



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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24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."
- Lk 15:10

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

GLPI

PARISH CENTER
22412 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528
Website: www.sjascscs.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:

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Lead for SJA

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Fr. Jim Commyn (Moderator)
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Msgr. Gary Smetanka
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Principal

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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 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



I'm Getting OLD(er): As I inch toward being 60 years old (yikes, how did that happen), I don't need anyone to remind me that I'm getting OLD(er)!

The signs are all around me. I can't stay up until the wee hours of the night anymore. My days of midnight grocery shopping at Meijer's are long past. I fall asleep in my chair, even in the middle of the afternoon. I'm starting to see doctors more often. Last week, I shared how I left my car on after I parked it and locked the doors. And this week, it's all about parking!

Parking correctly is an interesting item as we age. I'm convinced that as we age, our parking habits worsen. When you're younger, you worry about what people think about you. So you tend to be diligent and think the whole world has eyes on every move you make, even when you park your car. Then as you age, you could care less about many things. Even what we say changes. Suddenly, that which was only once said with the "inside voice" is now said with the "outside voice;" there is no filter!

I often say that another sure sign of someone getting older is watching how they park. I've taken delight over time in taking pictures of how people park in our lots for Mass. Several times in the past, I've even had to make kind and gentle announcements at Mass about how people park their cars, often giving gentle reminders that parking within the lines is best for everyone! I remember one time that someone missed the parking spot entirely. They parked in the middle of the aisle, which resulted in them blocking traffic for all those who were trying to leave after communion (okay, this one wasn't so bad after all). It's one thing when snow covers the lots and you can't see the lines, but it's another thing when you can plainly see those lines!

A few days ago, I had an appointment with my foot doctor. He's about my age but has been the podiatrist for my grandparents, parents, and several other family members. I enjoy yapping with him and his staff. As I walked out of the office and into the parking lot, I looked at my car and laughed out loud. I couldn't believe it. I didn't miss the front end of the parking spot by a few inches or a foot ... it was

more like five feet. And even worse, I didn't notice it when I exited the car to go into my appointment.



Yikes, last week, I left my car on. This week, I parked my car like an older person. I know, I know, those who have trodden this path already will tell me this is JUST the beginning! How is this happening so quickly? I'm only 58!

The Spiritual Consequences of Living a Hurried, Busy Life ... Part 2: This is a continuation of my reflection on and quoting from an article written by Frank Powell, a young adult minister, entitled, "7 Spiritual Consequences of Living a Hurried, Busy Life." The full article can be found at <http://bit.ly/SpiritualConsequences>. It's a quick read if you want to read the whole article.

Last week, I reflected on the first of the seven spiritual consequences mentioned in the article. Mr. Powell's first point was that a hurried life destroys your relationship with God. Think about it; the devil loves it when we live hurried, busy lives because it takes our attention off God and destroys our relationship with Him. The devil LOVES busyness.

The second spiritual consequence mentioned in Mr. Powell's article is "A hurried life feeds 'approval addiction.'"

"When your life moves at a hurried pace, you seek validation and approval in a hurried way. This explains why social media resonates with so many people. The Instagram photos and Facebook posts give you instant validation. No need to invest in relationships where people actually know you. That's time-consuming. Our culture is 'in bed' with large followings and spotlights. The short-term result is validation. But the long-term consequences are burnout, loneliness and over-commitment."

As we all know, crowds are fickle. As

Mr. Powell points out in his article, people "friend" you on Facebook until you say something controversial or something they don't like. Election cycle time is the worst, and it's amazing how many friendships are suddenly on rocky ground because of what happens or is said on Facebook and other social media platforms!

This is also true in Church ministry. People 'like' an individual church or parish until they don't like an individual or church philosophy or teaching. They "unfriend" it by avoiding that priest/pastor, or they simply go to another church or even switch denominations. Sadly, I've known many people who give up on the Catholic Church and attendance at Mass because they've gotten into a disagreement with a priest or parish, sometimes over something so petty or inconsequential.

As Mr. Powell notes, "Jesus never catered to the crowds. He often retreated from crowds to be alone. He gave his most controversial sermons when the largest crowds gathered around him. In fact, on one occasion in John 6, Jesus said something so controversial that many of his disciples left and never followed him again.... We love the instant validation from a packed auditorium on Sunday morning. But Jesus didn't care about Facebook likes or packed auditoriums. Jesus knew you couldn't point a crowd to God if you needed their approval.... You can't preach the difficult message of self-denial if you attract people on the basis of self-interest. You can't embrace the scandalous, radical life of Jesus if you need the approval of others. Jesus knew this. That's why he disengaged from the crowds. He wanted to be driven by God's desires, not the crowd's demands."

Here's an essential question: Are YOU driven by God's desires, or do you cater to the crowd's demands? This week, focus on God's desires for you, not the crowd's demands. In the end, remember that God is the only one who offers you salvation and eternal life ... the "crowds" can never do this!

Next week: A hurried life decreases your capacity to love others.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjasc.org



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 18 C

Reading One – Am 8:4-7

Hear this, you who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor of the land! "When will the new moon be over," you ask, "that we may sell our grain, and the sabbath, that we may display the wheat? We will diminish the ephah, add to the shekel, and fix our scales for cheating! We will buy the lowly for silver, and the poor for a pair of sandals; even the refuse of the wheat we will sell!" The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Never will I forget a thing they have done!

Responsorial – Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Praise, you servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. Blessed be the name of the LORD both now and forever.

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

High above all nations is the LORD; above the heavens is his glory. Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

He raises up the lowly from the dust; from the dunghill he lifts up the poor to seat them with princes, with the princes of his own people.

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Reading Two – 1 Tm 2:1-8

Beloved: First of all, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone, for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all devotion and dignity. This is good and pleasing to God our savior, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth. For there is one God. There is also one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as ransom for all. This was the testimony at the proper time. For this I was appointed preacher and apostle — I am speaking the truth, I am not lying — teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. It is my wish, then, that in every place the men should pray, lifting up holy hands, without anger or argument.

Alleluia – Cf. 2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia.

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Lk 16:1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another the steward said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' The steward said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. "For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon."

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



Registration is now open for **Faith Formation**

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

Visit 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.



Questions?

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

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

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.

Save your can tabs!

Spread the word! We're collecting can tabs again.

Let others know that those little pop and food can tabs make a big difference for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Drop off donations in the buckets in the church or at the Parish Center during business hours.

Help our 8th Grade with Your Returnables

The Class of 2023 is holding an ongoing can and bottle drive. This important fundraiser helps defray the cost of the class's graduation events.

Bring your returnables in bags to the WEST SIDE DOOR of the Parish Center (near Father Andrew's House).

Just place them in the large plastic bin with a lid. Or if you need to arrange a pick-up, call or text Erin at 586-321-0667.

Light of the Spirit Prayer Group

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at St. Joan of Arc from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Sr. Carol Center.

Join us!

St. Joan of Arc

Online Giving

Manage your Online Giving account with the app!

Download the Online Giving app today at OLGApp.com



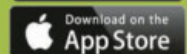
Donations

Payments

Give online at stjoan.church or from the app

REGISTER THE APP WITH OUR ORGANIZATION ID#

4719



*Spend an hour
with me.*

HOLY
HOUR
SONGS &
PRAYERS

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



September 11, 2022

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Ex 32:7-11, 13-14 | 1 Tm 1:12-17 | Lk 15:1-32
or Lk 15:1-10

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

I think I lose more things than the average person. Car keys. That magic security card that gets me into my office. My son's birth certificate (the night before the driver's test). And my wedding ring, more often than I care to admit. I can't rest until I find them. Oh, the elation when the missing item turns up! So this is one parable I think I "get." Of course, these items pale in comparison to our value as human beings - sons and daughters of God. Even - or perhaps especially - us sinners. As Jesus tells us, "There will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents." What good news for all of us! Rather than wallow in our failures or close ourselves off to God, we are challenged to follow Paul's example and turn to God for our strength - we can turn to him knowing we are loved, valued, and cherished.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I confess I sometimes feel unworthy to become very active in my parish. I've made more mistakes than I can count; so, no, I'll pass on volunteering to be a lector or a catechist. That's a job for the "good Catholics." As we see time and again in Scripture, ours is a Church of sinners. As was the case with Paul, "once a blasphemer and a persecutor and arrogant," the Lord has mercy upon us, and his grace is abundant. Just as he considered Paul trustworthy to lead the Church, he trusts us; we need only trust ourselves. Gaining our strength from God, we can share our gifts through ministry and service. What's more, we can actively reach out to those on the fringes of our parish or those who have left the Church feeling as though they don't belong. Jesus reminds us that all are welcome at his table.

ENGAGE At Sunday Mass, make a point of welcoming newcomers and strangers with a smile or greeting. Consider getting involved in a parish ministry.

St. Joan of Arc
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SAVE
THE
DATE

75 YEARS

10-15-22

AUCTION & DINNER GALA

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS YEAR'S GALA

- 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!
 - **Donations! Donations! Donations!** 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.

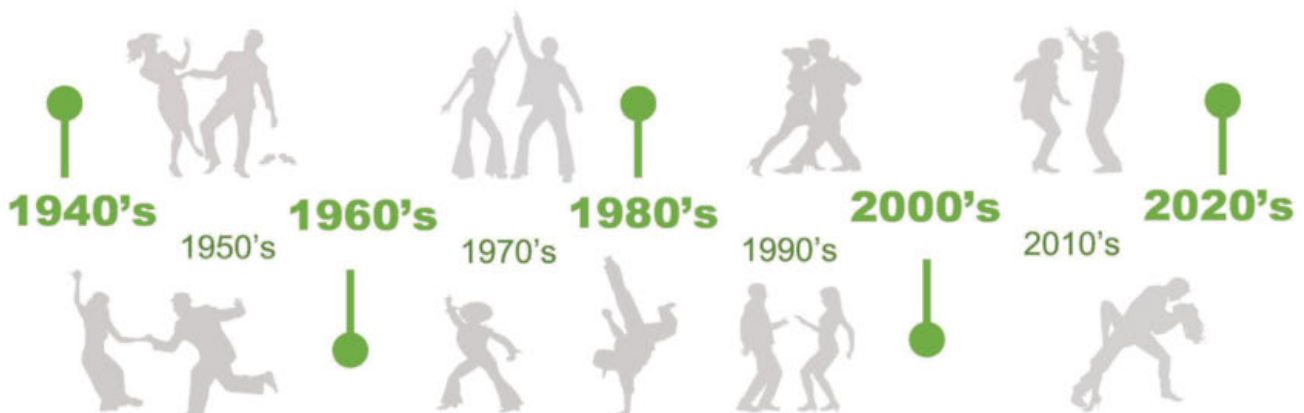
CONTACT US:

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!**



Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, September 12th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, September 13th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, September 14th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM Funeral for Theresa Kohn

Thursday, September 15th

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

Friday, September 16th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 17th

10:00AM Funeral for Charles Brackx Jr.
11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:30 PM Baptism of London R. Noriega

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

Sunday, September 18th

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

September 11, 2022 – Distractions from God

We all, in a sense, have our molten calves.

“Go down at once to your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt, for they have become depraved,” the Lord says to Moses in today’s first reading from the book of Exodus. “They have soon turned aside from the way I pointed out to them, making for themselves a molten calf and worshiping it, sacrificing to it and crying out, ‘This is your God, O Israel, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.’”

Our false Gods are assuredly not metallic livestock, but, in a very real sense, most people – even people of goodwill – deal with material distractions.

Local media reported a few weeks ago on a former Macomb County man who recently was sentenced to more than 11 years in federal prison for defrauding victims out of \$4 million in false investment schemes.

“This defendant lied to his victims in order to carry out his fraud,” a United States attorney was quoted as saying in *The Detroit News*. “He told his victims he was investing their money for legitimate construction projects when in reality he used their money on himself at casinos, restaurants and on entertainment.”

Again, our molten calves, our distractions, hopefully do not reach this level of magnitude. But we have them just the same. Perhaps it’s wealth. Perhaps power or honor. Perhaps other pleasures of this world.

Any or all of them, when not kept in right order in our lives, can distance us from God; sins that require repentance and a turning back to the Lord.

When we do repent, we know God in his infinite mercy will be waiting with open arms.

“So the Lord relented,” the reading concludes, “in the punishment he had threatened to inflict on his people.”

© 2022, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

- Monday September 12, 2022 Weekday, The Most Holy Name of Mary (Green/White)**
7:00 a.m. Allen Laturno
- Tuesday September 13, 2022 Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (White)**
7:00 a.m. Ann Marie Rogier and Dennis Fleming
- Wednesday September 14, 2022 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Red)**
7:00 a.m. Mary T. Hobig and a Special Intention for the Reeb and Gray Families
- Thursday September 15, 2022 Our Lady of Sorrows (White)**
7:00 a.m. Audrey Benedis
- Friday September 16, 2022 Saints Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs (Red)**
7:00 a.m. A Special Intention for Ashley Allemon
- Saturday, September 17, 2022 Weekday, Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; BVM; Vigil of the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green/White/White)**
4:00 p.m. Joseph & Averil Cottone, Bonnie Batche, Edward & Henry Blind, Sal Ventimiglia, Thomas P. Dailey, Joan Weber, Dr. Lori Karol, Ricky Banasinski, the deceased members of the Huvaere & Kerby Families, and Special Intentions for the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, for Jessica Smith, for Cameron Tull and for Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Bjorngaard on the 50th Anniversary of their Marriage
6:00 p.m. Betty Bennett
- Sunday September 18, 2022 Twenty-Fifth 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. Dolores (Dolly) Farah, Anna Mae Reinhard

Daily Readings

- Monday, September 12** **Friday, September 16**
1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 7:1-10 Luke 8:1-3
- Tuesday, September 13** **Saturday, September 17**
1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49
Luke 7:11-17 Luke 8:4-15
- Wednesday, September 14** **Sunday, September 18**
Numbers 21:4b-9 Amos 8:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11 1 Timothy 2:1-8
John 3:13-17 Luke 16:1-13
- Thursday, September 15**
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 19:25-27



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.”



“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

Sept 11, 2022

WATCH

THE RELUCTANT SAINT: THE STORY OF ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO

Maximilian Schell stars as "the flying friar," St. Joseph of Cupertino, in this story of the humble Franciscan friar. In Cupertino, Italy, Joseph's peasant mother convinces the reluctant Abbott to accept her son into the monastery. With the support of the kindly local Bishop who sees in him a great deal more than others do, and by a series of miraculous incidents, the simple but pious Joseph is ordained a priest.



LEARN

BIBLE STUDY: GALATIANS



Join Dr. Michael Barber and Dr. James Prothro as they dive into St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians. This new multipart series walks through this pivotal book and how it fits in with the rest of the New Testament, as well as how Paul's writings can help us grow in relationship with Jesus.

LISTEN

DRAWING STRENGTH FROM OUR LADY OF SORROWS BY KIMBERLY HAHN

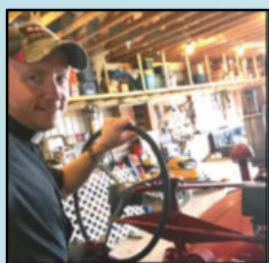
Speaker and author Kimberly Hahn, wife of Dr. Scott Hahn and mother of six, is a convert to the Catholic Faith. Although honoring Mary was difficult for her to understand initially, she began to encounter Mary's loving guidance in little ways on a daily basis. In this presentation, Kimberly reflects on the joys and sorrows that Mary prayerfully experienced during her time on earth, and shares how her example leads us closer to Christ.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

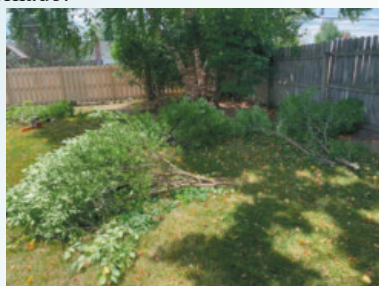
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



Be Careful What You Ask For: A few weeks ago I asked Dina for a rake. I wanted to turn over the soil in my garden bed which had

become very overgrown and I wanted to pull out the weeds. I wasn't necessarily going to do it immediately. The next day I was out in the backyard and two of our gardeners, Thelma and Debbie showed up, complete with a carload of tools and set about pulling-up all the undergrowth. Since the tools were there, I decided to take a saw to one of the trees at the back of the yard. There are maybe four of them, but this one has been dead at least a couple of years. The trunk was too much to get through with clippers, so Thelma said she'd ask her husband, Chuck, to bring his chainsaw. I didn't know she meant right away! But within 10 minutes, there was Chuck and the chainsaw. Well, when you have a chainsaw available, you make use of it, so we set about trimming some of the other low hanging branches. Before we knew it, my backyard looked like the aftermath of a tornado.



After we were done trimming though, it looked much better, but the stump of the dead tree couldn't be dug out. So, to the next escalation... Chuck went and got the tractor! We seemed to have overshot the request for a rake by a long way!

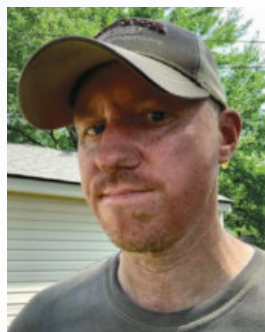


So we got the stump out and cleared away all the branches, but you know what happens when you paint a wall in your house. Suddenly, you need to paint all the walls, then the ceiling looks old, so you re-

do that. Then you have to replace the carpet, which make the couch look old, so you need a new couch.... Before you know it, you're putting a new roof on the house. I'm looking around at the thinned trees and weeded garden bed and I decide that I need to sand the fence. It's about 100ft long and of course I chose a day when I was on staycation and it was 96 degrees...



I like doing this kind of work and it was about 4 hours work all in all. I think, however, by the end of it, I was wearing more of the fence than was left standing!

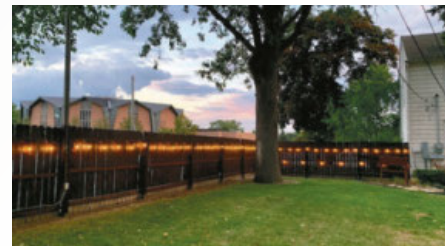


I was only going to sand the fence... but looking at it, I thought, "ya know, that *would* look better stained with a little color." So I cleaned-up and headed to the hardware store, and then a second hardware store, where I found the stain I was looking for. I bought two cans to stain another day.

When I began staining, it was quickly obvious that the 2 gallons would not be enough because the wood was still so rough. So I headed back to buy 2 more. If you think the price of a gallon of gas went up steeply this summer, you should have seen my reaction to finding that a gallon of the same stain had gone up by \$20 in a week! But once you're half-way, you're committed. The first coat took 8 hours, the second just an hour and a half, so the wood was saturated. I was happy with the result, especially when the sunlight hits it.



"But something's missing," I thought. It's pretty dark back there, especially in the winter, so maybe that fence ought to have lights on it. Two week later, I hung lights and added a timer so the lights to come on in the morning and the evening. It's amazing how good these LED 1-watt bulbs are...



But then, I still wasn't done. I decided that it would still be good to have some greenery out there in the winter, so I bought four tiny evergreen trees to put along the fence. I researched to find some trees that would be small enough to not dominate the fence, could thrive in partial shade, and not become a maintenance issue. These trees have a maximum height of 2 feet and could take 20 years to reach that height! So obviously, being so small, I didn't want them to be lost completely, which is why I build the planter boxes in last week's column.



I still recall one of my middle school teachers saying, "be careful what you ask for. You just might get it." That rings in my head now when I remember asking Dina for a rake...and I don't think I'm done yet! Last weekend one of the trees was removed from outside the school and since there was a chainsaw, I took the remains of another pallet over to be dissected.... And I came away with birch tree logs that I will "do something with." Another project looms!

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew

adawson@sjascs.org

Extreme Humility: God Establishes Holy Communion

Date:

Tuesday, September 27 and Tuesday, October 11

Time:

7-8:15 pm presentation followed by Q & A

Where:

In the church and online at stjoan.church

Presenter: David J. Conrad, M.A. Theology

Join us as we explore the gift of the Eucharist and its impact on our life. Some highlights will include:

- How God Shares His Life & Love With Us Through the Sacraments
- The Power of God's Word
- Our Purification & Fortification
- Sent on Mission

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrew Barth
 Geri Beaugrand
 Kenneth Beaupre
 Mark Beaupre
 Gilbert Bousho
 Dianne Brennan
 Maria Buscemi
 Lori Cardosi
 Patricia Clare
 Ed Cole
 Martin Crozier
 Philip D'Agostino
 Ellen Dancey
 Joan DeDene
 Phyllis Dedene

Catherine DeRose
 Grace Dickerson
 George Dickerson
 Jean Edwards
 Frank Faiss
 Ben Fazio
 Susan Federoff
 Taylor Fisher
 Jeanne Gainer
 James Gutowski
 John Hanselman
 Rich Hanselman
 Judith Hasten
 Leeland Helzer
 Susan Hughes

Joan Ireland
 Margo Javelov
 Zayne D. Kapinski
 Marilyn Kiefer
 Thomas Kler
 Catherine Konen
 Delaney Kraemer
 Concetta Leone
 Dorothy (Dotty)
 Lubinski
 Ingrid Manalo
 Christopher Manning
 Joan Mannino
 Karen McMahan
 Charlotte Miller

Mark Moffitt
 Jennie Mooney
 Mary Pore
 Tracy Rauch
 Sr. Alice Riegel
 Suzanne Roland
 Sara Rybicki
 Victoria Rydholm
 Doreen Saur
 Lily Saith
 Dianne Schelosky
 Ann Simmonds
 Terri Smigels
 Kathleen Smith
 Cathy Spindler

Virginia Stieber
 Neal Stoneback
 Beverly Taylor
 Bernadette Thompson
 James Thompson
 Mary Ann VerVaecke
 Linda Vitale
 Eileen Wallace
 Joseph Whalen
 Marilyn Wicker
 Adrienne Weidenbach
 Joyce Wiekrykas
 Margaret Wienck
 Eddie Zatyraz

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

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
September 11, 2022

Sonship Restored

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Strangely enough and discouragingly often, we find the attitude of the older son in the Church. The righteous believers who have always belonged can be jealous and look down upon the poor sinner who comes at a later hour, receiving the same reward.

Yet, the attitude of all of us towards those who are spiritually, morally, or materially needy, should be that of the loving father in today's gospel. The sinner comes back in shame, weakness, and obvious failure. His very act of returning is a cry for help, support,

and understanding. The Father offers his mercy and compassion without questions, without an interrogation. His shoulder is never too proud, too hard or righteous to be refused as a pillow for the humiliated soul who returns ruined by sin.

Humanity is noblest when admitting its weakness. Humanity is greatest in its ability to show mercy and lift the downtrodden. The parent-child relationship is most beautiful when it is being reconciled and restored.

We should always rejoice at the return of a prodigal child and we should always honor a forgiving parental heart. "We must celebrate and rejoice," said the father in the gospel. If we are convinced of this, we now have a charge: Be prepared to forgive those who have hurt us. Be ready to open our hearts and our arms to embrace those who are seeking our acceptance, our understanding, our love. +

Sunday Readings

Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Moses implored the LORD..., "Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Israel..." So the LORD relented in the punishment he had threatened to inflict on his people.

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Indeed, the grace of our Lord has been abundant, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

Luke 15:1-32

While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion.

Humanity is noblest when admitting its weakness.

Humanity is greatest in its ability to show mercy and lift the downtrodden.

A Word from Pope Francis

When someone whose heart is synchronized with God's sees the repentance of a person, they rejoice, no matter how serious their mistakes may have been. They do not stay focused on errors, they do not point fingers at what they have done wrong, but rejoice over the good because another person's good is mine as well!

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 27, 2022



REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- With whom do you most identify in the Gospel story: the sinful son, the jealous brother, or the loving father?
- Explain your selection.

Let God Out of the Box

By Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR

Christians believe that God is infinite and eternal, God stands outside the bounds of space and time. God is omnipotent, omnipresent, omnibenevolent, and omniscient. God is, as one of my favorite gospel songs says, “awesome.”

And yet, we often squeeze our infinite God into tiny boxes. I guess it's inevitable. It's pretty tough to visualize something that's beyond our understanding, hard to get a handle on the infinite. And there's nothing wrong with contemplating God in bite-sized portions—it's just that it becomes so easy to deny everything that doesn't fit into our little box.

Some insist God is male and deny any other possibility. The artwork of our Catholic tradition has so often portrayed God as an older white male that artwork portraying God in any other fashion is seen as false. It's very hard to get God out of that little box. The language we use to describe God in our liturgies is masculine, and any attempt to use feminine pronouns is usually met with hostility even though Catholic theology teaches us that to do so is perfectly acceptable (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 370). If God is truly all things, what's wrong with painting God as a young, black female?

Others have placed God in a box that restricts God's mercy. Each of us can probably think of a couple people we can't imagine being allowed into



Others have placed God in a box that restricts God's mercy. Some even limit God's mercy as it applies to themselves.

paradise for one reason or another. We build a box out of justice (our definition) and seal it with self-righteousness, imagining it will hinder the flow of God's limitless mercy to those we deem unworthy.

Some even limit God's mercy as it applies to themselves. God loves me whether I believe it or not, but not believing it greatly limits the effect God's love has on my life. Imagine yourself

drowning in the ocean. You've gone under twice; it's dark, and you're scared. Someone throws you a life preserver, but it lands behind you and you don't see it. To you, it doesn't exist. So even though it's only a few feet away, it cannot save your life, and you drown. Just so, if I deny God's mercy, then for all intents and purposes it doesn't exist in my universe.

The same is true if I deny God's love. It cannot help define who I am. It cannot change the opinion I have of myself. It cannot save me from myself. If we imagine that God acts and reasons the same way we do, we fail to see God's love and mercy that surround us. Shall we open ourselves to the wonder and mystery that is God? Shall we let God out of the box?



Merciful God, mindful of how much we are forgiven, please give us the grace to forgive those who have hurt us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 12–17

Monday, Weekday:

1 Cor 11:17–26, 33 / Lk 7:1–10

Tuesday, St. John Chrysostom:

1 Cor 12:12–14, 27–31a / Lk 7:11–17

Wednesday, Exaltation of the Holy Cross:

Nm 21:4b–9 / Phil 2:6–11 / Jn 3:13–17

Thursday, Our Lady of Sorrows:

1 Cor 15:1–11 / Jn 19:25–27 or Lk 2:33–35

Friday, Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian:

1 Cor 15:12–20 / Lk 8:1–3

Saturday, Weekday:

1 Cor 15:35–37, 42–49 / Lk 8:4–15



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