



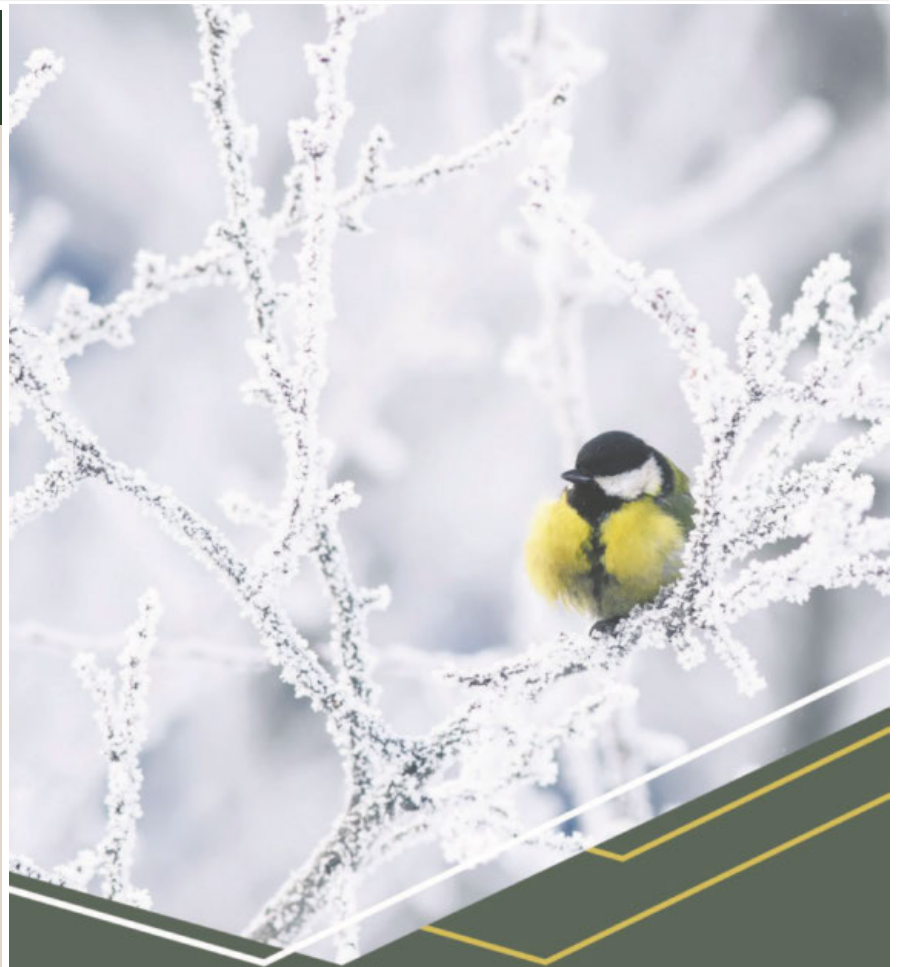
SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

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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2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Now I have seen and testified that he is the
Son of God." - Jn 1:34

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.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
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Fr. Stan Pachla
stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Msgr. Gary Smetanka
msgr.smetanka@stargp.org

Non-Resident Sacramental Minister

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

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Deacon Dom Pastore
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Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser
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Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
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Youth Group

Linda Lietaert
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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



‘Twas the “Night” Before Christmas: Yes, ‘twas the “night” before Christmas, when all through the Church, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The

wreaths were all hung by the balcony with care, in hopes that the Christmas crowds soon would be there; the parishioners were nestled all snug at their homes; with visions of warmer temperatures dancing in their heads; and Father Andrew in his sweater and I in my long winter coat, walked over for early confessions before the long day was soon to commence. When out in the Church a few complained it was shivering; I sprang from the sacristy to see what was the matter. Away to the boiler room, I flew like a flash, tore open the doors and threw up the sash. When, what to my wondering eyes should appear, but no boiler light and nothing but alarms! Noooooooo! Not on Christmas Eve! Seriously, why on Christmas Eve? Don’t the gremlins know we’re busy?

Father Andrew headed over to hear confessions while I surveyed the issues in the boiler room. I checked our temperature probes, and they only showed 45 degrees inside the Church. Pete, our maintenance staff member, was working on refilling the candles in the Pieta Chapel, and he reported it had to be even colder back there. UGH! “I don’t have time for this,” was the first thing I yelled to myself ... okay, maybe it wasn’t “to myself!”

As a pastor, you learn how to deal with minor boiler issues quickly. You may not have a boiler operator’s license, but you know enough to get things going, to hit resets, and when you need to call in the pros. But the boiler wasn’t the only issue. The air handler was also down (which was good because we didn’t need any additional cold air pumping into the Church). So, I called Dina and Vern, and we quickly assessed that we needed to call in the pros in the form of De-Cal; they handle all of our boiler issues. It was now 1 PM, and I knew I was going to ruin a few people’s Christmas Eve, but we had no choice. De-Cal had someone out within an hour and got the boiler back up and running. It turned out that a motor that controls the ventilation system of the boiler was having issues, so the system shut the boiler off as a safety precaution. Once the boiler was up and running, we turned our attention to the air handlers. That turned

out to be an easy fix. The air handlers have a temperature cut-off threshold. If the air gets too cold inside the air handlers, it shuts the unit off. It’s basically a freeze reset. And that would continue to pop until the boiler reached its normal operating temperature.

After a few hours of messing around with all of that, I went home to change and called my family to let them know they would have to deal with the final set-ups for our family dinner at the Parish Center after the 4 PM mass. At this point, I had no time to deal with all the last-minute stuff. So, after getting dressed in my good suit, crisp white shirt, and formal clerical attire, I headed back to Church. Thankfully, the boiler was pumping out some heat, and eventually, the air handlers stopped needing to be reset, but it would have been quite the picture with me in my suit and good white shirt climbing a ladder near the big air handlers on a Christmas Eve trying to keep things on until the boiler rose to its normal operating temperature. Usually, in these moments, I ruin my good clothes; but I’m delighted to report I didn’t rip anything ... I only got grease on my cuffs! Not bad.

It was 2:45, and crowds were starting to roll into Church for the 4 PM mass. I already needed a nap (and a good glass of chocolate wine at this point). But it was still pretty cold in Church and even colder in the choir loft. The Church was slowly inching toward 55 degrees, and I was hoping some body heat would help warm things up. But it was still cold upstairs in the Choir loft. I saw someone ... and for the sake of this story, let’s say her name was Catherine ... start to lug a heater upstairs. I somewhat rolled my eyes because I was confident it would get warmer by the 4 PM mass, but this was the Choir loft. And since we had a bunch of extra musicians and the children’s choir, she wanted to make it comfortable for all of them to do their best ... after all, it was Christmas Eve. Dumb gremlins, check your calendars and leave us alone! So, to the choir loft the heater went, and I turned my focus on the Mass in the Emmaus Hall, hoping beyond hope that things would settle down. Little did I anticipate all that was yet to happen.

It was now 3:45 PM. Crowds are pouring into the Sr. Carol Center and either going into the Church or the Emmaus Hall for Mass. Suddenly, I get all these mayday calls and texts. Now what? Well, a breaker popped and shut down the computer that controls the screens and all

the streaming equipment. Noooooooo. Not on Christmas Eve. Seriously, on Christmas Eve? Do you see a pattern here?

Even though the breaker was reset, the streaming equipment wasn’t going live. I ran upstairs to the choir loft and frantically tried to diagnose with Kristine Hass what the problem might be now. Most of the power was on, but none of the streaming equipment was responding, nor were any of the cameras. UGH! There was power, but we lost all network functionality and connectivity. This wasn’t fair. It was now 3:53 PM, and my brain was on overload trying to determine the issue quickly. And, in a rare moment, I gave up! I rarely give up! But this was Christmas Eve, after all! Even though I wanted to stay upstairs to get the streaming equipment going, I had to get back downstairs, vest, and get Mass started in the Emmaus Hall. But my brain was on overdrive because what was happening didn’t make sense. But then again, this was SJA, and things often happen around here that don’t make any sense.

So, I quickly hobbled downstairs, pretended I was in a good mood for all the people wishing me a Merry Christmas, and got vested for Mass, knowing I had to get the streaming equipment back up and running for the next Mass. We have too many people dependent on our streaming to give up too quickly, especially on Christmas Eve!

After Mass, I had a brilliant light go on, and I realized the potential problem. Sure enough, I was right. An auxiliary piece of networking equipment was on the power strip that somehow also got fried, so I just needed to reroute that power cord to another outlet. Voila, it worked! Crabby pants here started to breathe a sigh of relief, and wandered over to the Parish Center for dinner with his family. Dinner was important, but we still had to place the 2,000 tea lights outside. I enjoyed my dinner and being with my family and looked forward to a nice calm rest of the evening. Little did I know what was still on the horizon! Darn Gremlins, didn’t they know it was Christmas Eve?

Oh yes, there’s more to come; after all, it was Christmas Eve!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org

Readings for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JANUARY 22 A

Reading One – Is 8:23—9:3

First the Lord degraded the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in the end he has glorified the seaward road, the land west of the Jordan, the District of the Gentiles.

Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness: for there is no gloom where but now there was distress. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial – Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

One thing I ask of the LORD; this I seek: To dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, That I may gaze on the loveliness of the LORD and contemplate his temple.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Reading Two – 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose. For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters, by Chloe's people, that there are rivalries among you. I mean that each of you is saying, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you?

Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with the wisdom of human eloquence, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning.

Alleluia – Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Mt 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled: *Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen.* From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him. He went around all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people.

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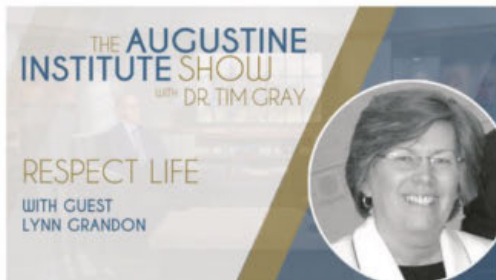
THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of January 15, 2023



Saint Anthony of Egypt

St. Anthony was a saint whose heroic life of humility and prayer inspired many other great Saints, including St. Athanasius and St. Augustine. Sit down with Taylor Kemp and Dr. Elizabeth Klein as they explore the life of this great saint.



Respect Life The Augustine Institute Show

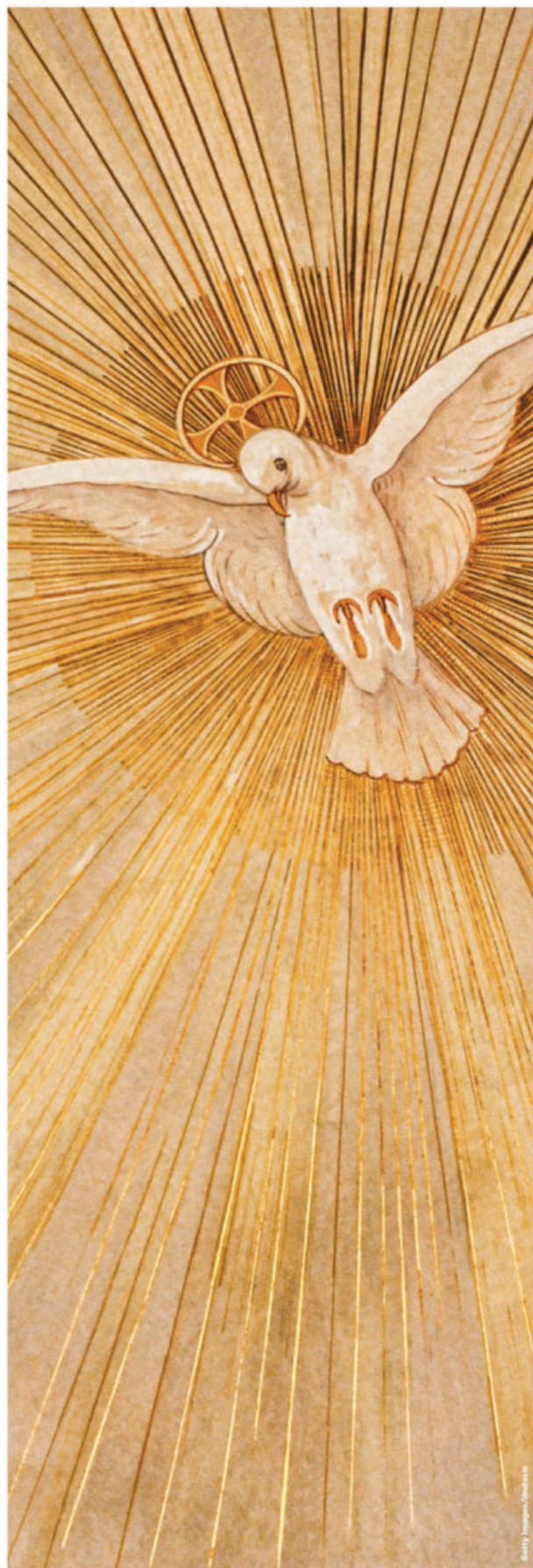
Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Lynn Grandon on to his show to discuss what it means to respect life. You will leave this conversation with great ideas for how you can get involved in the pro-life movement.



How Do We Live Pro-Life?

The Catholic Church is committed to being pro-life. What does this mean and how are we called to live this out? Join Dr. Ben Akers and Lynn Grandon as they discuss what it means to live pro-life.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



January 15, 2023

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 49:3, 5-6 | 1 Cor 1:1-3 | Jn 1:29-34

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

I'm not sure I've ever seen a dove close up. The dove is a powerful symbol for Jews and Christians alike, representing love and a deep sense of peace. The dove has special significance for Christians, as a sign of the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist testifies, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him ... He is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit." The Baptist further testifies that Jesus is the Son of God. The *catechism* (701) reminds us that John the Baptist not only paved the way for Jesus, but for all of us who followed: "The Spirit comes down and remains in the purified hearts of the baptized." Through our baptism, we can follow in the footsteps of John the Baptist by telling others about Jesus. The Holy Spirit will give us what we need in order to become messengers of love and peace to those we encounter.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

During his 1988 campaign, President George H.W. Bush used the phrase "a thousand points of light" to describe volunteers "spread like stars throughout the nation, doing good." This phrase came to mind as I listened to the reading from Isaiah, in which the Lord vows to make Israel "a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." John the Baptist baptizes with water to prepare the people for Jesus' coming. As we settle into the dark days of winter, today's readings challenge us to become points of light to others, leading them to Christ. How we do that will differ for each of us – praying for others, visiting an elderly relative, writing that letter we've been putting off. We may not be prophets like Isaiah and John the Baptist, but we have the gift of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to inspire us.

PRAY Today's psalm reminds me of the popular hymn, "Here I am, Lord." While I love the melody, the psalmist offers a simple spoken version that we can pray to point ourselves in the direction of Jesus each day: "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

Help Save a Life



St. Joan of Arc will be sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive Sunday, January 29th, from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room.

If you are a regular donor, we thank you and hope to see you there. If you've never given before, it takes a little over an hour to donate and can save many lives.

The American Red Cross will not be taking walk-ins and you must have an appointment. Please see the bulletin for more information.

Please help save a life and become a Red Cross Blood Donor!

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.

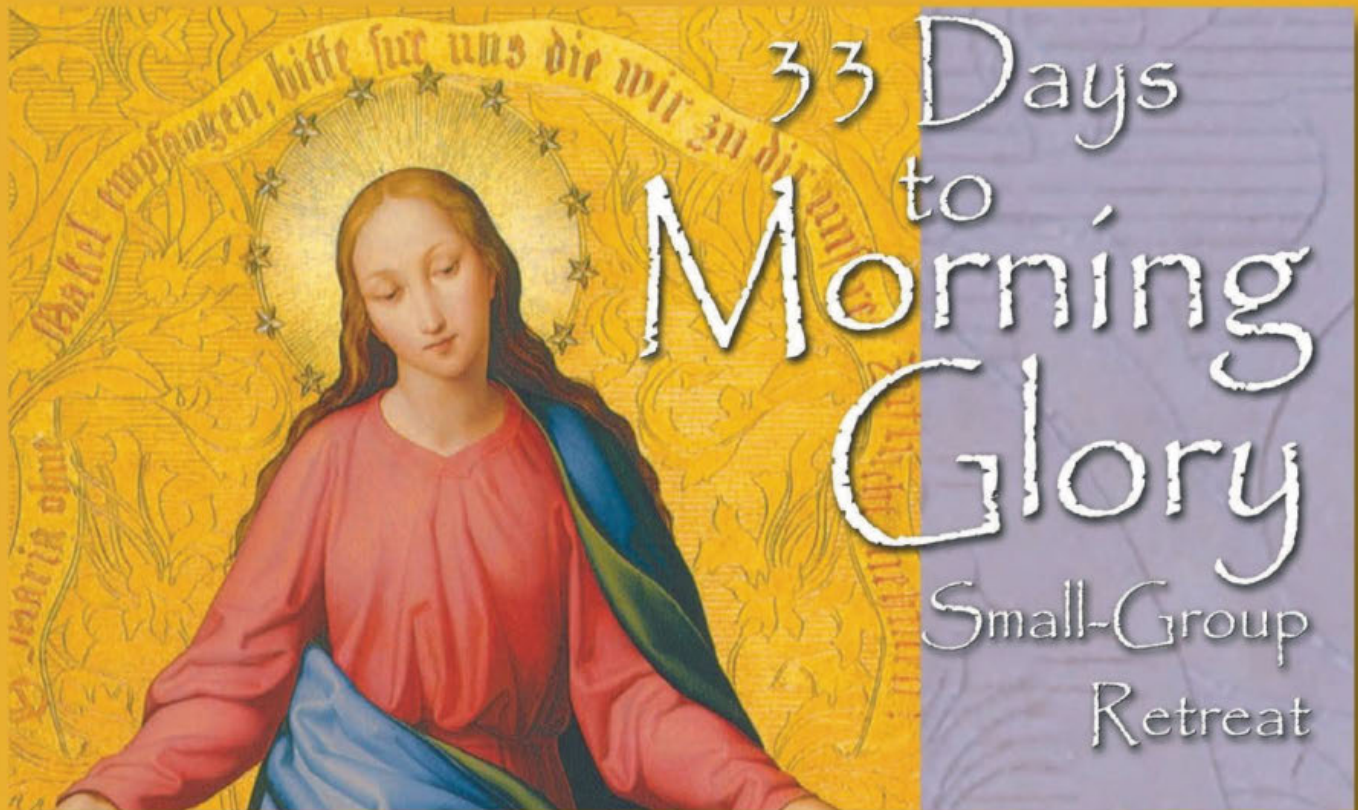
Join us!

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.



There is still time to register and be part of this weekly retreat. Learn more at sjascs.org/morning-glory

CALLING ALL CHILDREN!

Come and join our new children's liturgical choir **Grace Notes** for students from our parish and school in grades 1-5

Weekly practices begin Wednesday, January 18, from 6:15-7 pm in the Church Music Room (off the parking lot between the church and school).

For details and to register go to sjascs.org/childrens-choir.

Contact Catherine Trudell with questions at cthomas@sjascs.org or at the Parish Center at 586-777-3670

St. Joan of Arc

Join with parishioners and online friends as we work our way through the *Catechism in a Year* with Fr. Mike Schmitz and Ascension Press. New members welcome any time.

Find the link to the SJA SCS **Catechism in a Year Discussion Group** on the SJA Facebook page (search @sjascs) or see the homepage of the parish website.



Holy Happy Hour

Wednesday, January 18 // 6:30 pm

Join us and other Catholic young adult singles for
Holy Happy Hour at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Troy

- Eucharistic Adoration + Rosary // 6:30 pm
- Confession // 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
- Benediction // 8:00 pm

Happy Hour // 8:10pm // McVee's Pub & Grub, Troy

✉ hhcyagroup@gmail.com

📷 @hot_and_holy

f @HHCYAGroup



Scan QR code to follow us on Instagram



PREGNANCY AID

Virtual Baby Bottle Drive

**Help Pregnancy Aid Detroit continue its good
work helping moms and babies in need.**

**Make a donation at
pregnancyaid.stjoan.church**

Pregnancy Aid Detroit is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, Christian organization that upholds the sanctity of human life by advocating for the lives of mothers and their unborn children, and by offering emotional and material support, as well as education to promote healthy lifestyles.

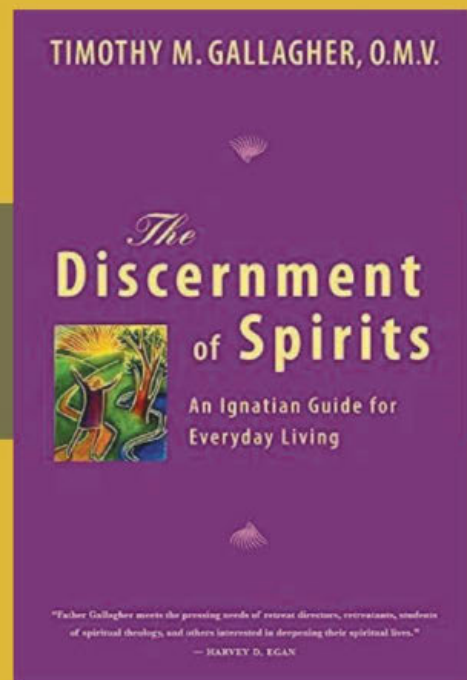
Young Adults Age 21 -35!

**Our young adult group has met
regularly for two years
and we invite you to join!**

**This January will feature Fr Timothy Gallagher's
Discernment of Spirits.**

**We'll listen to a 30min podcast, discuss the
episode, and enjoy fellowship Thursdays @ 7pm!**

**Interested? Contact Holly
@ hollymcgrath198@gmail.com
or St Paul's office: (313) 885 8855**



Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, January 16th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Parish Center Closed all day for the Holiday

Tuesday, January 17th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, January 18th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, January 19th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM Holy Hour

Friday, January 20th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, January 21st

11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:00 PM Coluzzi/Domenick Wedding

4:00 PM Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 PM Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, January 22nd

8:00 AM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

10:00AM Sunday Mass- Live Streamed

12:00 PM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

Jan. 15, 2023 – I Come to Do Your Will

Christmas trees are, for the most part, either put away or thrown away.

Holiday decorations are, in most cases, either packed up or soon will be.

The last of the Christmas cookies have been eaten.

And life is returning to more of a routine. The church, for its part, has shifted back into Ordinary Time, where we will be until the Lent begins at the end of February.

But the needs of our less-fortunate neighbors, so acutely felt and addressed during the holiday season, haven't suddenly disappeared. If they were hungry then, odds are good they are hungry now.

So it was refreshing, a few weeks ago, to see a sponsored story in *The Detroit News* about the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign – so ubiquitous and recognized during the holidays – and its lasting impact over the course of the entire year. Through that campaign, support is provided for disaster recovery, rehabilitation and after-school programs, legal aid, and more.

It's a giving mindset that people of goodwill should strive to carry out whether it's December, January ... or July.

"Families in our communities are struggling to make ends meet," a Salvation Army spokesman is quoted as saying in the story, adding the reminder that a really effective charitable contribution "not only supports our community's most vulnerable through the Christmas season, but 365 days a year."

And so, whether through prayer, financial contributions or volunteering, may we all keep in mind the ongoing needs of our brothers and sisters, and act accordingly.

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight, and your law is within my heart," we pray in today's responsorial psalm. "Here am I, Lord, I come to do your will."

© 2023, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday	January 16, 2023 Weekday (Green)
7:00 a.m.	For the deceased members of the Calisi Family who died in the Month of January
Tuesday	January 17, 2023 Saint Anthony, Abbott (White)
7:00 a.m.	Pamela Gervasoni
Wednesday	January 18, 2023 Weekday (Green)
7:00 a.m.	Ricky Sanders
Thursday	January 19, 2023 Weekday (Green)
7:00 a.m.	Geraldine Rogier
Friday	January 20, 2023 Weekday Saint Fabian, Pope & Martyr; Saint Sebastian, Martyr (Green/Red/Red)
7:00 a.m.	Paul T. Daudlin
Saturday	January 21, 2023 Vigil Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
4:00 p.m.	Joan Weber, Dr. Lori Karol, Bonnie Batche, Joseph Calus, Mark DeKoekoek and a Special Intention for the J. Champine Family, and for Catherine Lovasco
6:00 p.m.	George J. Bugarin
Sunday	January 22, 2023 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
8:00 a.m.	For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc Parishioners
10:00 a.m.	Joseph Paluzzi Jr.
12:00 p.m.	Denise Allossery and Dee Allor

Daily Readings

Monday, January 16

Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 2:18-22

Tuesday, January 17

Hebrews 6:10-20
Mark 2:23-28

Wednesday, January 18

Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17
Mark 3:1-6

Thursday, January 19

Hebrews 7:25-8:6
Mark 3:7-12

Friday, December 20

Hebrews 8:6-13
Mark 3:7-12

Saturday, January 21

Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-14
Mark 3:20-21

Sunday, January 22

Isaiah 8:23-9:3
1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17
Matthew 4:12-23



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.”

Judy Navetta
Fr. William Murphy
Fr. Kevin O'Doherty
Yolanda Alicandro



“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

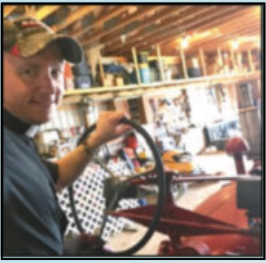


Reporting Sexual Abuse

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.

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



Bloomin' Winter!: Horticulturist, I am not. I was concerned about the little pine trees I planted in the Fall not making it through the

winter (or even *to* the winter) but they seem to have survived the transit and planting and are doing okay.

The same cannot be said for my cactus. I kind of like the little planter so I keep it, but this thing is now at least a year and a half past the end of its life. It is not only spikey but now crunchy too! Have you ever seen such a sight as this for interior décor?!



Sad doesn't even begin to cover it. But it's the only plant I have. You'd figure I could keep a cactus alive... but no. I wrote previously about my coffee plant that lives in the office now. I claim no agency over the life and times of that plant now. It still refuses to produce coffee beans and the one flower it managed to squeeze out last year never gained a friend.

I do have the annual poinsettia, which last year I kept until Easter, but this one isn't showing signs of wanting to hang on until then.

My fake Christmas tree went back in its box last weekend and my house is back to looking a little bare and barren.

So, I thought, maybe it's time to "bring the Spring." And without a whole lot of sun since before the New Year, we could all do with a little encouragement. Maybe the Spring needs it too, or at least my house could fake it for a while. While I was at the grocery store I saw these and decided it would be a good idea. What could go wrong? No planting, just replenish the water as it evaporates. So I

bought these tulips, and who knows, I could soon have something that looks alive and intentional. They are already beginning to hatch (that's probably not the right word, is it?!) And when the outside sees them, just wait, I bet the Spring will get its boots on too.



Monsignor mentioned this week that he would not be opposed to a snow day or two right about now. Those are always helpful as catch-up days, but at the time of writing, no dice. But a teacher friend of mine frequently reminds me that she once really wanted a snow day and even prayed for one. It was March 2020... the next day, no snow, but the world shut-down for the pandemic. She doesn't pray for snow days anymore!

Even the hint of possible snow on Friday has thought better of it and turned into wind instead, at least according to the weather app on my phone. I am tending to believe the app more than I believe the weather station in my back-yard now, which for a couple of weeks has been reporting some unusually gusty conditions behind my house, as you can see...



I suspect that 199mph wind gust may not

be entirely accurate! I think the recent hibernation of the sun forced the weather station to run on its battery, which is now drained, leaving the sensor confused, so it has turned to making it up to get by.

All of which leads me to the same conclusion... Michigan weather will do whatever it wants, but I hope it wants what I want soon!

Moving Forward: After the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the Church has now entered into Ordinary Time, called "ordinary" not because it is common, but simply because the weeks of Ordinary Time are numbered. The Latin word *ordinalis*, referring to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word *order*. The numbered weeks of Ordinary Time represent the ordered life of the Church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ.

It's appropriate, therefore, that the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (which is actually the first Sunday celebrated in Ordinary Time) always features either John the Baptist's acknowledgment of Christ as the Lamb of God or Christ's first miracle—the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana.

Thus for Catholics, Ordinary Time is the part of the year in which Christ, the Lamb of God, walks among us and transforms our lives. There's nothing "ordinary" about that!

The normal liturgical color for Ordinary Time, when there is no special feast, is green. Green vestments and altar cloths have traditionally been associated with the time after Pentecost, the period in which the Church founded by the risen Christ, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, began to grow and to spread the Gospel to all nations. But it only began—this work is not finished and will not be finished until we are all on board and doing our part to spread the Gospel. Having Christ at the center of your life make life anything but ordinary. It is a roller-coaster maybe, but it's the best way to travel through this year.

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew

adawson@sjascs.org

Coming Events

St. Joan of Arc Pilgrimage

June 16-25, 2023

Stay in Monasteries as we visit St. Joan's 'Deep France'

After three years of Covid interference, this past June we finally were able to lead another St. Joan of Arc pilgrimage. God willing, next June we will again lead a St. Joan of Arc pilgrimage/retreat to France. This will be our fourteenth opportunity for taking a group on this fascinating journey. Our travel philosophy remains the same - one of going back to the essentials, of simplicity, of quality time in some places instead of 'rush-rush' in many. Although we will indeed see and do much, we hope to travel first of all as spiritual travelers, rather than as consumers. Consequently, we will again purposely remain a small group. Each day we will gather for some combination of the following: prayer/meditation, information on activities of the day, addressing questions, and *Question du Jour* discussions. Come and experience many of the places where St. Joan lived, visited, and prayed.

Sites will include: Orléans, Domrémy-la-Pucelle, Vaucouleurs, and Reims, with quiet stays at monasteries in the heart of France. Please visit our website, with more information and photos: www.pilgrimwitnesses.com.

For any questions, feel free to contact us by phone or email:

Chris & Catherine Snidow
Phone: (214) 327-4579
Email: cowrind@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.pilgrimwitnesses.com



St. Joan of Arc parishioner:
Darryl Bryk

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Terra Sancta Pilgrimages with Franciscan friar Fr. Alex Kratz will be leading a Catholic Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from **April 18-May 2, 2023**.

This life-changing experience walking in Jesus' footsteps includes daily Mass and Rosary, biblical readings on site, time for prayer and spiritual guidance, and meeting local Christians.

Cost is \$5,200 (all expenses included, round trip from Detroit, 3 daily meals, all tips and taxes). Registration is first come, first serve with \$1,000 deposit to secure a seat. Full payment by Feb. 15.

Orientation Meeting is Sunday, **January 15** at St. Joseph Chapel (400 South Blvd. West, Pontiac, MI 48331).

Next pilgrimage: November 28-December 12, 2023.

For information, contact Fr. Alex: (313) 727-9784 or abunaalex@yahoo.com.



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Mark Beaupre
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Gilbert Bousho
Elizabeth Brock
Lori Cardosi
Patricia Clare
Ed Cole
Joan Combella
Ellen Dancey
Joan DeDene
Phyllis Dedene
Catherine DeRose

Diane DeSantis
Grace Dickerson
George Dickerson
Nick DiCresce
Renee DiMusto
Jean Edwards
Frank Faiss
Ben Fazio
Susan Federoff
Taylor Fisher
Jeanne Fleming
Michelle Goode
James Gutowski
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Rich Hanselman

Judith Hasten
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Catherine Konen
Delaney Kraemer
Concetta Leone
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Dorothy Lubinski
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Charlotte Miller
Mark Moffitt
Addison Montgomery

Jennie Mooney
Adam Moore
Jim Moore
Joel Moore
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Sr. Alice Riegel
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Larry Rochwalski
Suzanne Roland
Pat Rybak
Victoria Rydholm
Lily Saith
Dianne Schelosky
Ann Simmonds

Terri Smigels
Kathleen Smith
Cathy Spindler
Virginia Stieber
Beverly Taylor
Bernadette Thompson
James Thompson
Linda Vitale
Eileen Wallace
Joseph Whalen
Marilyn Wicker
Adrienne Weidenbach
Joyce Wiekrykas
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 +

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

January 15, 2023

Proud Servants of God

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

“My servant” is an identification a lot of people will shy away from. A servant seeks to accomplish someone else’s goals, and the adjective “my” suggests belonging to another. Yet all of today’s readings describe individuals who are proud to be servants—servants of God. What makes this kind of servant something to which all of us can aspire?

As a servant of God, Isaiah became “a light to the nations that [God’s] salvation may reach to the ends of the earth” (Isaiah 49:6). As a servant of God, Paul became “an apostle of Christ Jesus,” proclaiming the good news of God’s love “to the church of God that is in Corinth.”

As a servant of God, John the Baptist prepared the way so that Jesus “might be made known to Israel” (John 1:31). These servants sought to accomplish God’s goals for the fulfillment of others. It is in such commitment to others that we ourselves are fulfilled. Ask any parent, spouse, or good friend if this is not the case.

We might not want to be the servant of another, but what a privilege it is to be called to be a servant of God, a light to others, to proclaim God’s love and make Jesus known. By our baptism, we have all been so called. We enlighten others by the way we live with integrity. The unselfishness of our lives proclaims the good news of Christ Jesus. Authentic Christian living makes him known to the world. That’s what it means to be a servant of God. +

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 49:3, 5–6

I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

1 Corinthians 1:1–3

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God....

John 1:29–34

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”

A Word from Pope Francis

John saw something shocking: the beloved Son of God in solidarity with sinners; and the Holy Spirit made him understand the unprecedented novelty.... While in all religions it is man who offers and sacrifices something to God...[it] is God who offers his own Son for the salvation of humanity.

Angelus, Rome, January 19, 2020



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION REFLECTION

- How do you personally benefit by serving others?
- Are you careful to take care of your own needs even as you serve others?

Care for the Caregiver

By Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR

A counselor told his gloomy new patient, “Lighten up! You need a good laugh. Go to the circus and enjoy a performance by Giggles the Clown.” Replied the patient, “I am Giggles the Clown.”

According to an article in *Time* last August, suicides in this country are at their highest number in thirty years. Sixteen million people in the US are affected by clinical depression, making it “the leading cause of disability in the world, costing the US economy alone \$210 billion a year in lost productivity [and] missed days of work.”

More surprising than melancholic clowns are members of the cloth with clinical depression. A study by the Clergy Health Initiative at Duke Divinity School says Methodist ministers were twice as likely to be depressed than the general public. Mental health specialists cite guilt about not doing enough, doubts about one’s call to ministry, and “vicarious trauma” as possible factors. “Bearing witness to another person’s trauma can itself be traumatic and can activate feelings and behaviors associated with earlier traumatic experiences clergy may have had in their own lives,” according to a study published in *MentalHealth.org*. It asserts that vicarious trauma affects clergy as it does professional caregivers and first responders.

However, a growing number of people today assume the role of caregiver, not as a profession but as a responsibility to a family member or friend who is sick,



elderly, disabled, or dying. In a 2015 report, “Caregiving in the US,” 39 percent of adults are caregivers, and of these, sixty percent are women. Nearly half of caregivers assist a parent or parent-in-law; one in ten care for a spouse. Round-the-clock caregivers are more likely to experience stress in their duties, which can also lead to secondary traumatic stress (STS) or “compassion fatigue.” Symptoms include mental and physical exhaustion, numbness in interacting with others, and difficulty in finding fulfillment in work.

Compassion literally means “to suffer together.” Jesus was moved with compassion, but he also withdrew to pray and rest with his disciples. He told them: “Come away by yourselves to a deserted

place and rest a while. People were coming and going...and they had no opportunity even to eat” (Mark 6:31)

So a message to caregivers—professional or otherwise—on the verge of compassion fatigue and vicarious trauma: Take care of yourself as you care for others. This isn’t selfishness, but prudence. It’s hard to give what you don’t have. For this reason, Mother Teresa required her sisters to take a mandatory year off from their caregiving duties every four to five years. In F. Scott Fitzgerald’s *Absolution*, the priest, teetering on a nervous breakdown, tells the kid who is trying to make a confession: Go to an amusement park but don’t get up close, “because if you do, you’ll only feel the heat and the sweat and the life.”

Lighten your load, caregivers! Go to the circus, amusement park, movies—or chapel—wherever numbness can be prevented in you. For it’s in feeling the heat, the sweat, and the life that the Way, the Truth, and the Life is found! +

This reflection is from an issue of *Liguorian*, a bimonthly magazine published by the Redemptorists. To subscribe or purchase a gift subscription, go to Liguorian.org or call 866-848-2492.



Creator God, help us to find holy balance as we seek to attend to others and take care of ourselves. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

January 16–21

Monday, Weekday:

Heb 5:1–10 / Mk 2:18–22

Tuesday, St. Anthony:

Heb 6:10–20 / Mk 2:23–28

Wednesday, Weekday:

Heb 7:1–3, 15–17 / Mk 3:1–6

Thursday, Weekday:

Heb 7:25–8:6 / Mk 3:7–12

Friday, Weekday:

Heb 8:6–13 / Mk 3:13–19

Saturday, St. Agnes:

Heb 9:2–3, 11–14 / Mk 3:20–21



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