

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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1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

Then the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me." - Mt 4:8-9

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.sjasc.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
fericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla
stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Msgr. Gary Smetanka
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Non-Resident Sacramental Minister

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz
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Deacon Dom Pastore
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Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone
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Music Director

Catherine Thomas
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Principal

Amy Pattie
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Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser
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Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
khass@sjascs.org

Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

Youth Group

Linda Lietaert
lletaert@stjoan.net

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 pm

Holy Day Masses

Vigil Mass: (evening prior) 7:00 pm
7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Saturdays 11:00am-12:00pm
In the
Sister Carol Center

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7am mass

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

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

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

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

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

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months prior to the desired date. Pre-marriage series required.

Registration: It is very important that every family and independent adult be registered in the Church in order to keep our records and mailings current. Please contact the Parish Office to register at your earliest opportunity: 586-777-3670.

RCIA: Please call the Parish Center: 586-777-3670

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, please register at stjoan.church 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



Fifth Grade Math: My niece McKenzie is a student teacher currently doing a long-term substitute routine at a local elementary school in a fifth-

grade classroom. It's been common for us to see her grading papers or doing things for her class when we're all hanging out at my mom's condo on Sunday afternoons before dinner. On this one particular Sunday, she was grading some math-related assignments. While she was busy at work at the table, I meandered over to where she was working and snooped around to see what type of math assignment these fifth-grade students were doing. It was addition and subtraction of fractions. Thankfully, it wasn't anything too complicated, like geometry or calculus. Now, I didn't want to snoop around too much because I feared she would ask me to do a problem or two to see how I would do. That was the last thing I wanted to do on a Sunday afternoon: fail at some fifth-grade math problem. By Sunday afternoons, my brain is usually fried, so my brain can't handle any complex problems. I may eventually get to the right answer, but it would be slow. Plus, I had my eyes on the chocolate cookies she made, and I didn't want those cookies to become THE "reward" for solving a few math problems. I just wanted the cookies, not the math problems!

As I've stated in the past, I do poorly on any type of game like Trivia Pursuit, Catch Phrase, Pictionary, or anything similar. While I generally don't know many of the answers, I think I'm just way too tired when we play these things on a major holiday or Sunday. After you've done several liturgies on any of those days, you want to "chill out" and not overtax the brain. But to be honest, the excuse of the synapses upstairs not working too well on a Sunday afternoon or the afternoon of some significant holiday or holy day like Easter or Christmas is just an excuse. Even if we played these things on a non-Sunday or non-holiday or holy day, I'd bombed out. It's just the nature of the beast. That's why even watching Wheel of Fortune or Jeopardy gives me heartburn! Seriously, I don't know how all those people know all that stuff.

Well, I guess I meandered too long at the table. I should have just grabbed my

cookies and ran. Suddenly, an eager McKenzie pulled out her iPad and said, "Here, Uncle Mike, try these two problems." "You have got to be kidding," I thought to myself. "Doesn't McKenzie know it's a Sunday, and my brain is fried? This will look bad if I fail two fifth-grade math problems." So I took the iPad and choked. "How am I going to do this?" The first problem was $9 \frac{2}{3} + 4 \frac{1}{5} = ?$ The second problem was $3 \frac{3}{4} - 1 \frac{2}{5} = ?$ My brain went into hyperdrive. By the grace of God, I remembered to establish a common denominator by multiplying 3×5 for the first problem and 4×5 for the second problem. Then it became $9 \frac{10}{15} + 4 \frac{3}{15} = 13 \frac{13}{15}$. I then dutifully wrote $13 \frac{13}{15}$ on the iPad for the first problem. I then calculated out the second problem as $3 \frac{15}{20} - 1 \frac{8}{20}$ and wrote the answer: $2 \frac{7}{20}$. I was sweating bullets because I didn't want to fail.

I then handed the iPad back to McKenzie, and she had this puzzled look on her face. Right away, I thought I had done something wrong. She looked up at me and said, "Uncle Mike, you got both of those right." I was relieved and started to smile while imagining that I was patting myself on the back. Then McKenzie questioned me with a huge smile, "You did all that by yourself ... in your own brain?" "Yep. No help was needed." She just smiled. I then grabbed my cookies and ran off before anyone taxed my brain further. After all, it WAS a Sunday afternoon!

Projector Update: A few people have inquired about the broken projector for the left screen in Church. I'm happy to report that it's still out for repair but should be back soon. Unfortunately, while we thought it would have been something simple (foolish us), the entire laser mechanism got fried. So it will be gone for a few more weeks. Knowing how dependent we are on having the projectors in Church always functioning, we're coming up with a backup plan for the future.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.
Happy Lent.

In Christ,
gmb
gmb@sjascs.org

From MOP: Mother of a Priest: Gosh, I haven't written an article since early 1993 when my son Msgr. Mike was first assigned to your parish community in 1991 as a newly ordained priest.

However, I'm not here to write about additional MOP stuff as Msgr. Mike takes care of that department.

I'm writing to thank everyone for all your thoughts and prayers during my recent illness and hospitalization. The power of your prayers helped me fight the superbug I had. I especially want to thank Fr. Rich for taking charge of my spiritual care at Grosse Pointe Beaumont and always having the biggest smile, even though he had to gown up every time he entered my room. Then I'd like to say a special thank you to Ida Abdelnour, Ann Tobin, Kate Vandelinder, Sr. Petra, Carol Gray, all the parish staff, and especially Dina for being my official chef while staying at Msgr. Mike's house while I recuperate and regain my strength.

I'd be remiss if I didn't say a big THANK YOU to my son, Msgr. Mike, and daughter Jackie for all their help, caring, and having me stay here so they can check up on me instead of taking turns at my condo during the week caring for me and lugging all their work stuff with them. Oh, and yes, because of the big IT guy, baby monitors are everywhere, plus there are Alexa setups in all the rooms. I'm glad that the baby monitors don't reach the Parish Center!

I have a bucket list to fulfill and have to use that RV; I have so much more to do. Oh, I have driven the RV four or five times, but I don't think the big guy would allow me to take it by myself because I forget how long it is, and as a result, sometimes run over curbs, etc. But, it's a dream to drive.

If I missed thanking anyone, please forgive me. But prayers are powerful!

God Bless all of you!

Christine Bugarin



WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

Beginning March 1

Reconciliation
from 5–5:50 pm
Mass at 6 pm

Reconciliation rooms are
in the Sr. Carol Center.

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of February 19, 2023



Whole 40: Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.



The Spirit and the Desert

Sometimes we might feel like we're stuck in spiritual deserts. In this episode of The Wild Goose, Fr. Dave Pivonka shares how the Holy Spirit is present even in these times of desolation.



Love—Sacrifice—Trust:

He Showed Us the Way by Fr. Mike Schmitz

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

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



February 26, 2023

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Rom 5:12-19 | Mt 4:1-11

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Superbowl Sunday was two weeks ago, and many of us were more likely interested in the commercials than the actual game. After all, companies pay a ton of money to have their products paraded in front of us, and – in theory at least – take the time to make these particular ads memorable and funny. If we can be convinced that we will be better people, or our social outings greater and filled with more laughter, we will buy what they are selling. It's the modern version of the words of the serpent in today's first reading: if you eat this, "you will be like gods"! Today's readings are a reminder that we are all sinners and burdened by being vulnerable to false promises – but also that we are relieved of this burden through one man: Jesus Christ. If we tend to forget that the most important part of our salvation story is that it is full of more grace and forgiveness than we can comprehend, this first Sunday of Lent is a good time to prayerfully ponder this. If God seems far away or distant, let us recall that he loved us so much that he breathed our very life into us, and then gave his only begotten Son to us that we might have life eternally. All he asks in return is for us to accept this gift and follow in his footsteps. Lent is the time to be mindful of grace-filled opportunities that draw us closer to God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Let's think about these 40 days. In addition to allowing us to grow in understanding of God, this time is also an opportunity to grow in our understanding of how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world and help to build the kingdom right here and now. How can we keep God at the center of our lives and resist worldly temptations to push him aside? Perhaps today's psalm can help us here: Ask for God's mercy, acknowledge our offenses, seek a "clean heart," renew a "steadfast spirit" within us, and ask God to grant us a "willing spirit" to give him praise. And remember Christ's words from the Gospel: Depend on "every word that comes forth from the mouth of God," which is love and mercy.

PRAY Pray today's psalm: "Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise."



A foundation of faith and excellence.

St. Joan of Arc
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

stjoan.net

**Registration for
new families in
all grades is now open.**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SCHOOL AT
stjoan.net**



**Call for a visit
586-775-8370**

Second Sunday in Lent



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 5 A

Reading One – Gn 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram: "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you.

"I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you."

Abram went as the LORD directed him.

Responsorial – Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy. He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

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

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

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

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reading Two – 2 Tm 1:8b-10

Beloved: Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Verse Before the Gospel – Cf. Mt 17:5

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.

Gospel – Mt 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."



Spend Your Summer at Camp!

Camp Ozanam 2023 Employment Opportunities

Interested in a summer of adventure, growth, and fun?

We're hiring passionate, energetic staff to lead our *free* summer camp program on the shores of Lake Huron! Join us as a cabin counselor or activity specialist at Camp Ozanam for the summer of 2023 where you'll support, lead, and nurture our campers!

2023 SUMMER SEASON

June 26 - August 12, 2023 (including staff training)

COMPENSATION

\$400-450/week

ADDITIONAL PERKS

Free meals, room & board, free specialized training (e.g., lifeguarding, archery, first aid)

TIME OFF

Weekends from Saturday afternoon to Monday morning, plus 3 hours off per day Tuesday - Friday

QUESTIONS?

Contact Julia Hohner at jhohner@svdpdetroit.org



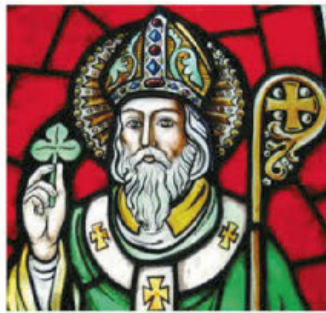
Apply today!

St. Basil the Great Parish

St. Patrick / St. Joseph Celebration Dinner



Sunday, March 19, 2023
3pm to 5pm in the social hall
22860 Schroeder, Eastpointe



Menu:

Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Kielbasa,
Cucumber Salad, Coffee & Tea

\$22 per person pre-sale and at the door

Children 5 and under \$5.00

dessert will be available

We'll have some fun, too, with our **Basket Raffle and Silent Auction**
where you have a chance to bid on truly great prizes
There will be 50/50 drawings throughout the dinner

Dinner tickets available for purchase after Masses
or at the Parish Office after March 4th

Proceeds will benefit the parish general fund



St. Basil the Great Catholic Church 22800 Schroeder, Eastpointe, MI 48021 586-777-5610

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, February 27th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, February 28th

7:00 AM Morning Mass Live Streamed
4:30 PM Confirmation Banner Making
6:00 PM Rescue Project - EH/Livestreamed

Wednesday, March 1st

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed
5:00 PM Reconciliation
6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed
7:00 PM PTG Meeting

Thursday, March 2nd

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

Friday, March 3rd

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross - Live Streamed

Saturday, March 4th

10:00 AM Special Faith Formation Mass
11:00 AM Reconciliation
12:30 PM Baptism of Georgia M. Gross
1:30 PM Baptism of Maria Louise Fabian
4:00 PM Vigil Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, February 26th

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

Words on the Word

Feb. 26, 2023 – The Test

Testing, to be sure, can be a good thing.

In an academic setting, it's the best way to ensure that students fully understand the subject matter they've been studying. In a medical setting, it can help determine the cause of a problem a patient has presented, and to set out a course of treatment. By contrast though, "being put to the test" has a more negative connotation. It may technically mean the same thing, but oftentimes it suggests an assumption that the person or thing being subjected to the test may stumble in some way.

Consider the headlines a few weeks ago, when, on one day, at least six schools in Michigan received prank phone calls about shootings. The calls, according to a story in the *Detroit Free Press*, were received in Saginaw, Ann Arbor, Muskegon, Okemos, Jackson and Portage and, according to the Michigan State Police, were "the actions of a coordinated campaign."

It's difficult to know what the person or group behind the campaign were hoping to achieve, but it clearly could not have been a good intention. And so the authorities and educators had to waste time and emotional energy dealing with the situation. As we all do, from time to time.

The good news is that we know Jesus has been there, done that. And he sets the example for dealing with things effectively; trusting in God:

"Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down,'" we hear in today's gospel passage from St. Matthew. "For it is written: He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.'

"Jesus answered him, 'Again it is written, You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.'"

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Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

- Monday February 27, 2023 Lenten Weekday Saint Gregory Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church (Purple)**
7:00 a.m. Giuseppina Ciccone
- Tuesday February 28, 2023 Lenten Weekday (Purple)**
7:00 a.m. Hugo Calisi
- Wednesday March 1, 2023 Lenten Weekday (Purple)**
7:00 a.m. James Barker
6:00 pm Pedro Silva
- Thursday March 2, 2023 Lenten Weekday (Purple)**
7:00 a.m. Sue Krolikowski
- Friday March 3, 2023 Lenten Weekday, Saint Katherine Drexel, Virgin (Purple)**
7:00 a.m. Sister Silveria Conte
- Saturday, March 4, 2023 Vigil of the Second Sunday in Lent , Saint Casmir (Purple)**
4:00 p.m. Bonnie Batche, Ralph Marzolino, Marl DeKoekkoek, Hans & Elisabeth Stahl, George Pamerleau, Benedict Garlicki, Gerald Ellar, Special Intentions for the J. Champine family and for the Thomas Family and Prayerful appreciation for the Priests and Staff of St. Joan of Arc
6:00 p.m. Rob Finn, Robbie Battani and Evan Battani
- Sunday March 5, 2023 The Second Sunday in Lent (Purple)**
8:00 a.m. For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc Parishioners
10:00 a.m. Joseph Paluzzi Jr.
12:00 p.m. Salvatore & Josephine Ciaravino, Rose DiNoto, Robert Palonis, Mark Dunn, Sam Ciaramitaro, Katherine A. Bush

Daily Readings

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, February 27
Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18
Matthew 25:31-46 | Friday, March 3
Ezekiel 18:21-28
Matthew 5:20-26 |
| Tuesday, February 28
Isaiah 55:10-11
Matthew 6:7-15 | Saturday, March 4
Deuteronomy 26:16-19
Matthew 5:43-48 |
| Wednesday, March 1
Jonah 3:1-10
Luke 11:29-32 | Sunday, March 5
Genesis 12:1-4a
2 Timothy 1:8b-10
Matthew 17:1-9 |
| Thursday, March 2
Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25
Matthew 7:7-12 | |



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.”

**Delia Matterelli
Ann Ciaravino
Cecelia Sellers**



“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

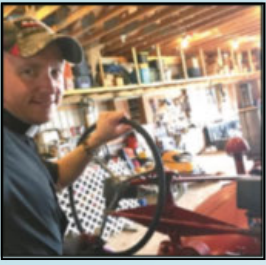


Reporting Sexual Abuse

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



Bouncing off the Walnut:

I'm always open to a woodworking project. It may have been a mild winter, but still too cold most of the time

to be outside for hours working on the latest whatever. I could work in the garage for a little shelter, but closing the door isn't really an option since the sawdust in the air gets pretty thick fast. Last year it was all pallets. I didn't have any tools to really cut curves! So I was a little limited in what I could build.

But when someone on staff proposed a little project a few weeks ago and the weather was fairly good, and having been gifted a jigsaw at Christmas, I jumped at the chance to try something a little different. Maybe something nice and polished rather than rustic and outdoors.

The project was to make a wooden stand for an old WWII clock that came from a ship. The clock had probably been fixed into a wall or console and needed something to hold it upright on a shelf.

I suggested a nice Walnut wood with a dark stain to go with the black clock. I had just bought a new spindle sander, which is a really cool tool with an oscillating sanding tube set into the center of a cast iron table. So I ordered a couple of nice pieces of Walnut, which is not readily available at Home Depot, and once it arrived, set about drawing a design on the wood. The stand base would retain a live-edge, but the rest I would sand smooth.

In a couple of days I had the wood ready to stain, picked out the color and stained a couple of coats. Then I stacked-up the 4 pieces of the stand and set the clock into it. I thought it looked pretty good.



I sent this picture to the owner of the clock (who is finding-out about the chaos that followed 20 minutes later only by reading this). All I had to do now was to disassemble and fix the 4 parts together and screw the clock in place.

The clock already had screw holes around the rim so I had calculated that into the design to use the existing holes and ordered the specific screws I needed, in the correct color to blend in. I even bought a counter-sinking drill-bit set to set the heads of the screws flush into the wood.

I'd thought of everything. Even anticipating needing some accurate drilling into hardwood without any slippage of the pieces, I bought some superglue to initially hold the pieces as I drilled and screwed them together.

As with Monsignor's Clark Griswold plumbing jobs, however, there is always a moment.... There is always a "Why did I do that?" or "Why did that happen?"

It had all gone so well with the one exception that the saw had cut through the a knot in the wood on the corner of the base and ripped a small chunk of wood out. I thought I'd maybe leave it "rustic" but in the end bought some wood filler and paint to patch-up the corner. No big deal. I thought that was my "Why did that happen?" moment. But nope... more to come.

My first "oh..." was when I superglued two of the base pieces in the wrong order. That meant I would never be able to find the screw hole into the clock through the back of the stand. I meant to pre-drill it before gluing. Oh well, adapt and adjust.

So I went down into my basement to drill some pilot holes in the wood. It's easier to drill through hardwood if you pre-drill a narrower hole first. That part was easy. Then I replaced the drill-bit with a wider bit. I started to drill the screw hole through the bottom of the base to attach the two glued pieces together permanently. I got the drill a little way in and then the whole project took a turn toward the dark-side!

The drill-bit stopped turning in the wood and instead, the wood spun around the bit! It hit my thumb. Ouch! Of course I had not been using the new clamps that I bought to secure the pieces as I worked on them.

The torque was such that when the wood hit my hand and stopped and the drill-bit couldn't turn, the bit snapped, freeing the wood from any restraint and it shot

through the air, across the basement, bouncing off the wall and crashing onto the floor under the table, breaking the two glued pieces apart. This beautiful and sanded Walnut that I'd been so careful with throughout, was now in pieces in the cobwebs under the table!

Meanwhile I'm holding my thumb and shaking my head. I went to retrieve the two pieces and realized that if the downside to Walnut is that it's tough to drill through because it's hard, the upside is that it's hard, so it bounces off wall well and remains relatively unscathed. The same could not be said for the drill bit, which was stuck entirely inside the hole. I went to the garage and got a metal punch and a hammer and a roofing nail, and then proceeded to try to knock the drill-bit out.

I hammered the nail in first, and, of course, it was not long enough, so I hammered it in far enough that now the nail was stuck in the hole too. I managed to pry it out and tried the metal punch instead, but the metal punch is spring-loaded, so that didn't work.... until I broke it with the hammer... That pushed the drill-bit out just a little way, so I went back to the garage and got some pliers to grab the end of the bit and I pulled and twisted it out. But now the punch was stuck in the hole. I couldn't get it out, so I ended-up pulling it with the pliers while standing on the wood with my shoes.

If I'd had any more Walnut I might have given-up and started over! But no, I forged on, re-gluing the pieces and then finding another drill-bit. A friend reminded me to coat the screws in Palmolive, which worked a treat. After a couple of hours, I was back where I started, with the whole project looking just as it had when I took the photo, before the pieces screwed together. I found an alternative way to screw the clock to the stand and was done. Finished! No-one will ever have to know the calamity of the final mile.

What's the lesson in all this? Humility? Perseverance? Use the clamps you deliberately bought for exactly this purpose?! Penance in anticipation of Lent? All of the above? Maybe. Probably. I don't know.

Have a good and fruitful Lenten season.

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew adawson@sjascs.org

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!



WE'RE HIRING PASSIONATE SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS

St. Vincent de Paul Detroit's Camp Ozanam is hiring summer staff for our free overnight camp program for vulnerable children in southeast Michigan. Spending a summer working at Camp Ozanam offers a unique experience where you'll receive leadership training, establish strong interpersonal and conflict resolution skills, grow in your time management and flexibility, and practice teamwork and collaboration... with the added bonus of a \$400-450 weekly stipend, room and board, and, most importantly, the opportunity to have an incredible impact on children who need it most. Staff members will live and work at camp from June 26 – August 12, 2023.

Contact Director Julia Hohner (jhohner@svdpdetroit.org) or visit svdpdetroit.org/campoanam for more information about working at Camp Ozanam this summer.

St. Joan of Arc Knitting Group

The SJA Knitting Group will be meeting the Second and Fourth Wednesday's of most months at 12pm.

We will be knitting in the Mary the Mother of Jesus Room.

March Knitting dates are:
March 8th & March 22nd

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



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.

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrew Barth
Geri Beaugrand
Gaetano Biondo
Gilbert Bousho
Elizabeth Brock
Lori Cardosi
Ed Cole
Joan Combellack
Maura Corrigan
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
Jennie Mooney
Adam Moore

Jim Moore
Joel Moore
Paula Nagel
Joan Persichini
Tracy Rauch
Sr. Alice Riegel
Diane Rochwalski
Suzanne Roland
Pat Rybak
Victoria Rydholm
Lily Saith
Dianne Schelosky
Ann Simmonds
Terri Smigels
Kathleen Smith

Cathy Spindler
Betty Squire
Beverly Taylor
Bernadette Thompson
James Thompson
Linda Vitale
Eileen Wallace
Joseph Whalen
Marilyn Wicker
Adrienne Weidenbach
Joyce Wiekrykas
Eddie Zatyrcz
Patricia Zublin

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

First Sunday of Lent (A)
February 26, 2023

Try It! You'll Like It!

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

If only temptation was obvious, we might have a better chance of avoiding it. But sometimes it's so subtle. It often disguises itself as something rather attractive. This is precisely what happened in the Garden of Eden. Scripture says temptation takes on a living form—a serpent that convinces the woman that the fruit of the wisdom tree will make them “like gods, who know good and evil” (Genesis 3:5).

Who wouldn't jump at such a possibility? Actually, who hasn't already fallen into that trap—acting as if we are God, thinking we know everything or wishing to be in complete control? Our

faith certainly encourages us to become more and more like God. What made that desire wrong was the way Adam and Eve sought to become like gods in their own way, not God's way.

The Gospel passage tells us that Jesus also was tempted. Who doubts that Jesus wanted to be successful in his ministry? But what would he do to ensure success? Would he use divine power to attract a following? No! Would he call upon God to protect him from misunderstanding, rejection, even physical harm? No! Would he bargain with the devil, who obviously exercised power over many people? No! That was not the way he would be the Messiah. Unlike the couple in the Garden, Jesus recognized what was wrong even when it was disguised as something good. How good are we at recognizing temptation in our lives? †

Sunday Readings

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The snake said to the woman: “You certainly will not die! God knows well that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened.”

Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19

Through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all.

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus answered [the devil], “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.’”

Temptation often disguises itself as something rather attractive.



A Word from Pope Francis

Please: No dialogue with the devil! We must not enter into dialogue with temptation, we must not fall into that slumber of the conscience that makes us say: “But after all, it's not serious, everyone does it!” Let us look at Jesus, who does not seek compromises, he does not make agreements with evil.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 6, 2022



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- During this Lent, should I seek help with a particular temptation?
- What resolution will help me love God more?



Homeward Bound

By Paige Byrne Shortal

On the first Sunday of Lent we hear about Jesus preparing for his ministry by going out into the desert and being tempted by the devil. Some years ago, my middle son, upon hearing that Jesus was offered the power to turn stones into bread, mumbled under his breath that Jesus should have taken the deal. I was shocked—not so much at what he said, but that he was listening at all. Before he could lapse back into his usual teenage taciturnity, I asked him to explain. He said, in that voice reserved for parents and idiots, that there is a lot of hunger in the world. Point well taken.

What would be so wrong with taking the deal? Three times Satan offers Jesus power. First, power over hunger: A man who can turn stones into bread need never be hungry again. He could feed the world. He could feed all those little children whose faces haunt us, stretching out their bowls for their one poor meal a day.

Second, political power over the kingdoms of the world: This is the power we long for when we say, “If I were the president.... If I were the pope....” Think of how much good you could do!

Third, power even over death and the suffering that precedes death: Don’t we all seek this power in some way?

Jesus’ response is always the same: *God is my only God*. The devil’s way is to do big things in a big way. God’s way seems to be to do the next little thing—to feed the one person placed on our path, not the whole world; to do the good it is in our power to do, not to long for more power; to accept the powerlessness of suffering and death.

The sustenance of the disciple is supposed to be the word of God. We are to devour it as a hungry child devours bread. We are to listen to the gospel like passengers stranded at an airport, on the edge of their seats, straining to hear every announcement, desperate for word of how and when they’ll finally get home. Too often, I listen to the readings as I do the stories of a garrulous old uncle—outwardly polite, but thinking of other things because, no offense, I’ve heard this story before.

Or have I?

A little girl heard the parable of the sheep and goats and Jesus’ astonishing identification with the poor—what we do for the least ones, we do for him. Her startled response was, “Do other Catholics know about this?” Her question echoes the words of John Carr, former Secretary of the Department of Social Development and World Peace for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. In a talk on the social doctrine of the church, he said that this parable is the only place in the gospel where Jesus tells us what we need to do to get into heaven. (You want to go read it now, don’t you? It’s Matthew 25:31–46.)

I need Lent. I need the desert of quiet where I can hear God’s word like I’ve never heard it before. I need to listen like a weary, travel-worn passenger who wants to find her way home. †



So that we may observe Lent with fasting, prayer, and sharing with those in need, we pray—Lord, let us be like you.

The Redemptorists

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.

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 27—March 4

Monday, Lenten Weekday:
Lv 19:1–2, 11–18 / Mt 25:31–46

Tuesday, Lenten Weekday:
Is 55:10–11 / Mt 6:7–15

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday:
Jon 3:1–10 / Lk 11:29–32

Thursday, Lenten Weekday:
Est C:12, 14–16, 23–25 / Mt 7:7–12

Friday, Lenten Weekday:
Ez 18:21–28 / Mt 5:20–26

Saturday, Lenten Weekday:
Dt 26:16–19 / Mt 5:43–48

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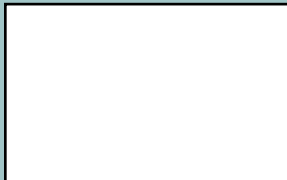
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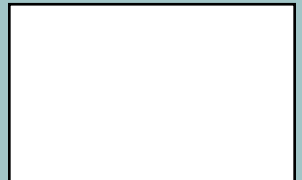
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