecast for the rest of the week was pretty sketchy. Luckily, we were able to rebook the 2-hour cruise!

I’ve often heard about Pictured Rocks but never paid much attention to it. The 42-mile shoreline is just absolutely breathtaking. I was glad we took the cruise so we could see the whole shoreline. Visiting Pictured Rocks reinforced my long-held belief that Michigan is filled with more beauty than you could ever imagine.

Being out on the water for 2 hours and breathing all that fresh air made me pretty tired. I was yawning well before we arrived back at the hotel. When we got back to the hotel, I went up the elevator with my mom but then had to return to the RV to get some stuff (I don’t remember what it was, but I’m sure it was food related ... I’m always on the hunt for snacks). I was exhausted and couldn’t wait to lay down for a bit; I knew I even looked exhausted. Once back in the hotel, a couple in their late 60s or early 70s joined me for the elevator ride. I’m one of those who likes to break the silence in elevators! So, I said to them, “You look like fellow poor tired souls.” They perked up right away. The wife said with great enthusiasm, “Yes, We just came back from a 7-mile hike and then a kayaking trip along Pictured Rocks.” I kept silent. What was I going to say, “Yes, I just came back from a 2-hour cruise and am just as tired.” Suddenly I felt like a complete slacker! But that certainly wasn’t going to stop me from devouring the snacks I now had in my hands.

**The Sacrament of the Sick (Part FIVE):** Following up on my series on the Sacrament of the Sick, we have to understand that human illness can and does teach us the virtue of patience! When we put it into the proper perspective, though, we realize that in the sufferings we endure

(if we endure them properly and with faith), we are uniquely joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. If we adopt the “woe is me attitude” and turn in on ourselves, we will never see the redemptive value of our human illness. However, if we realize there is a redemptive value in our suffering and graciously accept it as part of God’s will for our life, then we can become those saints mentioned in the beautiful prayer I shared last week: “Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness, or disease realize that they are chosen to be saints, and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world....”

Sometimes children can realize this more readily than adults. “What you have hidden from the learned and the clever you have revealed to the childlike (*Matt. 11:25*).” I recall one SJA kid saying he felt it was better he had the terminal illness than his siblings. He knew God had given it to him for a reason. He was often found visiting other oncology pediatric patients while receiving chemotherapy himself. He wasn’t focused on himself but looked for ways he could teach through his illness. He turned his cross into something redemptive for himself and those around him. I remember another SJA student who encouraged his family and friends not to fear his illness or impending death. He taught us the gracious art of dying.

Yes, many times, we are given crosses we do not want. But as a people of faith, we have to accept that these crosses are given to us as a gift, a precious gift from God, a gentle kiss from Christ. We can be sour and ruin the lives of those around us, or we can accept the particular cross as part of God’s will for us and then turn that cross into something redemptive. Everybody likes Easter Sunday, but few want to embrace Good Friday. Just remember, you cannot get to Easter Sunday unless you have lived through the pain of Good Friday and the emptiness of Holy Saturday. It is all a matter of perspective. It is all a matter of faith. It is what redemption is all about!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb  
gmb@sjscs.org



## THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 7 C

### Reading One – Wis 18:6-9

The night of the Passover was known beforehand to our fathers, that, with sure knowledge of the oaths in which they put their faith, they might have courage. Your people awaited the salvation of the just and the destruction of their foes. For when you punished our adversaries, in this you glorified us whom you had summoned. For in secret the holy children of the good were offering sacrifice and putting into effect with one accord the divine institution.

### Responsorial – Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22

**R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

Exult, you just, in the LORD; praise from the upright is fitting. Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.

**R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness, to deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine.

**R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield. May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

**R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

### Reading Two – Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

Brothers and sisters: Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Because of it the ancients were well attested.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he sojourned in the promised land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise; for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God. By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age—and Sarah herself was sterile—for

he thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy. So it was that there came forth from one man, himself as good as dead, descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore.

All these died in faith. They did not receive what had been promised but saw it and greeted it from afar and acknowledged themselves to be strangers and aliens on earth, for those who speak thus show that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land from which they had come, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name." He reasoned that God was able to raise even from the dead, and he received Isaac back as a symbol.

### Alleluia – Mt 24:42a, 44

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel – Lk 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

"Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this




## St. Joan of Arc

way, blessed are those servants. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

Then Peter said, “Lord, is this parable meant for us or for everyone?” And the Lord replied, “Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so. Truly, I say to you, the master will put the servant in charge of all his property. But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the

menservants and the maidservants, to eat and drink and get drunk, then that servant’s master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish the servant severely and assign him a place with the unfaithful. That servant who knew his master’s will but did not make preparations nor act in accord with his will shall be beaten severely; and the servant who was ignorant of his master’s will but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating shall be beaten only lightly. Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.”

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 St. Joan of Arc

# RCIA

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

**A new RCIA  
group at SJA is  
starting soon!**

Fill out the contact  
form for our RCIA  
coordinator, Patty  
Chase, at  
[sjascs.org/rcia](http://sjascs.org/rcia)

**Are you or anyone you know interested in learning  
more about the Catholic Church?**

### What is RCIA?

RCIA is the process through which a person becomes a fully initiated member of the Catholic Faith. It's for

- Adults and children of catechetical age (over 7 years) who have not been baptized
- Those who have been baptized in another Christian denomination who want to become Catholic
- Those who were baptized as infants in the Catholic Church but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (First Eucharist and/or Confirmation) and who have had no faith formation

### How long does it take?

Each person is on a personal journey in his/her relationship with God. Time varies depending on the individual. We walk with you in this process.

### Do I have to commit to becoming Catholic if I enter the RCIA process?

No, the RCIA process is marked by opportunities for discernment along the way, and ultimately it is about one's readiness and desire to be received into the Church.

*Are you called  
to help our  
parish families  
grow in Faith?*

*The best way to learn is to  
teach! If you want to grow  
in faith while helping youth  
grow in theirs - consider  
joining our Faith Formation  
team at St. Joan of Arc.*



We need adult helpers, those interested in becoming catechists, family mentors and small group leaders for our Confirmation classes.

Contact our Office of Faith and Family Formation to learn more. 586-772-1282 or [khas@sjasc.org](mailto:khas@sjasc.org)



### Light of the Spirit Prayer Group



2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month  
at  
St. Joan of Arc

The meeting will now be from  
6:30pm—8:30pm

August's Meetings will be on  
8/10 and 8/24

We hope that you can join us!

### SJA Senior Card Club

The Senior Card Club is trying to determine interest in regular monthly play.

The group will start with monthly games the first Tuesday of the month from 11:30 am – 1:30pm.

August's Card Club date is August 2nd

The Club will meet in the St. Peregrine.

If you have questions please call Denise at #248-431-6406.



### St. Joan of Arc Knitting Group

The SJA Knitting Group will begin meeting the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

The group will meet from 12pm - 3pm in the Mother of Mary Conference room in Church.

August's meetings will be on the 10th and the 24th all knitters are welcome.

If you are interested in joining or have questions please call: Marie Byrski @ 586-943-0240.





*Spend an hour  
with me.*

HOLY  
HOUR  
SONGS &  
PRAYERS

Join us for Eucharistic  
Adoration with music at  
7 pm every Thursday  
in the church.





July 31, 2022

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23 | Col 3:1-5, 9-11 | Lk 12:13-21

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

Is it me, or does every popular waiting-room magazine feature an article on “how to declutter” in six easy steps? I always read those first, then add them to the unsightly pile of magazines on the end table. The constant, if futile, quest to declutter comes from a deeper place than a desire for a clean house. It feels so liberating to let go of those things that we no longer need. Today’s readings challenge us to look not just outward, but inward, at what distracts us from what really matters. Paul exhorts us to “seek what is above,” letting go of earthly concerns or habits that get in the way of our relationship with God. By putting on a “new self” through prayer, the sacrament of reconciliation and receiving Jesus in the Eucharist, we will become “rich in what matters to God.”

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Personal-finance writers often divide people into two camps: Savers or spenders. I’m definitely a saver! I dutifully contribute to my 401K, stash unexpected windfalls into my savings account, and carefully budget. On the rare occasions when I go out to dinner, I struggle with choosing what to order: It’s a high-stakes decision! Fiscal responsibility is a good thing, but today’s parable challenges me to be just as diligent about investing in my relationship with God, my family, and the people I encounter. We are blessed with so many opportunities to “seek what is above”: It may mean spending the first 30 minutes of the day in prayer, reading books or articles that help us grow spiritually, or joining a parish Bible study. Or even taking a friend to dinner and picking up the tab! In doing so, we are investing in this life – and the next.

**ACTION** Take a look around your house and donate items in good condition to a charity in your community. And then ask the organization if they need any help with a summer yard cleanup or simple tasks around the facility – these are easy ways to involve the whole family in serving others.



Registration is now open for

# Faith Formation

**JOIN US FOR A MONTHLY FAITH  
ADVENTURE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.**

**Visit [sjascs.org/Faith-Formation](http://sjascs.org/Faith-Formation) for all the details  
including dates, sacrament preparation  
and materials fees.**

**Our Family Formation Sunday School starts  
October 2. Register by Aug 31.**

**Our monthly Sunday School is for all  
parish families with children in grades  
K-6. See the website for the schedule of  
Monday night classes for students  
preparing for Confirmation.**



 **St. Joan of Arc**  
FAITH & FAMILY FORMATION



**Questions?**

Contact Kristine Hass  
at [khasse@sjascs.org](mailto:khasse@sjascs.org)  
or 586-772-1282

## Weekly Calendar of Events

### **Monday, August 1st**

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### **Tuesday, August 2nd**

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
10:00 AM Funeral for Rose Marie Carroll

### **Wednesday, August 3rd**

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### **Thursday, August 4th**

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
7:00 PM Holy Hour - Live Streamed

### **Friday, August 5th**

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
10:00 AM Funeral Mass for Ann Galloway

### **Saturday, August 6th**

11:00 AM Reconciliation  
12:30 PM Baptism of Karli R. Wagner  
1:30 PM Baptism of Oliver John Brockes  
4:00 PM Sunday Vigil Mass - Live Streamed  
6:00 PM Sunday Vigil Mass -Live Streamed

### **Sunday, August 7th**

8:00 AM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed  
10:00 AM Sunday Mass- Live Streamed  
12:00 PM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

## Words on the Word

### *July 31, 2022 – What Matters Most*

For some, it can be a very fine line.

On one hand, one's drive for achievement is a commendable thing. Striving to get ahead, to create wealth and opportunity, to care for oneself and one's family, to contribute to the economy ... these are all honorable ... at least, when they are pursued honestly and justly.

There have, however, been numerous stories in the media lately about people who have not pursued such gain in charitable ways.

A well-known entrepreneur's continuing effort to purchase, or not to purchase, one of the world's best-known social media platforms comes to mind. Are everyone's maneuverings being pursued in good faith? This will likely be a contentious topic for some time.

Then, a couple weeks ago, *The Detroit News* published a graphic showing how \$10 million-plus in corruption crimes against more than 110 people in metropolitan Detroit have been tracked by federal prosecutors. The incidents involved "politicians, police officers, pension fund officials, schools and library leaders" and more, according to the story.

Where does it all end, one might wonder. The answer, of course, is what we should expect – with God. Jesus tells the parable in today's gospel passage from St. Luke of a rich man who put material wealth and comfort ahead of his pursuit of justice and God's kingdom.

"But God said to him, 'You fool, this very night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong,'" we hear in the passage. "'Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.'"

Practically speaking then, the best advice comes in today's second reading to the Colossians: "Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly," St. Paul writes, "immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry."

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# Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

## Mass Intentions

- Monday August 1, 2022 Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (White)**  
7:00 a.m. Cardinal John Francis Dearden and Salvatore Ciaramitaro
- Tuesday August 2, 2022 Weekday, Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop; Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest (Green/White/White)**  
7:00 a.m. William Heck
- Wednesday August 3, 2022 Weekday (Green)**  
7:00 a.m. John Henness
- Thursday August 4, 2022 Saint John Vianney, Priest (White)**  
7:00 a.m. The deceased members of the Calisi Family who passed away in the month of August
- Friday August 5, 2022 Weekday, The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major (Green/White)**  
7:00 a.m. Mark Brys and David Toelle
- Saturday, August 6, 2022 Vigil of the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time; The Transfiguration of the Lord (White)**  
4:00 p.m. Colleen Hollern, Bonnie Batche, Anna Sloan, Bob Fannon, and Special Intentions for the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, for the Zatyrcz Family and Prayerful Appreciation for the work of the Priests and Staff of SJA.  
6:00 p.m. Joseph Paluzzi Jr.
- Sunday August 7, 2022 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)**  
8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of Saint Joan of Arc Parishioners  
10:00 a.m. Thomas Pillar  
12:00 p.m. Salvatore Ciaravino, Louisa Sarra, Bruno and Sylvia Lipski, and a Special Intention for the Mordovanakis Family

## Daily Readings

### Monday, August 1

Jerimiah 28:1-17  
Matthew 14:13-21

### Tuesday, August 2

Jerimiah 30:1-2  
Matthew 14:22-36

### Wednesday, August 3

Jerimiah 31:1-7  
Matthew 15:21-28

### Thursday, August 4

Jerimiah 31:31-34  
Matthew 16:13-23

### Friday, August 5

Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7  
Matthew 16:24-28

### Saturday, August 6

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14  
Luke 9:28b-36

### Sunday, August 7

Wisdom 18:6-9  
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19  
Luke 12:32-48



## 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.”

Rose Marie Carroll  
Ann Galloway  
Fr. Arthur J. Steslicki



“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*



## 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](mailto:aginvestigations@michigan.gov).

Individuals also may contact the Archdiocese of Detroit by visiting [protect.aod.org](http://protect.aod.org) calling the toll-free, 24/7 victim assistance line at 866-343-8055 or by emailing [vac@aod.org](mailto: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.

# FORMED<sup>®</sup>

PICK OF THE WEEK

July 31, 2022

## WATCH

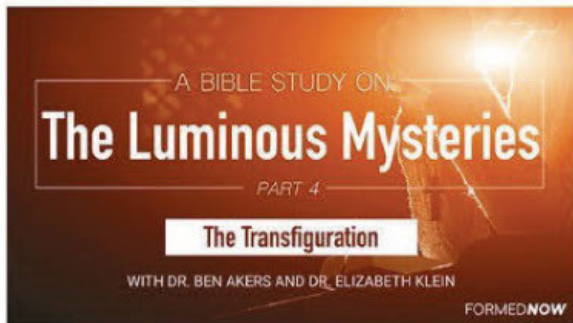
### COMPANIONS IN SHIPWRECK

Good relationships are a vital part of human well-being. In fact, studies show that those with the healthiest relationships live the longest! But where can we see these friendships lived out? Look no further than the life of famed author J.R.R. Tolkien. The relationships he exhibited are a wonderful example for all of us to follow, especially with those we may disagree with. As Tolkien described marriage, it's all about being "companions in shipwreck."



## LEARN

### A BIBLE STUDY ON THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES: THE TRANSFIGURATION

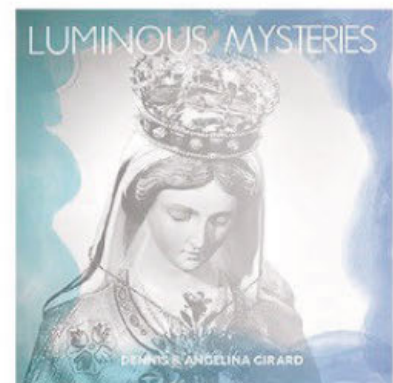


This week we celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration, the mountaintop manifestation of Christ's glory that we read about in the Gospel. As we recall this wondrous event, however, many questions might come to mind. Why did Moses and Elijah appear? Why did Jesus only bring Peter, James, and John? Hear the answers to these questions and more in this episode of

## LISTEN

### LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

The Transfiguration is part of the Luminous Mysteries, which were introduced to the Church in 2002 by St. John Paul II. These mysteries recall events that demonstrate the light of Christ during his public ministry. On this feast day, let us ponder this miraculous episode of Jesus' life by praying along with this recording of the Rosary.



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## Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



**Coming home:** As I have said before in this column, I like to put good stories and moments of grace in front of people's eyes, especially

when there seems to be so much negative news around. One such moment occurred last Friday afternoon. On Thursday, I was sitting in my backyard when Patty Chase, our RCIA coordinator texted me. Patty had been going through some old files and had come across some notes about a woman she had tried to contact last year. Through a friend, Gretchen had contacted the parish with interest in becoming Catholic. Patty had been unable to reach her last year, but on Thursday decided to call Gretchen's friend once again, to see how she was doing. Her friend relayed that Gretchen had fallen last year and been through rehab, but that she was not doing too well now and was in a nursing home in Fraser. Her friend thought it would be good if a priest would visit her.

Patty texted me and I called Gretchen's friend to get more details. He and Gretchen had talked about the Catholic faith about a year ago and she had expressed interest in becoming Catholic before she died. When I first talked to him last year, I explained that there was usually a process of Catechesis that leads up to a participant joining the church, but ultimately we were then unable to reach Gretchen. Now her friend explained that Gretchen has dementia and Parkinson's disease and had been diagnosed with Pancreatic cancer. That put a very different spin on the situation. She is likely very close to her final days.

It was clear that she would not be able to participate in the RCIA program. But her friend said that they often find her in her room, watching EWTN and mass. He said that he would be visiting Gretchen on Friday so I arranged to go see her as close to that time as I was able. I had called Gretchen's son, who had no objections to either a visit or to his mother becoming Catholic, if that's what she wanted. And that was my biggest concern—was this something she wanted? Her friend said that she had previously been wiccan and had dabbled in Hinduism. Gretchen told her friend she had at some point been baptized in a Protestant church, but did not know which denomination and there was no chance of finding a certificate.

Deacon Dominick graciously agreed to

accompany me on Friday to visit Gretchen. Ideally, I needed a witness and did not know for sure if her friend would still be at the nursing home by the time I could get there. Then Patty contacted me—her plans for Friday had changed and she was able to join us.

As I said, my concern was determining if joining the church was something Gretchen really wanted, not knowing her condition and mental alertness. But as I thought about it on Thursday evening, I pretty much came to the conclusion that based on what I'd heard, I did not feel comfortable in questioning the sincerity or certainty of her request in circumstances where she likely could not speak-up for herself. It was better to do the best we could, and throw the rest to grace and let God sort it out. Ultimately, always err on the side of charity.

So on Friday afternoon, the three of us headed to Fraser. Gretchen was at lunch when we arrived, but we were introduced to her when she returned to her room. Her TV was on.... EWTN. Her friend was still visiting with her, so that helped in explaining to her what these 3 strangers were doing there. He told us that Gretchen was quite the artist - a painter - and that's how they had met and become friends. When I mentioned this to Gretchen, she told us she wished she could still paint.

As we talked, mostly with Gretchen's friend, I told Gretchen we'd come to pray with her. Then I asked her if she'd like to be baptized and become Catholic. It was then that Gretchen looked at me and smiled the broadest smile and slowly nodded. Then she lay back on her pillow and closed her eyes, still smiling.

I went ahead and performed a conditional baptism, which occurs when proof of a possible previous baptism cannot be established. We welcomed Gretchen to the Church with applause, a brand new Catholic, as she continued to smile. Then Gretchen received confirmation, being sealed with the Holy Spirit.

I had brought the Eucharist for Gretchen to receive her First Communion, but I had honestly thought that she may not be able to receive Jesus' Body and Blood due to her illness, but, she *had* just come back from lunch! So I asked if she would like to receive Jesus in the Eucharist and she whispered, "yes." I had just brought a quarter of a consecrated host, but still, I broke-off about a third of that small piece

and Gretchen received the Eucharist for the first time.

Finally, I anointed Gretchen and we prayed with her and said our goodbyes and left her, tired, but still smiling broadly.

Gretchen's friend had been able to tell us the street Gretchen lived on previously, before entering the nursing home, but not the exact address. But the house had a particularly distinctive feature outside it, and by chance, I immediately knew where it was—I had just visited her next-door neighbor and taken a photo of it! I didn't have all the information I needed to record Gretchen's baptism in our sacramental records, so I went online and did some research (it's scary what Google knows!). I went onto Google Streetview and found the house number and confirmed that Gretchen had lived there. I was also able to find her date of birth—God-willing she will be 87 years old on St. Andrew's Feast Day. For a lady of 87 years of age, she was quite active online, with her own Facebook page and Flickr photo account. And indeed, she is quite the watercolor artist—I even found some of her work for sale online.

In our discussion on Thursday evening, Patty really felt that God had put Gretchen on her heart that day and I trusted that sense. I know that God does that at times. When you just sense that you need to pray for someone specifically, when your heart is being tugged at to call a friend you may not have talked to for a while, trust that hunch. You never know what graces God might be looking to give through you.

I thank Patty for not losing sight of a soul that was longing for God. I thank Deacon Dominick for his willingness to assist and be there to pray with us.

Most of all, thank you to God that He never stops tugging at our hearts and calling us closer to Himself, no matter the journey we've been on or the roads we traveled to get there. God is the landowner who never stops going-out into the marketplace and summoning the laborers for His vineyard. It may be 9 o'clock, it may be noon, it may be 3 o'clock or it may be 5 o'clock; whatever, it's never too late.

On this day, the 65th anniversary of the passing of Blessed Fr. Solanus Casey: "Blessed be God in all His designs!"

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew      adawson@sjascs.org

# PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY SUMMER STORYBOOK HOUR

Parents and caregivers, bring your preschool and elementary-age children for a story hour, snack and fun faith-related activity. (And a little coffee break for you!)



## When?

Wednesday mornings from 9-10 am on:  
July 6, 13, 20 and Aug 3.

## Where?

The Emmaus Fellowship Hall in the Sr.  
Carol Center.

## Respond

Let us know by the Tuesday before each session if you're coming.

Leave a message at 586-772-1282  
or respond at [sjascs.org/storyhour](http://sjascs.org/storyhour)

Siblings of all ages are welcomed.



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# Prayers Needed

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ashley Marie Allemon	George Dickerson	Zayne D. Kapinski	Tracy Rauch	Beverly Taylor
Andrew Barth	Jean Edwards	Marilyn Kiefer	Sr. Alice Riegel	Bernadette Thompson
Geri Beaugrand	Frank Faiss	Thomas Kler	Suzanne Roland	James Thompson
Kenneth Beaupre	Ben Fazio	Catherine Konen	Jennifer Rose	Mary Ann VerVaecke
Mark Beaupre	Susan Federoff	Al Kraska	Sara Rybicki	Linda Vitale
Gilbert Bousho	Taylor Fisher	Concetta Leone	Victoria Rydholm	Eileen Wallace
Lori Cardosi	Jeanne Gainer	Dotty Lubinski	Doreen Saur	Peggy Walsh
Patricia Clare	Sylvia Gentile	Janet Malaski	Lily Saith	Joseph Whalen
Ed Cole	Geoffrey Greve	Ingrid Manalo	Dianne Schelosky	Marilyn Wicker
Martin Crozier	James Gutowski	Christopher Manning	Ann Simmonds	Adrienne Weidenbach
Ellen Dancey	John Hanselman	Joan Mannino	Terri Smigels	Joyce Wiekrykas
Peter Dawson	Rich Hanselman	Karen McMahon	Kathleen Smith	Margaret Wienck
Joan DeDene	Judith Hasten	Charlotte Miller	Cathy Spindler	Eddie Zatyrazc
Phyllis Dedene	Susan Hughes	Mark Moffitt	Robert Stasak	
Catherine DeRose	Joan Ireland	Jennie Mooney	Virginia Stieber	
Grace Dickerson	Margo Javelov	Mary Pore	Neal Stoneback	

**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](mailto:info@sjascs.org).

## PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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Kevin Conley  
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Hector M. Martinez  
Jacob Milatz  
R. Connor Montgomery  
Martin Rodriguez  
Dave Russell

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Samuel Baur  
Richard Brown  
Nathan Dickerson  
Greg DeMoss  
Brian C. Ellis  
Thaddeus Kapuscinski  
Joseph R. Kozlinski  
Michelle Kuznia, DDS

Greg Lietz  
Chris Listilla  
Daniel Meagher  
Mika Prinze  
Kyle Richardson  
Christopher Scholz  
John C. Tramazzo  
Dan Travis  
Joseph VanDusen  
David Weise  
Edward Williams  
Samantha Williams  
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Nick Lienemann  
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David Light  
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Lee Michael  
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Frank Schuster  
Daniel Sparkman  
Tom Stevenson

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Brody J. Fitzgerald  
Jason Gaidis  
Joseph Goeddeke  
Frankie Kocis

Joseph Marable  
Tom Miller, Jr  
Anthony M. Morgan  
Leonardo Pastoria  
Luciano Pastoria  
John Patterson  
Andrew Seator

### COAST GUARD

Michael Franklin  
Christopher Rogers

### NATIONAL GUARD

Robert Douglas III  
William DuBay





# Bringing Home the Word

*Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)*  
July 31, 2022

## Becoming Rich in What Matters

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

What are we working for? What is the desire that moves us to sacrifice every day? Where is our heart? These are the deep questions pondered by the author of Ecclesiastes. He sees people around him struggling for years and then, as fate would have it, their wealth falls into the hands of someone who hasn't worked for it. He sees others, toiling and anxious, and wonders, "What does it really get them?"

Jesus also pointed out the vanity of making our life goal a struggle to

amass wealth, as if that was the source of security. To keep us from spiritual shortsightedness, he reminds us of an undeniable truth: we know neither the day nor the hour when we will be called before God to give an accounting of how we invested the talents he gave us.

We have been raised with Christ. Our greedy, miserly nature has been buried with Christ so that our generous, magnanimous, and farsighted nature could be set free. So if we believe in Christ, in the one who left all his heavenly treasures and became poor so that we might become rich, then the best investment is in him and his truths. He guarantees a return, even if it is deferred. He promises that what we surrender to him will be reimbursed a hundredfold and will give dividends for eternity.

So when examining where our treasure is, where our hearts and worries go, Jesus would have us ask ourselves: Will this make me richer in what matters to God?

***Our greedy, miserly nature has been buried with Christ so that our generous, magnanimous, and farsighted nature could be set free.***

### A Word from Pope Francis

Material goods are necessary—they are goods!—but they are a means to live honestly and in sharing with the neediest. Today, Jesus invites us to consider that wealth can enslave the heart and distract it from the true treasure which is in heaven.

Angelus, August 4, 2019



## Sunday Readings

### **Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21–23**

For what profit comes to mortals from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which they toil under the sun?

### **Colossians 3:1–5, 9–11**

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

### **Luke 12:13–21**

[Jesus said,] "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Would living a simpler life make my life better? How?
- Do "things" get in the way of my relationship with others?



# Embracing the Tough Message

Kathleen M. Basi

When I was little and attended Mass, I dreaded the homily every week—and the Eucharistic Prayer, and usually the readings. In fact, I think I dreaded all of Mass except the songs. Because at least during those, I knew what I was doing—singing stirred my heart.

At some point, I realized that what sounded to me like the chatter of the adults in the *Charlie Brown* TV cartoons was actually supposed to mean something. I started trying to wrap my brain around all those words. Although most of it still zipped over my head, every week a word or a phrase would emerge from the gibberish and ping my conscience like divine sonar.

These days, I still struggle with distraction and preoccupation: forgotten tasks, lists in progress, my preschooler lying down on the front pew. My mother once told me, “There were a lot of Masses when you girls were little that we didn’t get much out of.” I understand now exactly what she meant.

Of course, the point of the liturgy is not what we “get out of it.” Christ is there whether we’re preoccupied or not, and grace touches us either way. But it’s worth the effort to refocus after each distraction. As with most things, we get out of liturgy what we put into it. If we make the effort to listen with an open heart, we almost always come away with a word that speaks to



a situation, relationship, or problem we’re facing.

That is the beauty of the Word: It’s not static, or dead, but rather living—Jesus, the Word of God “veiled in flesh.” Jesus is always speaking. He speaks through every breath of wind and every person we meet, and in particular, through liturgy. The question is whether we’re willing to face up to what it tells us about our lives, right here, right now. It’s easy to hear words meant for someone else. However, to embrace words that reach into the raw places of our soul and call us to change—that’s a harder Word to swallow.

Yet that is why we come to church. The liturgy is the spiritual food that sustains us for daily living. God won’t force himself on us. We have to be willing to be vulnerable. We have to listen with ears open to our own weakness. Most important, we have to be willing to change.

But if we muster the courage to respond to the Word when he calls, our lives—and by extension, our corner of the world—will be better for it.

***God won’t force himself on us.  
We have to be willing  
to be vulnerable.  
We have to be willing  
to change.***



***Generous God, while I am grateful  
to have what is necessary  
for my well-being... let me always  
be intent on one thing:  
listening and responding to your  
presence in my life. Amen.***

—From *Celebrating the Gospels: A Guide for Parents and Teachers* by Gaynell Cronin

## WEEKDAY READINGS

August 1–6

**Monday, St. Alphonsus Liguori:**  
Jer 28:1–17 / Mt 14:13–21

**Tuesday, Weekday:** Jer 30:1–2, 12–15, 18–22 /  
Mt 14:22–36

**Wednesday, Weekday:**  
Jer 31:1–7 / Mt 15:21–28

**Thursday, St. John Vianney:**  
Jer 31:31–34 / Mt 16:13–23

**Friday, Weekday:**  
Nah 2:1, 3; 3:1–3, 6–7 / Mt 16:24–28

**Saturday, The Transfiguration of the Lord:**  
Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 / 2 Pt 1:16–19 /  
Lk 9:28b–36



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