



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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5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." - Mt 5:14

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:

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
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Non-Resident Sacramental Minister

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

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Deacon Dom Pastore
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Music Director

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Principal

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Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser
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Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
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Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

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



Groundhog Day ... Over and Over Again: By now, you know whether or not Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow and whether we think there will be an

early spring or six more weeks of winter.

Well, Groundhog Day with Punxsutawney Phil may long be over, but I feel like I'm the main character (Bill Murray) in the movie *Groundhog Day*! You may remember the movie. The plot is about a weatherman who finds himself in a time loop on Groundhog Day, and the day keeps repeating itself. He is reluctantly sent to cover the story about the weather forecasting "rat," as he calls it, and he makes no effort to hide his overt frustration. When he awakens the next day, he finds himself stuck on Groundhog Day, and he fears he is eternally doomed to spend the rest of eternity seeing the same place, the same people, doing the same thing every day!

If you were to guess what aspect of my life seems like a perpetual Groundhog Day, where would you place your bets? You're right, with all of our technology!

When I awaken each morning, I foolishly think I know what lies ahead. My schedule will say one thing, but then it's this or that emergency or this or that technology issue that will derail my day. And when it comes to our streaming equipment and all of our cameras and equipment that make our livestreams such a success, I will spend hours making it work or hours trying to come up with a backdoor solution to get us around whatever issue we are dealing with at the moment.

Now, there's good reason to be this concerned about our livestreaming. You just have to see the statistics from our livestreams each day to realize its importance in people's lives. Our average weekday 7 AM mass unique viewers are about 150. That's 150 unique connections to our 7 AM mass alone. That doesn't tell us how many people are behind those unique connections. The statistics for our weekend masses continue to blow my mind too. This past weekend we had 441 unique connections for the 4 PM Mass; 150 unique connections for the 6 PM Mass; 221 unique connections for the 8

AM Mass, 149 unique connections for the 10 AM Mass, and 111 unique connections for the 12 PM Mass. For the weekend alone, that's 1,072 unique connections. The point is that we're feeding many souls through our livestream outreach. In looking at the stats for this past Saturday's 4 PM Mass, while the vast majority of viewers were from metro Detroit (along with a few from Fr. Rich's hometown of Manistee), we had a viewer in Winnipeg Canada, someone in Portugal, as well as a sprinkling of viewers in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. So, when it comes to our livestreams, I'm hyper-focused and somewhat obsessive about ensuring it works and works well.

A few Saturdays ago, we had TWO funerals, a baptism, and then our regular 4 and 6 PM Masses. So it was a typical busy Saturday. For our livestreams, we rely on getting to our parish website to access the scheduling and broadcast controls. If we can't get to the schedule or that interface, the streaming equipment would never go live unless it were a recurring liturgy like the daily or weekend Masses. And, until recently, I didn't have an onsite archived recording of a liturgy (like an onsite DVR to record what we are filming with the cameras). Thus, if the broadcast didn't happen, I didn't have an onsite copy of that liturgy that I could later upload to the site for on-demand viewing. While I would be somewhat bothered if it was a daily or weekend Mass, having a botched broadcast at a wedding or a funeral with no onsite recording to later upload for viewing would send me "over the edge."

No matter what I did, I could not, on ANY computer, access the St. Joan website and thus could not access our broadcast portal. Unfortunately, I only tend to find out about these issues shortly before a significant liturgy (and this day, it was a funeral). After a few tries, I went into hyper-drive mode ... and as staff will tell you ... this is when you best stay out of Monsignor's way and, by all means, don't talk to him (although he can block people out in those moments so he can focus). I tried a few of my other typical sites, like The Catholic University of America, the USCCB, EWTN, and the Vatican, but my wheel just kept spinning. Ironically, I could get to places like Freep.com, Google, and the Weather Channel. Soon, I realized I was being blocked from religious sites. My brain was quickly trying to figure out

what to do. I wasn't the celebrant of this funeral, so I could stay upstairs until I figured it all out. I developed a workaround, which was to access the site from my phone using cellular data or on a separate video network we have on site. But this wouldn't work well for me in the long run as I needed all the controls to be on the same network. But I was intrigued by the fact that the common denominator was that all of my blocked sites were religious. UGH!

I then sent some panicky texts to Kristine Hass and then to Jasmine and Eric from ITonDemand, who help me with our networking issues. Everyone started working on it right away. Unfortunately, we had too much going on this particular day to run into problems with being unable to control our streaming equipment.

God bless Jasmine from ITonDemand. She paid attention to our liturgy schedule and only worked on the issue in between everything. After the funeral, I went and heard confessions for a bit. I then got a text from Jasmine. "Can you call me? I think I've got it," the text read. I texted back and told her I would call ASAP because I was busy. She texted back that she could now access many of the sites I was blocked from, including our own website and the admin site for our streaming equipment. When I saw that text appear on my watch, I took the first opportunity I could to call her.

Jasmine discovered that overnight, Meraki, the company whose equipment we use for our firewall and router, made some changes to their content filtering. We can block sites that people shouldn't be accessing with content filtering; the list of themes is simply a series of checkboxes on their portal. But overnight, they added some new "themes" and automatically checked them so that any site that matched the theme would instantly become blocked. And, what was a new "theme" ... religion! Yes, religion. I kid you not. With a simple click of a mouse and thus unchecking the "religion" theme, we were back to normal. Well, as normal as normal can be at SJA ... until the next day when it would seem like "Groundhog Day" all over again!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org

Readings for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 12 A

Reading One – Sir 15:15-20

If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live; he has set before you fire and water to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand. Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him. Immense is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power, and all-seeing. The eyes of God are on those who fear him; he understands man's every deed. No one does he command to act unjustly, to none does he give license to sin.

Responsorial – Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Blessed are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed are they who observe his decrees, who seek him with all their heart.

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

You have commanded that your precepts be diligently kept. Oh, that I might be firm in the ways of keeping your statutes!

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Be good to your servant, that I may live and keep your words. Open my eyes, that I may consider the wonders of your law.

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Instruct me, O LORD, in the way of your statutes, that I may exactly observe them. Give me discernment, that I may observe your law and keep it with all my heart.

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Reading Two – 1 Cor 2:6-10

Brothers and sisters: We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away. Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age knew; for, if they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: *What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him*, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.

Alleluia – cf. Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Mt 5:17-37

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven. I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

"You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment*. But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; and whoever says to his brother, 'Raqa,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin; and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court. Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, *You shall not commit adultery*. But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose

Readings for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Joan of Arc

one of your members than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.

"It was also said, *Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce.* But I say to you, whoever divorces his wife - unless the marriage is unlawful - causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow.* But I say to you, do not swear at all; not by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is his footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Do not swear by your head, for you cannot make a single hair white or black. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one."



*In this sacrifice of the New and Eternal Covenant,
Christian spouses encounter the source from
which their own marriage covenant flows...*

Familiaris Consortio, 57

FOR YOUR
MARRIAGE

National Marriage Week
Every February 7-14
ForYourMarriage.org



February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 58:7-10 | 1 Cor 2:1-5 | Mt 5:13-16

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

“

**You are the salt
of the earth, you
are the light of
the world.”**

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

It's amazing how one interaction can brighten an otherwise gloomy day. I love a nice sunrise on a wintry morning or a crackling fire on an autumn night. But whatever the weather, nothing quite lights up my day like a shared laugh with a friend, a snippet of real conversation with my teen son, or a hot cup of coffee delivered by my husband. In today's reading, Jesus continues the Sermon on the Mount, telling the disciples: "Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." We, too, can be light for others – through good deeds large and small, ordinary and extraordinary. As we go about our days, we can ask the Lord to show us how to serve others. We will have days when we don't feel up to the task but, like St. Paul, we can ask the Holy Spirit to light the way.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus used images that resonate with us as much as they did with his followers 2,000 years ago: salt and light. Salt serves many purposes, preserving our food and giving it flavor, for example. And of course we cannot live without light. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples: "You are the salt of the earth ... You are the light of the world." Like the disciples we, too, can be salt and light for others by giving witness to our faith. What that involves will be different for each of us. For ideas, we can turn to today's reading from Isaiah, which calls us to share our bread, shelter the oppressed and clothe the naked. In doing so, our light "shall break forth like the dawn."

ACTION We all know people we'd call "the salt of the earth." Who are those people in your life? Make a list of the characteristics they exhibit or actions they take that you can learn from and try to imitate. Ask God for the grace to see and do likewise for his glory.



Getty Images/Donna Bismarova

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

the RESCUE project

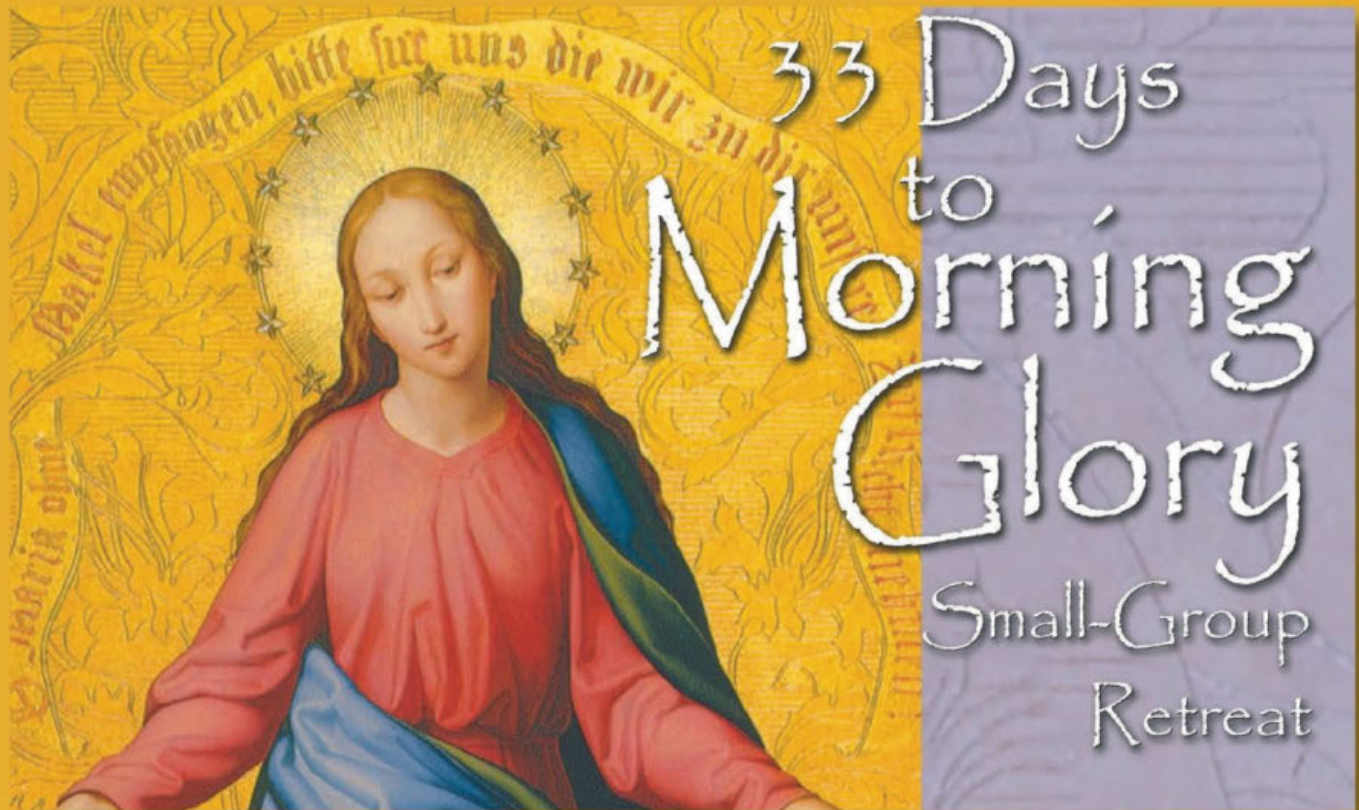


Coming to St. Joan of Arc
Beginning February 14
in-person or online

For trailer, information & to register online go to
sjascs.org/rescue

MEAL | EPISODE | DISCUSSION
All Adults and Teens are welcome!

The adventure you were born for beckons



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).

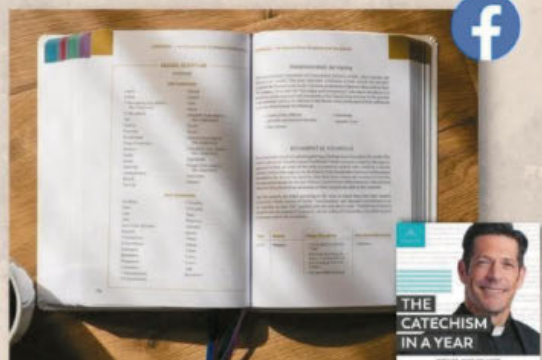
For details and to register go to sjascs.org/childrens-choir.

Contact Catherine Trudell with questions at cthomasesjascs.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.



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of February 05, 2023



Bernadette

Millions of people each year go on pilgrimage to Lourdes, a place where miracles frequently occur. Explore the origins of this miraculous place of encounter with the Lord in this movie which depicts Mary's apparitions to St. Bernadette.



Bakhita: From Slave to Saint

Bakhita: From Slave to Saint tells the incredible story of St. Josephine Bakhita. Originally born in Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped by slavers and was eventually sold to a merchant in Italy. By the grace of God, she lived a heroic life of forgiveness and mercy which led her to become a saint.



How and Why to Pray the Rosary

As we celebrate Our Lady of Lourdes this week, we invite you to learn more about the Rosary! Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss how they pray the Rosary and how it has changed their lives!

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



World Marriage Day

A day when St. John Paul II gave his apostolic blessing.

Sunday, February 19, 2023

San Marino Club, 1685 East Big Beaver, Troy 48083

2:30-6:30 pm (doors open at 2:00 pm)

Dinner at 3:00 pm followed by Speakers & Dancing

Emcees: Deacon Dominick Pastore & Teresa Tomeo



Fr. Joseph Krupp: Words to Strengthen, Inspire and Guide Marriages



Fr. Joseph Krupp was born and raised in Montrose, Michigan, as the youngest of six children. Fr. Joe's mom and dad both say he "entered the world running." Fr. Joe was ordained to the priesthood 24 years ago and has served at multiple parishes as well as taught at Lansing Catholic High School, and Michigan State University. He has also served as Director of Campus Ministry at MSU and Chaplain for MSU football and the East Lansing Police Department. Fr. Joe is now the Pastor of Church of the Holy Family parish and school in Grand Blanc and St. Mark parish in Goodrich. His nationally syndicated monthly column for Faith Catholic and his weekly podcasts and live-streams allow him to teach and serve a virtual following that spans the globe. Fr Joe will speak on: Marriage & the Central

Mystery of Our Faith.

Follow Fr. Joe- Facebook: Fr. Joseph J Krupp | YouTube: Joe In Black Ministries | Instagram: @joeinblack88

Bill & Carol Brewis: Mercy, Joy and Healing in Marriage

Bill and Carol have been married 42 years and are blessed with 3 married children and 11 grandchildren. Carol earned an undergraduate degree in developmental Psychology and a Certificate in Spiritual Direction from Manresa and training from the JPII Healing Center. Bill has a degree in mathematics and worked in the computer and software industry. In 2005, they both left full time employment and set off on a spiritual journey to discern God's will for their lives. They are involved in prayer ministry, spiritual direction and minister spreading the mercy of God to aching mankind, especially in marriages & families.



Priests, as well as prayer ministers, will be available for blessing and prayers after the presentation.

Music by Rennie Kaufmann & his daughter Esther

Early Bird Special: Nov 25-Nov 28 - \$70/couple

By January 1 - \$75/couple; after January 1 - \$80/couple

Table Reservations \$350 (5 couples per table) by January 31

On-line registration & payment: WorldMarriageDay.org

For questions about table reservations: Email Dan/Debbie at worldmarriageday@yahoo.com

For general questions: Rich/Fran 586.979.0192 or waldenluv2@wowway.com

ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY FEB 12, 2023



Please print **both** names to complete form w/ payment payable to: World Marriage Day

Mail-in Registration

World Marriage Day

43814 Falcon Lane

Clinton Twp., MI 48038

Husband: _____ Wife: _____

First

Last

First

Last

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Tickets will NOT be sent to you, a nametag will be at the door

Special needs (dietary, accessibility, etc.): _____

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, February 6th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed
5:30 PM Baptism of Sophia Grace Jaynes
6:00 PM Confirmation Prep - EH
7:00 PM Men's Fellowship

Tuesday, February 7th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed
7:00 PM Rescue Project - EH/Livestreamed

Wednesday, February 8th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed
5:30 PM Baptism of Mila Kimberly Scarfone
7:00 PM PTG Meeting - EH

Thursday, February 9th

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

Friday, February 10th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, February 11th

10:00 AM Funeral for Cessily Thalacker
11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:30 PM Baptism of Marcelino Gore Latorella
1:30 PM Baptism of Robbie Drain, Jacob Drain
and Aiden Drain

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

Sunday, February 12th

8:00 AM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed
9:00 AM K of C Pancake Breakfast—EH

10:00AM Sunday Mass- Live Streamed

12:00 PM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

Feb. 5, 2023 – Light the Lamp

We put our plans in motion, often enough, only to have fate throw a curveball.

ClickonDetroit (WDIV-TV4) reported a few weeks ago on a Sterling Heights police officer who, along with his wife and 5-month-old daughter, relocated just last year from Bay County in order to be closer to family. Shortly after getting settled in – and well-along into his wife's pregnancy, according to the story – the officer discovered he was battling stage 3 testicular cancer that also had spread into his body, including his lungs.

The story indicated that, given the officer's relatively young age and health, the outlook is optimistic.

Nevertheless, of course, bills have started to pile up, and the young officer, still in the first year of his new employment, was on probation, a period during which, the story said, he could have been released from his employment at any time. Needing to miss work for surgery and related matters, generally, could have triggered such a release.

However, the story said, not only did his department keep him employed, they organized a hockey fundraiser, which, at the time of this writing, had been scheduled to take place in Fraser; Sterling Heights police vs. Clinton Township.

That, indeed, is how we are called, in the words of the Prophet Isaiah in today's first reading, to "share your bread with the hungry."

Such stories are all around us; a neighbor in need calls forth the charity in all of us.

"You are the light of the world," Jesus says in today's gospel passage from St. Matthew. "A city on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly father."

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Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday	February 6, 2023 Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs (Red)
7:00 a.m.	Dorene Oster
Tuesday	February 7, 2023 Weekday (Green)
7:00 a.m.	Al Rogier
Wednesday	February 8, 2023 Weekday Saint Jerome Emiliani, Saint; Josephine Bakhita, Virgin (Green/White/White)
7:00 a.m.	John G. Champine
Thursday	February 9, 2023 Weekday (Green)
7:00 a.m.	Karam Karam
Friday	February 10, 2023 Saint Scholastica, Virgin (White)
7:00 a.m.	Matt Hunsucker
Saturday	February 11, 2023 Weekday, Our Lady of Lourdes, BVM (Green/White/White)
4:00 p.m.	Bonnie Batche, the deceased members of the Batche Family, Mark DeKoekkoek, Maura Marquez Mallare, Amanda Baumann, Michael Forrester and Special Intentions for the J. Champine Family and for the Thomas Family.
6:00 p.m.	John Frahm
Sunday	February 12, 2023 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
8:00 a.m.	For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc Parishioners
10:00 a.m.	A Special Intention for Lindsay Rupp
12:00 p.m.	Mary Smooth, Joyce Young, Josephine and Salvatore Ciaravino, Mike Spensley

Daily Readings

Monday, February 6

Genesis 1:1-19
Mark 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 7

Genesis 1:20-2:4a
Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 8

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17
Mark 7:14-23

Thursday, February 9

Genesis 2:18-25
Mark 7:24-30

Friday, February 10

Genesis 3:1-8
Mark 7:31-37

Saturday, February 11

Genesis 3:9-24
Mark 8:1-10

Sunday, February 12

Sirach 15:1-20
1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37



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.”

Francis (Frank) Murray
Joan Cueter



“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.”

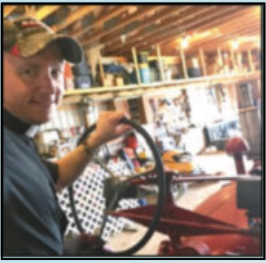
Minnie Louise Haskins



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.



Salt and Light: This week I had the honor of visiting with a parishioner at her home. She has been dealing with sickness and physical limitations through most of Covid. We had a wonderful conversation and its with her permission that I recount here some of the things we talked about.

For someone who has struggled so much in recent months, she has such a beautiful perspective, attitude and spirit. If last week we heard the Beatitudes in the Gospel, she is the blessed meek, a gentle spirit. And this week, she is the salt of the earth and the light of the world, bringing God's light, in the simplest of ways, into the places it needs to shine, even from her own bed.

I hope that her perspective can be of use to others, as does she.

When I last visited her she was undergoing some physical therapy and was not in her own home. Now, thankfully she is finally home and has some homecare help attending to her. But at that last visit, she was maybe a little down. She expressed to me that she could not go and get her own groceries or go for a walk or walk her dog and she was wondering what God had in store for her in this situation—what did he want from her now?

She reminded me of what I said to her that day, and, I laugh now, of how I apparently said it. I'm not sure if I knew it at the time, but she described my tone of voice at that time being almost like a teacher to a student in school. Addressing her by name said to her, "Did you ever think that maybe God's mission for you right now is here, to the people who are working here?" She had described to me that there were a number of staff members who although kind to her and treating her well, just seemed tired or maybe over-worked or pre-occupied. She said one in particular she got along well with, but that earlier that morning she had seemed sad or distracted.

The parishioner told me that she had been trying to cheer up the staff and showing kindness to them. And that's what I meant—that maybe God wanted her to minister to the staff of that facility—to bring His love to them—to bring light of the world, the light of Jesus. She said that when I said that, and as she thought about it afterwards, she realized that she knew this, but that having it affirmed renewed her conviction and gave her a renewed sense of purpose.

During our conversation this week, she told me of a number of encounters she had had with hospital staff, several of them Muslim and that she had been able to witness to her love of God to them, and His love for them. She had not tried to judge anyone's faith beliefs, but rather just to affirm that God loves them, particularly some who had been struggling a little.

She expressed to me just a wonderful reflection on her own suffering. She said she had been thanking God for allowing her to experience some suffering, but that she was conscious that, and almost felt bad that, her suffering was only a tiny piece of the suffering Jesus had felt on the cross.

We talked about the difference between accepting suffering and asking for it or wanting it. I reminded her that we do not have to *want* suffering or *welcome* it in order to accept it. That if God has chosen to allow us to suffer to some degree at this present time, being willing to accept it is not to say that we are supposed to like it or want more of it. But that since we're in this moment of suffering, that we choose to accept this share of the cross, a share in the cross Jesus suffered, on behalf of another. We use the suffering and allow it to become redemptive, offering it back to God on behalf of another who needs God's mercy. We can actually name another person, asking that our suffering be used by God as He wishes to use it. We can ask Him that our suffering and pain merit someone who may also be going through a tough time. Jesus did not die on the cross for Himself. His suffering was redemptive suffering, accepted, offered and endured on *our* behalf, for *our* salvation. Without that purposeful

intention it would have had no power and no purpose. So it is with our suffering. It is without purpose unless we allow God to use it for His glory, however He chooses.

With this new firmness of intention, the parishioner had regained her joy and inner peace. She knows that she is loved and that God is with her. The suffering without purpose may be too much for us to go through alone, but when we are willing to accept this strange-looking mission from God, when we are willing to accept the suffering He has permitted to come into our life, He will not abandon us to it alone. He will walk this path with us.

She told me that after that first visit, she recognized that there was a joy in her heart and that since then God had given her what she called "a special silly laugh." She told me that she smiled and laughed at the smallest of things that other people might not find that funny but that she found amusing and that brought joy to her, in the midst of her suffering. And she continued to be willing to share her love of Jesus with others as she encountered them.

I told her what a wonderful perspective and attitude she had and asked if I could write about it here. (That was kind of funny because one of the first things she'd said that day was that she enjoyed these articles, and I had asked her if she had any ideas for this week because it was bulletin day and I didn't!) She said it certainly wasn't out of any kind of pride that she'd like our conversation to be told to others, but that perhaps this was another element of the mission God wanted to her to undertake—to help her reach out to other people and remind them that even when we suffer God loves us, is with us, wants us to turn to Him and to continue to shine His Light into His world.

Truly, the salt of the earth and the light of the world, she added flavor and shone light into my day this week.

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew adawson@sjascs.org

Coming Events

SJA Senior Card Club

The Senior Card Club is starting Monthly Games once again.

All interested Seniors please join us the first Tuesday of the Month.

The Club will meet in the St. Peregrine at 11:30 pm.

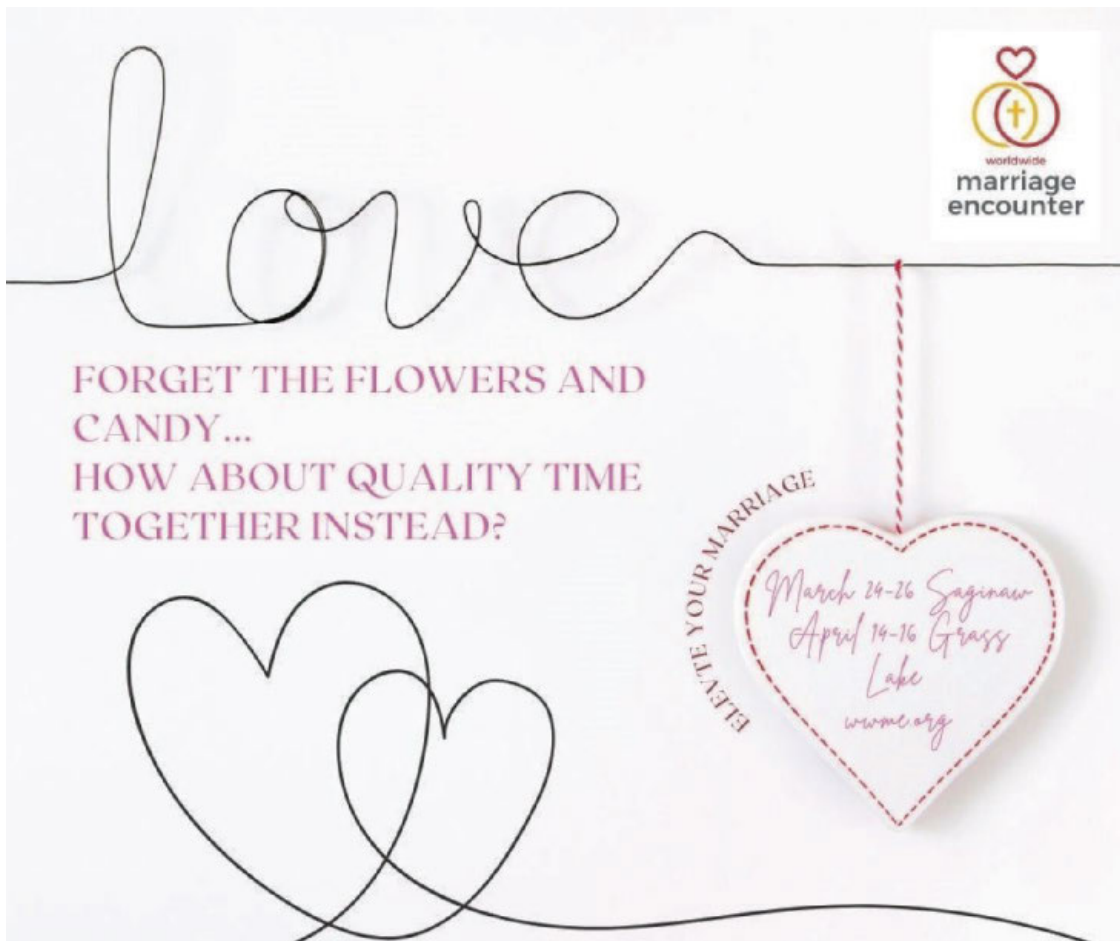
February's Club Day will be February 7th!



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!



Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrew Barth
Geri Beaugrand
Gaetano Biondo
Gilbert Bousho
Elizabeth Brock
Lori Cardosi
Patricia Clare
Ed Cole
Joan Combellack
John Crawford
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
John Hanselman
Rich Hanselman
Judith Hasten
Leland Helzer
Valerie Hudson

Zayne D. Kapinski
Thomas Kler
Catherine Konen
Delaney Kraemer
Concetta Leone
David Lott
Dorothy Lubinski
Joan Mannino
Karen McMahon
Charlotte Miller
Mark Moffitt
Addison Montgomery
Jennie Mooney
Adam Moore
Jim Moore
Joel Moore

Paula Nagel
Joan Persichini
Tracy Rauch
Sr. Alice Riegel
Diane Rochwalski
Larry Rochwalski
Suzanne Roland
Pat Rybak
Victoria Rydholm
Lily Saith
Dianne Schelosky
Mary Sesto
Ann Simmonds
Terri Smigels
Kathleen Smith
Cathy Spindler

Betty Squire
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

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

February 5, 2023

You Are Really Something!

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

The description of the disciples found in today's Gospel is an impressive compliment—and an even greater challenge. Jesus tells them they are “the salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13), bringing out the good taste of living. In other words, life would be bland and uninteresting without them. They are also the “the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14), helping people find their way. Without them, others would stumble and fall. Jesus is telling them how important they are in the lives of others. They could each and all say: I am really something!

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 58:7–10

[I]f you lavish your food on the hungry / and satisfy the afflicted; / Then your light shall rise in the darkness....

1 Corinthians 2:1–5

I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

Matthew 5:13–16

[Jesus said,] “Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.”

Such compliments are also a challenge. What must one do to be salt and light in the lives of others? The Isaian passage provides some suggestions: Share your bread with the hungry; shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked; don't turn your back on your own; remove from your midst oppression, false accusation, and malicious speech. In other words, to be salt or light is to meet the needs of the needy. This teaching of Jesus is not as easy to do as it is to talk about.

Jesus is speaking to his disciples, his followers. They are not those who are simply curious about this itinerant preacher or remarkable healer. They have chosen to follow him, not merely from place to place, but to model their lives after his. Isn't that what we also claim to be—his followers? Haven't we promised to model our lives after his? If so, as both compliment and challenge he says to us as well, “You are really something!” †

Isn't that what we also claim to be—his followers? Haven't we promised to model our lives after Jesus?

A Word from Pope Francis

I would like to ask you now, how do you want to live? As a lamp that is burning or one that is not? ...As burning lamps! It is truly God who gives us this light and we must give it to others. Shining lamps! This is the Christian vocation.

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 9, 2014



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- How is being salt or light a challenge for me?
- In what ways do I already enrich or enlighten the lives of others?



Justice, Mercy, and the Nature of God

By Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Part I

Anyone who claims to understand God is deceived because we know that God is ineffable. That means that we can know God but never adequately capture God in a concept. God is unimaginable. If God could be understood, then God would be as limited as we are.

God may be ineffable, but God's nature is known. Divine revelation, as seen through nature, as seen through other religions, and especially as seen through Jesus, spells out what's inside God's inexpressible reality.

What's revealed there is both comforting beyond all comfort and challenging beyond all challenge. What's revealed in the beauty of creation, in the compassion that is the hallmark of all true religion—and in Jesus' revelation of his Father—takes us beyond a blind date into a trustworthy relationship. Nature,

religion, and Jesus conspire together to reveal an Ultimate Reality, a Ground of Being, a Creator and Sustainer of the universe, a God who is wise, intelligent, prodigal, compassionate, loving, forgiving, patient, good, trustworthy, and beautiful beyond imagination.

God cannot be deciphered, circumscribed, or captured in human thought; but, from what can be deciphered, we're in good, safe hands. We can sleep well at night. God has our back in the end—both for humanity as a whole and for our own individual lives. As Julian of Norwich prayed: "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well." God is good.

Part II

The Gospels, as we know, reveal a God who is prodigal beyond all our standards and beyond our imagination. The God of the Gospels is the Sower who, because he has unlimited seeds, scatters those seeds everywhere without discrimination: on the road, in the ditches, in the thornbushes, in bad soil, and in good soil.

Moreover, that prodigal Sower is

also the God of creation, that is, the God who has created and continues to create hundreds of billions of galaxies and billions of human beings. And this prodigal God gives us this perennial invitation: come to the waters, come without money, come without merit because God's gift is as plentiful, available, and as free as the air we breathe.

The Gospel of Luke recounts an incident where Peter, just after he had spent an entire night fishing and had caught nothing, is told to cast out his net one more time and, this time, Peter's net catches so many fish that the weight of the catch threatens to sink two boats. Peter reacts by falling to his knees and confessing his sinfulness. But as the text makes clear, that's not the proper reaction in the face of overabundance. Peter is wrongly fearful, in effect, wanting that overabundance to go away. Rather, Jesus wants him—in the face of too much—to go into the world and share with others that unimaginable grace. †

(Continued next week)



Gracious God, Jesus calls us to be salt and light for the world. In his name we ask for your grace that we may be signs of your goodness to all we meet. Amen.

The Redemptorists

This reflection is an excerpt from *Daybreaks: Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter* by Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI, available now from Liguori Publications. Visit Liguori.org to learn more and review our complete list of *Daybreaks* authors, including Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR; Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA; Fr. Daniel Horan, OFM, and others.

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 6–11

Monday, St. Paul Miki and Companions:
Gn 1:1–19 / Mk 6:53–56


Tuesday, Weekday:
Gn 1:20–2:4a / Mk 7:1–13

Wednesday, Weekday:
Gn 2:4b–9, 15–17 / Mk 7:14–23

Thursday, Weekday:
Gn 2:18–25 / Mk 7:24–30

Friday, St. Scholastica:
Gn 3:1–8 / Mk 7:31–37

Saturday, Weekday:
Gn 3:9–24 / Mk 8:1–10

Bringing Home
the Word 
February 5, 2023

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