

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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22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gio

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." - Lk 14:13-14

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-///-36/0 Fax: 586-774-5528 Website: www.sjascs.org SCHOOL 22415 Overlake Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

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

Website: 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 frericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Msgr. Gary Smetanka msgr.smetanka@stargp.org

Sacramental Minister

Non-Resident

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 llietaert@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 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 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

TALLer Tales



He's Lucky: I had a conversation this morning with Dina, our Business Manager, and since it's fresh in my mind and I thought it would

be a good story for a bulletin article, I decided that's what I'd write about today.

Dina and I were conversing about some excessive and unknown water usage someplace on the property. We've been getting notices from the City of Saint Clair Shores notifying us of the excessive and unusual water usage, and it's been hard to track down or figure out. So Dina had our maintenance team on the prowl to see if they could determine what valve or piece of equipment could be the culprit. The notices from the city isolated it down to the address and then the meter. Well, Vern finally figured it out. Vern suspected the issue was related to the cooling towers in Church. So he did some testing, and sure enough, the cooling tower had a problem and was using much more water than usual. As Dina was describing all of this to me, I had to share from my "bag of tricks" what I had installed at my mom's condo to help us deal with potential waterrelated issues there. It's called Flo by Moen. It's a device and shut-off valve installed right after the city water meter connection. The device monitors the flow rate, temperature, and pressure of the city water coming into the house. If there are any issues with excessive water flow or pressure, the device first sends a notification identifying the problem and then gives you several minutes to respond before it might shut off the water to the whole house. The intent is that if there is a water leak or a device using too much water, it can automatically shut off the valve or wait for human intervention. I had my eye on this unit for some time and finally bit the bullet on a Black Friday shopping experience and had it installed at my mom's condo as part of her renovation project.

As I was sharing all this with Dina, I pulled up the app on my phone and showed her all the options and reports it can generate. I showed her how the device, after some training, can determine "normal" water usage for a house and then can start to report any unusual activity. When my mom first moved back into the condo, we had to adjust its settings because the device hadn't learned that my mom

would sometimes do laundry in the evening. It was funny (at least for me) to get these water valve shut-off notices when she first started to do laundry, giving me 10 minutes to respond before it took action to shut off the valve. In those 10 minutes, you can tell the device to ignore the usage or tell it to shut off the value. After a few weeks of "learning, we didn't have any further issues or errant notifications.

I'm not sure how the unit does this, but it also tries to determine how much water is being used by each device or activity. It breaks it down to faucets, dishwasher, washer, toilets, other appliances, showers/baths, etc. Some of you probably think this is way too much information for a device to know about your home life. Still, I find it rather fascinating and am grateful I had parents who always allowed me to use their condo as my "testing ground" for new technology.

As Dina watched me go through all the Flo App screens, she told me her mom would NEVER allow all this technology at her house. Dina said she once told her mom that with all the technology we have going on at my mom's condo, we know my mom's every move (okay, maybe not EVERY move). She told me that if her mom knew we could track even her water usage, that would be enough for her to make sure no new technology EVER got installed in her house. Dina's mom told her: "He's lucky he's not my son ... all that stuff would never happen." Oh, you say that, Pauline, but if I could win over Chris and George .. especially my dad ... I can win you over too! So, where do you want to start: with an alarm system, smart lights, smart locks, smart TV's, Amazon Alexa devices, or the Flo by Moen? Don't worry; I usually start out slow with my family (to give them time to adjust), and then build from there. Before you know it, you'll be able to control everything from your phone! You'll love it ... until WE both forget what I called something, and you'll be shouting commands to Alexa, and she'll have no clue what you're talking about! Ask my mom!

The Spiritual Consequences of Living a Hurried, Busy Life: Several years ago, I read an excellent article by Frank Powell entitled, "7 Spiritual Consequences of Living a Hurried, Busy Life." I thought about that article again because of my column last week where I discussed the need to schedule a little break or getaway before all the fall activity starts in earnest.

Frank Powell opens his article by quoting a 1967 report delivered to the

United States Senate by time management experts. The experts believed that the speed of technology, and the advent of satellites and robots would present significant problems for the American workplace in years to come. They thought that with all this increase in efficiency, people would suddenly have too much free time on their hands. They concluded that by 1985 people would have to choose between working 22 hours a week, 27 weeks a year, or retiring by age 38. Well, they were completely wrong! Today we are moving faster than ever, yet we're "going" absolutely nowhere. We've become addicted to speed and obsessed with hurriedness. I didn't realize this, but there is a title for this "sickness," and it's called "hurry sickness." Hurry sickness is a "continuous struggle to accomplish more things and participate in more events in less time, frequently in the face of opposition, real or imagined, from other people."

If we compare our pace to the pace of Jesus' life, there aren't many similarities. If you think about it, Jesus was never rushed at all. He had an incredible mission with a "startup" organization in a hostile world but didn't cater to the world's demands. "He wasn't overwhelmed by life, even though he had an enormous mission to complete in a very short period of time. Jesus never rushed because he moved at God's pace. You see, hurriedness isn't from God. It's the world's pace. It's Satan's pace. Psychiatrist Carl Jung said, 'Hurry is not OF the devil. Hurry IS the devil.""

The primary focus of Mr. Powell's article is offering insights into what he describes as the seven SPIRITUAL consequences of living a hurried, busy life. Just imagine what the experts would say are the physical, mental and medical consequences of living such a life!

Over the next couple of weeks, I will share and reflect upon the seven spiritual consequences Mr. Powell identifies as resulting from living a hurried, busy life. You won't be surprised by his list. But seeing the list in writing and understanding the consequences of such a busy life will make you stop and reflect on what you can do to change. Living a busy, hurried life isn't worth it at all.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb gmb@sjacs.org

Readings for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Joan of Arc

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SEPTEMBER 4 C

Reading One - Wis 9:13-18b

Who can know God's counsel, or who can conceive what the LORD intends? For the deliberations of mortals are timid, and unsure are our plans. For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns. And scarce do we guess the things on earth, and what is within our grasp we find with difficulty; but when things are in heaven, who can search them out? Or who ever knew your counsel, except you had given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus were the paths of those on earth made straight.

Responsorial - Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
You turn man back to dust, saying, "Return, O children of men." For a thousand years in your sight are as yesterday, now that it is past, or as a watch of the night.
R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
You make an end of them in their sleep; the next morning they are like the changing grass, which at dawn springs up anew, but by evening wilts and fades.

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge. Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart. Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days. And may the gracious care of the LORD our God be ours; prosper the work of our hands!

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Reading Two - Phmn 9-10, 12-17

I, Paul, an old man, and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus, urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment; I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I should have liked to retain him for myself, so that he might serve me on your behalf in my imprisonment for the gospel, but I

did not want to do anything without your consent, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother, beloved that the good you do might not be forced but voluntary. Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while, especially to me, but even more so to you, as a man and in the Lord. So if you regard me as a partner, welcome him as you would me.

Alleluia - Ps 119:135

Alleluia, alleluia.

Let your face shine upon your servant; and teach me your laws.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - Lk 14:25-33

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

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Misc. Announcements

Walking With Purpose 6-Week Studies Sept 12-Oct 17.

Get acquainted with the beauty of **Walking With Purpose** Bible studies with this 6-week program: **Living in the Father's Love.** There are two groups; one meets Mondays from 10 am-12 noon and the other from 7-9 pm.

There is always room at the table for new women to join our morning or evening groups. This short study is a great way to experience the beauty of the program designed especially for today's women.

Register and pay \$21 for materials at sjascs.org/walking-with-purpose.

There is also registration and payment info about the 20-week studies that begin on Oct 24 (no meetings on Oct 31). 10 am: Discovering Your Dignity | 7 pm: Touching the Divine.

Questions? See the website for group leaders and contact information or reach out to Kristine Hass at khass@sjascs.org or call 586-772-1282.



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

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.

Misc. Announcements

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 khass@sjascs.org



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 the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Donations can be dropped off in the buckets at church or brought to the Parish Center during business hours.





Protecting God's Children Class at SJA August 31 6-9 pm in the Emmaus Fellowship Hall Registration is required at virtusonline.org This class is required for all adults working or volunteering with children as part of the Archdiocese of Detroit's safe environment measures to protect children from sexual abuse.





August 28, 2022

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 | Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a | Lk 14:1, 7-14

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

Pope St. John XXIII, one of the most influential figures of the 20th century, had a wonderful sense of humor. In stories recalled by Fr. Greg Friedman, OFM, Good Pope John would say, "God knew from all eternity I was going to be pope. Couldn't God have made me more handsome?" He also had a deep devotion to St. Joseph. In his writings, he talks about the humble and overlooked role that Joseph played in the life of Christ. He promoted an increased devotion to the humble, loyal saint who stayed quietly in the background and provided a home for Christ and his mother. St. Joseph is a model for the humility that our readings speak of today. Being humble doesn't mean being embarrassed or ashamed of the talents and abilities we have. It means acknowledging that these are gifts from God. God does not give us these gifts so we can place ourselves above others, as Jesus observed people doing at the home of the Pharisee. They are to be used to glorify God. By being humble, we "will be loved more than a giver of gifts ... and find favor with God."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I always remember what I was told in a volunteer training when preparing to serve hospice patients and their families: sit at eye level or lower when meeting with the patient or their family members. Being "at the same level" not only "lifted up" the patient but also brought the volunteer "down" to their level. This not only made listening easier and showed respect for the dignity of the patient; it also helped the volunteer see things from the patient's perspective. Jesus tells us in the Gospel today that being his disciples is not about elevating ourselves, but about lowering ourselves. He calls us to invite, welcome, and accept those who are least able to repay us. When we forget about ourselves and our place in the world and instead lift up others, he tells us we "will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

ACT One of the greatest acts of humility is to acknowledge when we are wrong, apologize, and ask forgiveness. Is there someone you can reconcile with by admitting you were wrong? Allowing God to forgive you in the sacrament of reconciliation will help you grow in humility.



- The Gala is our largest fundraiser to benefit the school! This year we are excited to host it at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club on Saturday, October 15, 2022. Doors open at 6:00pm concluding at 11:00pm.
- There are many ways we need your support for this event!
 - Opportunities to donate through our Give Back Boards in Church in September. Feel free to contact the School or Parish Center offices to learn how to donate Auction items!
 - Attend the Gala! It'll be a blast celebrating the past! Tickets will go on sale September 1st!
 - Buy Raffle Tickets! Raffle tickets will be available after September 1st for \$20ea or 6/\$100 in the Parish and School Offices.
 - There's a Spot for Volunteers! Consider volunteering the night of the Gala. For more information, please contact Pam Graskewicz.

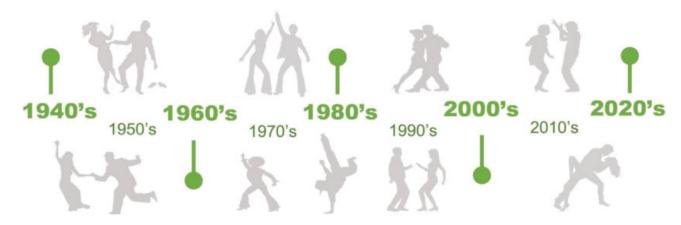
CONTACT US:

Pam (pgraskewicz@hotmail.com), Emily (emilyaradatz@gmail.com) or Kathy (kkalich@stjoan.net)

Mark your calendar for a great time...

OCTOBER 15, 2022 @ GROSSE POINTE YACHT CLUB

celebrating the past ... charging toward the future!



Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, August 29th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, August 30th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, August 31st

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, September 1st

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

Friday, September 2nd

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 3rd

11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:30 PM Baptism of James M. Janicke

4:00 PM Sunday Vigil Mass - Live Streamed 6:00 PM Sunday Vigil Mass -Live Streamed

Sunday, September 4th

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

August 28, 2022 – Place of Honor

Notwithstanding the current worker-friendly labor market, it's still true that most employees can be relieved of their jobs at any time. Some employees, of course, are in much more prominent positions than others, and some toil in the public eye due to the very nature of their jobs.

Consider, for example, many of the people who work for professional sporting organizations. This includes not only the athletes themselves, who are under constant scrutiny, but also top executives at those organizations, whose decisions determine who is on the roster.

When things are going well for those folks, one might imagine that they are recognized and welcomed in public. It wouldn't be outside the realm of reason to expect that when they go to a restaurant, for example, they probably have access to better tables, on shorter notice, for larger parties, than the rest of us do.

It's situations such as those in which Jesus advises a humble approach:

"Go and take the lowest place," he says in today's gospel passage from St. Luke, "so that when the host comes to you, he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position."

A longtime local sports executive lost his job a couple weeks ago, and the media coverage was intense. How this individual may have conducted himself at restaurants over the last several years is unknown and is immaterial, but for the opportunity for reflection it may offer for how we act in our own particular circumstances.

As always, scripture points the way to important lessons:

"My child, conduct your affairs with humility," we hear in today's first reading from Sirach, "and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God."

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Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday August 29, 2022 The Passion of Saint John

the Baptist (Red)

7:00 a.m. Anna Mae Reinhard

August 30, 2022 Weekday (Green) Tuesday

7:00 a.m. Cyndi Reis

Wednesday August 31, 2022 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. The deceased members of the Krolikowski

Family

Thursday September 1, 2022 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Beverly Ohlrich

Friday September 2, 2022 Weekday (Green)

The deceased members of the Calisi Family 7:00 a.m.

who passed away in the month of September

Saturday, September 3, 2022 Vigil of the Twenty-

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time; Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the

Church (White)

4:00 p.m. Raymond Cichoracki, Robert Boesiger, Rita

> Pomante, Sophie Rupinski, Michael Urso, Bonnie Batche, Stephen & Nancy Fattore, Elizabeth Morici, Robert Fannon, the deceased members of the Huvaere and Kerby Families, Special Intentions for Peyton Bell, for the J.

> Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, and Prayerful Appreciation for the work or the

Priest and Staff of St. Joan of Arc

6:00 p.m. The deceased members of the Vandenboom

Family

Sunday September 4, 2022 Twenty-Third Sunday in

Ordinary Time (Green)

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

Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Sam Ciaramitaro

12:00 p.m. Richard Jackolow and a Special Intention for

Robert Varrasse

Daily Readings

Friday, September 2 Monday, August 29

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Mark 6:17-29

Saturday, September 3 Tuesday, August 30

1 Corinthians 2:10b-16

Luke 4:31-37

1 Corinthians 4:6b-15

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Luke 5:33-39

Luke 6:1-5

Sunday, September 4 Wednesday, August 31

1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Luke 4:38-44

Wisdom 9:13-18b Philemon 9-10, 12-17 Luke 14:25-33

Thursday, September 1

1 Corinthians 3:18-23

Luke 5:1-11

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."

> Francesco (Frank) Canu Mary Primeau



"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.

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.

FORMED°

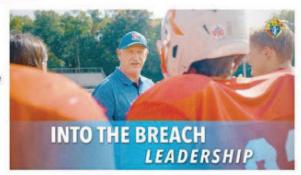
PICK OF THE WEEK

August 28, 2022

WATCH

INTO THE BREACH - EPISODE 3: LEADERSHIP

Among many other things, Pope St. Gregory the Great is known for his incredible pastoral presence and servant leadership. In honor of this magnanimous Saint, enjoy this episode of Into the Breach! Although primarily targeted at men, this video and its emphasis on service will be fruitful to anyone who desires sanctity and self-mastery!



LEARN

FORMED NOW: POPE SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT



In the history of the Church, there are less than five popes esteemed with the title "the Great."

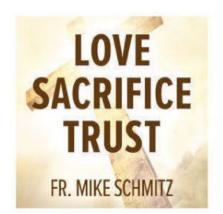
One of the lesser known members of this impressive group is Pope St. Gregory the Great.

As a late sixth century leader, Gregory is known for his prolific writing, his radical humility, his emphasis on missions, and his dedication to almsgiving. In honor of Gregory's feast day this week, enjoy this dicussion between Dr. Gray and Dr. Sehorn.

LISTEN

LOVE, SACRIFICE, TRUST: HE SHOWED US THE WAY BY FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

In this talk, Fr. Mike Schmitz shares with us the need to pick up our crosses and embrace Christ in our own suffering. He reminds us that love often means sacrifice!



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



Working, Not Working: There's no truth to the rumor that Dcn. Tom's tough homily set off the thunder storm as he stepped

down from the ambo during the 6:30pm Mass last Saturday, but the timing was suspicious! Anyone watching at home will have seen that the livestream went dead in the middle of the prayers of the faithful, just after we had prayed, "for all those recovering from storms." For anyone in church at that moment, that was the last prayer you heard before the flash of lightening apparently hit the school and litup the church. I was bragging as we walked across the parking lot after mass that I had never lost power at my house in my two years here. That bragging ended when I walked into my house and tried to switch on the hall light.

We already knew that the network had gone down, there were alarms sounding all through the school and now I knew I had only partial power in my house. The hall and landing were out, half of the basement, my bedroom and dining room. All had lost power. The rest of the house was working. No immediate problem, I thought. I don't need lights to sleep. And I don't have to eat the contents of my fridge and freezer tonight, as they're fine. Saturday evening, there was no internet, so my YouTube TV was not working, but I was home and since I have the YouTube app on my phone, I used the data service instead to login to my TV service on my phone to watch one of those house building shows. I like those shows and there are many, but as I was watching, I realized the irony that I'd chosen the showed called, "Off the Grid."

Before I went to bed I was trying to figureout how I was going to wake-up in time. I usually use the alarm on my phone, but I didn't have enough of a charge left to make it to the morning without it being pluggedin somewhere. I was going to ask a priest friend to call me with a wake-up call, but didn't want to put that on someone else. The spare room upstairs had power, but it's not set-up for sleeping in, so I grabbed an extension cord, thinking I could run it to my room, but it wasn't nearly long enough. Then I remembered that I had an external phone battery that I bought for times I'm out camping etc., and I need a little more juice between charges. (How did this happen to me...? I never even had my first cell phone until 2014). Anyway, I pulled the external battery out of a drawer, but I

realized that I probably hadn't used it in the past year. I was amazed to find that it still held almost a full charge. So that would work—I could plug that into my phone so that it would still charge during the night, theoretically, unless the external battery was giving false hope.

As a back-up, I turned to my old unfaithful standby, that I've stopped using... an old \$3 travel alarm clock that I found in lost and found at camp at the end of the summer, 25 years ago! I NEVER replaced its single AA battery, but it is still working. Yet, alas, as far as alarm clocks go, it is a highly independent thinker. Sometimes, if I wake up a few minutes before the time it was set to sound and turn in off, it will still insist on doing the job it was assigned to do. Other times it will bleep only for a fraction of a second, not wanting to waste its no-doubt dwindling battery energy, and it hope that will be sufficient to wake me. Sometimes it just rejects the idea of sounding at all and it sleeps right through its own alarm until I wake it up. No wonder I stopped using it as my alarm, and then even stopped using it as a back-up also. But Saturday night, it was called-up to active duty once again to play spotter for my phone, and it courageously came through, ringing in my ears two minutes after my phone alarm woke me. All was well....dark, but well. It was also cold! Thankfully the A/C had not been affected, but the upstairs of my house always gets hot in the summer so I run the ceiling fan and another fan. But with those not able to be used, I turned down the air on Saturday night to 63 degrees, getting it down to about 71 upstairs, but cold when I descended the stairs that morning.

Monsignor and I switched masses Sunday morning so he could troubleshoot any livestream issues at 8am and then I went to the loft for 10am and 12pm. I never realized so much of the mass was up on the screens in church, since I'm always looking in your direction! I have operated the cameras before but adding the slides for the screens was new to me. It's not too hard, but just means you have to be "on the ball" and anticipating a lot. After Dcn. Dominick's homily, I went to move the mouse to click on the first slide with the words of the Creed and it was frozen. I couldn't move the cursor on the monitor at all. I texted Msgr and he sent back "Track Pad" (which does the same job as the mouse) but I had already tried that and that wasn't working either. I texted Catherine at the piano and she came across and realized that the track pad was unplugged. It should work wirelessly, but not if it is not charged. Plugging that in gave me the cursor back just in time for the prayer for vocations.

Phew! Why the mouse didn't work, I don't know. Catherine figured out later that the mouse was charged.

After the 12pm mass, our principal, Amy Pattie sent her husband, Roger over to my house. He's an electrician. He took a look at my breaker panel, which had never tripped on Saturday evening. Everything was working fine there, so as of the time of writing, the problem is still a mystery, but I wasn't going to rely on my external phone battery and travel alarm again for Monday morning. So after Roger finished checking the issues, I went to the hardware store to buy a 25ft, multiple outlet extension cord. They always come in handy anyway. I rigged that up with a phone cord, a fan and a light, taking power from the spare room. If there is any consolation, I texted Msgr a photo Sunday night, the Sears (Willis) Tower in Chicago, being hit by lightening Saturday morning before it came our way!

Nature Doing Its Thing: I had been out in my backyard all day one day last week, working on some projects. By 7:30pm I had everything cleared-up and was about to go inside for dinner when I noticed an odd, dead patch of grass that had not been there before. Strange, I thought-how and why had this grass died so quickly? I started pulling at it and realized it was not rooted and there was some white furry stuff mixed in among the grass. I figured part of a squirrel's nest had fallen from the overhanging tree, but as I pulled at it more, I saw movement. Had baby squirrels fallen with the nest? Then I realized they were in a hollow dug into the ground... these were not squirrels, they were rabbits. And I remembered that there was a rabbit hanging around that area that morning, acting oddly... you can decide what that means, but I distinctly remembered that it was "being weird." I can only assume those rabbits were just born that day. Their eyes were still closed. It is probably not the safest spot for a nest, in the very middle of the lawn, but I marked it with a stake. I just hope that when those rabbits open their eyes, they learn what a hawk looks like really fast!



You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew

adawson@sjascs.org

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Questions?

Contact Kristine Hass at Khass@sjascs.org or 586-772-1282

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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Bernadette Thompson James Thompson Mary Ann VerVaecke Linda Vitale Eileen Wallace Joseph Whalen Marilyn Wicker Adrienne Weidenbach Joyce Wiekrykas Margaret Wienck Eddie Zatyracz

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@siascs.org.

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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
August 28, 2022

The Power of Humility

by Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

H umility isn't a popular virtue! In fact, among the Greeks and the Romans it wasn't considered a virtue at all. In a list of 147 wise maxims, dated six centuries before Christ, humility wasn't even mentioned. For the ancient Greek or Roman, honor was more of a goal than humility.

Yet the Jewish faith values humility, as illustrated in Old Testament texts like the one we hear today. The humble strength of conducting affairs quietly and justly makes one more loved—more so than someone who gives many gifts.

Sunday Readings

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

My son, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts.

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

[Y]ou have approached...the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem,...and Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant....

Luke 14:1, 7-14

[Jesus said,] "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Parents should reflect on this.

As Christians following a Savior who stooped to wash feet, humility is not only recommended but becomes the ideal. Let the first be last. Let the greatest be the servant. Humility is simply living the truth of who we are. We are each both great and insignificant. We can and should use all our knowledge and strength to plant seeds for a better world. But only God gives the growth.

We are creatures and not the Creator. We don't make the rules of life or define right and wrong. We discover, accept, and embrace these laws. A healthy awareness of our limitations doesn't enslave us but sets us free. A humble knowledge of the truth is empowering.

We are amazingly talented people, each uniquely loved and gifted by God. Each of us can achieve, and should strive for, the greatness offered us. Humility makes one capable of true and lasting greatness—just look at Christ.

Humility is simply living the truth of who we are. We are each both great and insignificant.

A Word from Pope Francis

Without humility we will never find God: we will find ourselves. Because a person who has no humility has no horizon in front of him or her. They only have a mirror: they look at themselves. Let us ask the Lord to break this mirror so we can look beyond, to the horizon, where He is.

General Audience, December 22, 2021



REFLECTION QUESTIONS GRESTIONS KELFECTION

- How well do I know myself both my strengths and my weaknesses?
- Do I see everything as a gift and respond with humility?

There But for the Grace of God Go I

By Fr. Stephen Rehrauer, CSsR

In Catholic school I learned to repeat the above phrase often. It expresses gratitude for having been spared the sufferings we see others endure. It arouses compassion, moving us to help others shoulder their burdens. If the suffering of others is the result of their own wrong behavior, it teaches humility and solidarity, reminding us that were it not for God's help, we might have fallen into the same wrong patterns of life, bringing similar disgrace upon ourselves.

Lately it seems this phrase has been replaced by a pair of more pernicious ones: "Thank God I'm better off than they are" and "Thank God they finally got what was coming to them."

Studies show that we tend not to help others if we believe they have been the cause of their own suffering. In responding to those whose lives have been ravaged by alcoholism, drug abuse, prostitution, poverty, hunger, AIDS, rape, violent crime, and murder, it matters a great deal to almost everyone whether we see that person as "deserving" or "undeserving" of their fate. When we believe someone has been innocently harmed, it elicits sympathy, which motivates us to help. On the other hand, if we believe that the other "deserves" what is happening as the result of something he or she did, then the emotion elicited is righteous indignation-even satisfaction-at seeing cosmic justice occur, and we



are motivated to deliberately withhold assistance. This tendency seems to be very common across all cultures. And then there's Jesus.

Turning away from another's pain, regardless of its causes, is hardly the moral response the Gospel of Jesus Christ teaches us. Sooner or later we all make wrong choices in our lives. Sometimes our wrong choices flow from a flaw in ourselves; sometimes we are overwhelmed by a situation and really can't see any other way out of the mess we are in; sometimes we just want something so much that we are willing to do whatever it takes to get it. Sin is a constant part of the human condition. Saint Paul reminds his readers constantly that all are sinners, all deserve condemnation, all stand in need of forgiveness, and all need Christ to help them. If God treated us the way we are tempted to treat one another, offering

compassion only to those who "deserve" it, there would be no hope for any of us.

God's justice is mercy. Grace is offered to the sinner precisely as a sinner: one who deserves condemnation and punishment through his own fault but who receives instead compassion and forgiveness. The sinner who returns causes rejoicing in heaven. It is precisely when we have been the cause of our own mess, and *because* we have been the cause of our own mess, that God draws near to us most powerfully and most lovingly in Christ, who is help for the helpless. This is God's *Caritas*. This is the God Jesus came to reveal.

If God ... offered compassion only to those who "deserve" it, there would be no hope for any of us.



Holy and compassionate God, teach us the freedom of humility, the gratification of surrender, the true joy of compassion for others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 29-September 3

Monday, The Passion of St. John the Baptist: 1 Cor 2:1–5 / Mk 6:17–29

Tuesday, Weekday:

1 Cor 2:10b-16 / Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday, Weekday: 1 Cor 3:1–9 / Lk 4:38–44 Thursday, Weekday: 1 Cor 3:18–23 / Lk 5:1–11

Friday, Weekday:

1 Cor 4:1-5 / Lk 5:33-39

Saturday, St. Gregory the Great: 1 Cor 4:6b–15 / Lk 6:1–5



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