

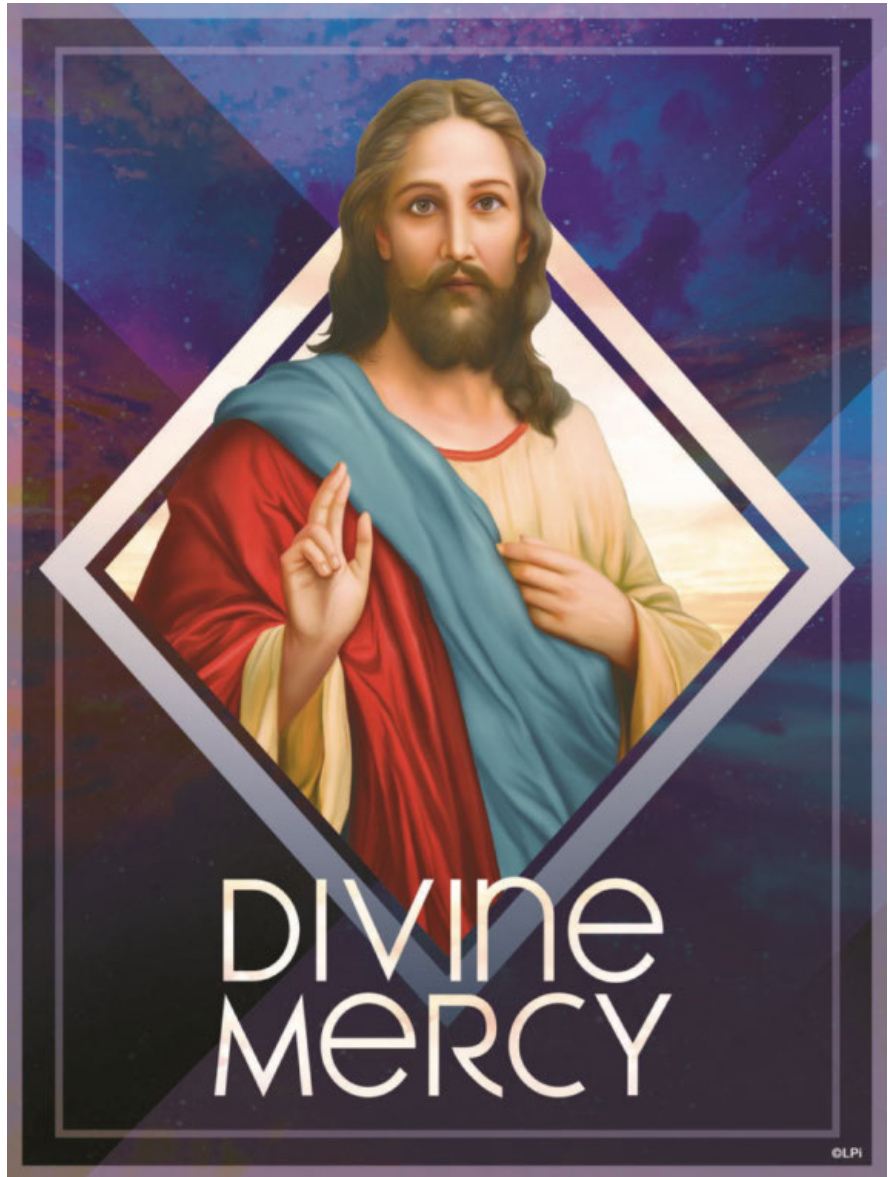
# SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

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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**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  
frericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla  
stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Msgr. Gary Smetanka  
msgsr.smetanka@stargp.org

### Non-Resident Sacramental Minister

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

### Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz  
tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore  
dpastore@sjascs.org

### Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone  
dciaffone@sjascs.org

### Music Director

Catherine Thomas  
cthomas@sjascs.org

### Principal

Amy Pattie  
apattie@stjoan.net

### Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser  
ckaiser@stjoan.net

### Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass  
khass@sjascs.org

### Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

### Youth Group

Linda Lietaert  
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](http://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](http://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



## Sacred

**Moments:** The liturgies of Holy Week have many poignant sacred moments. While each of these liturgies is sacred and beautiful in their totality,

certain moments in each are unlike any other “sacred moment” in the various liturgies of the Church throughout the liturgical year.

But of all these sacred moments, I think the entrance procession and the prostration of the priests and deacons at the foot of the Altar on Good Friday ranks as one of the top three! Having an entrance procession in total silence and then watching the priests and deacons lie prostrate before the Altar for several minutes sets the tone for this liturgy.

Once upon a time, those few minutes of laying prostrate before the Altar were often filled with prayer or simple silence as I would recall how much Christ did for us and me on this day. It was my moment of being in the Garden of Gethsemane with Christ. My prayer was usually a prayer of thanksgiving to Christ. But this time got spoiled many years ago.

When you’re the Master of Ceremonies at the Cathedral, or you end up being the presider of the Passion Liturgy, you can quickly get caught up in the “what’s next” mindset that you forget to pray as you ought. As a result, your mind is often racing as you lie on the ground.

A few years ago, when Father John Bettin first presided at the Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion at SJA, he thought I would decide when we got up off the ground, and I thought he would take that lead. As a result, we ended up being on the ground for over seven minutes because we both were waiting for the other to make the first move. I finally decided we had been down on the floor long enough that I made the first move. At that point, I was tasting carpet fibers in my mouth; the moment of profound prayer had long passed! However, that experience is still one that many of us on staff still talk about; it’s become somewhat of an SJA legend!

When Father Andrew and I returned to the Sacristy after the Good Friday Liturgy, he and I talked about what we were “thinking” as we were prostrating

ourselves before the Altar. We both admitted that this moment is usually a time of profound prayer, but it wasn’t this year. Father Andrew found himself counting to keep track of the minutes because he didn’t want to repeat what happened to Father John and thus create another SJA legend to be told down the centuries. Then I admitted that my entire time was spent worrying about how in the world I would get up off the ground. Going down on the floor with my bad knee and foot was one issue, but worrying about how I would get back up again without stumbling, knowing the cameras and the people were watching, was another issue entirely. By the grace of God, I did it, but not without sweating it out along the way! So much for a moment of profound prayer!

**Easter THANKS!** As you might imagine, a ton of work goes on behind the scenes to make our Holy Week liturgies so beautiful and prayerful. There are many people to thank, and I would like to express my gratitude to them for their hard work and devotion.

Thanks go to Sandy and Pat Markielewicz for all the Palm Sunday decorations. The beautiful woven palm creations helped set the tone and helped our entry into Holy Week.

Thanks to Father Rich, Dina Ciaffone, Mary Garofalo, Anne Meliese, Ilona Higgins, Pat and Sandy Markielewicz, Vern David, John Benoit, and Pete Ciaravino, who helped with all the decorations and getting everything into its proper place. Thanks to Mary Garofalo and her crew who put together the Easter Vigil Reception.

Thanks to Catherine Thomas Trudell, our Director of Music, the choirs, instrumentalists, and cantors (of course, the children’s choir stole the “show” on Easter Sunday morning). The Holy Week liturgies require lots of coordination AND expertise. I’m grateful to Catherine for all of her work in putting all the music parts of the mass together. Thanks also to Eleonore Ellero, who covered the noon Mass on Easter Sunday. The music was AWESOME all week! Thanks also to our Lectors and God’s Doorkeepers.

Thanks to Kristine Hass, who is the producer and real power behind all the streaming, along with all the slides with the lyrics and text of the mass parts that were up on the screen or broadcasted online. Thanks also to Steve Hysick, Dina

Ciaffone, the Hass Family, Ida Abdelnour, Ed Raybaud, and Brian Wotta for their help with the cameras and screens. Getting all of this ready (and making it all work) is no easy task!

Thanks to our RCIA team: Father Andrew, Patty Chase, Kristine Hass, Deacon Tom and Josie Strasz, Deacon Dom Pastore, Jeanne VanEgmond, Fred Bartel, Rose Nagy, and Margy Nagel. These wonderful and generous people serve as catechists and mentors to those preparing to receive the sacraments at Easter. I’m grateful we have an outstanding team that walks with our candidates throughout the year.

Then CONGRATULATIONS go to Anthony McMahon, who was baptized; to Julian Csernatonni, Nathan Csernatonni, Joseph William LeFever, James Daniel Starr, John Vincent Starr, John Starr, Kimberly Starr, Joshua Thomas Tadevich, and Tricia Renee Witkowski who were received into the Catholic Church; and to Nathan John Blackwell, Elvia Perla Krawczyk, Karson Krawczyk and Kaitlyn Wisniewski, who completed their Christian initiation with the celebration of Confirmation. In addition, the RCIA Class of 2023 has three other members who will be baptized and/or received into the Church in the weeks ahead. So, please keep Carson Grady, Corinne Grady, and Ben Grady in your prayers as they continue their preparation for the reception of the Sacraments.

The crowds, both in-person and online, were IMPRESSIVE. Our masses were filled. It was SO GREAT to see so many people back in Church. Our online viewership was also impressive. Considering we had packed masses and about 1,100 unique views online for the Easter Masses, we had numbers unlike we’ve seen since before COVID!

Our liturgies were beautiful, prayerful, and indeed honored Christ as we celebrated the great mysteries of His death and resurrection. God is good! Amen. Alleluia.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers. Happy Divine Mercy Sunday!

In Christ,

gmb  
gmb@sjascs.org

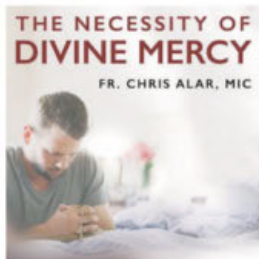
# THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of April 09, 2023



## Divine Mercy Chaplet | Franciscan Friars of the Renewal

Consider praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in a new way with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. This video on FORMED includes breathtaking footage of Catholics across the world performing works of mercy and asking God to have mercy on us.



## The Necessity of Divine Mercy by Fr. Chris Alar

Fr. Chris Alar, MIC, reveals the urgency to live and share the powerful message of Divine Mercy. He explains the basics of the Divine Mercy feast, image, novena, chaplet, and hour of mercy, and how to incorporate them into your spiritual life.



## Misery Meets Mercy: Saint Faustina

St. Faustina is known as the "secretary of Divine Mercy" because of the revelations of the Lord to her about His unfathomable mercy. Join Dr. Ben Akers and Fr. Mateusz as they discuss her proclamation of the message of Divine Mercy.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://www.formed.org) and select our parish name.



April 16, 2023

## Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 2:42-47 | 1 Pt 1:3-9 | Jn 20:19-31

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

“I’ll believe it when I see it.” We’ve all said this at some point, usually in response to hearing about someone unreliable doing something out of character. St. Thomas had the same reaction in today’s Gospel when he wasn’t there when the other disciples saw Christ for the first time since he rose from his tomb – “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” Although Jesus helped Thomas with his unbelief, he blesses those who have not seen, but believe. Have any of us seen the nail marks in Christ’s hands and feet, or the wound in his side? Do we see Christ’s body and blood on the altar, or do we see only the gifts of bread and wine? Christ comes to us in ways we can understand initially – parables, bread and wine, the face of people we meet throughout our daily lives – but our faith in what we have not seen, in the great mystery of our salvation, is what makes us Christian.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today’s first reading, we hear reports of the lives of the first disciples soon after Pentecost: communal living, breaking bread together, prayer, selling of their property and possessions and redistributing among themselves according to individual needs. To our ears today, this idyllic community living seems almost incredible. Yet these first disciples were infused with the Holy Spirit, who enabled them to proclaim the Gospel and think of others before themselves. As Christ’s disciples today, how are we behaving toward one another? If we truly are among those who have not seen and yet believe, let’s act in full confidence. As we heard in the second reading, our faith is “more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire.” We certainly aren’t perfect, and our faith at times can be sorely tested, and yet this is our call: to share this faith by doing good works in Christ’s name to make disciples and build the kingdom of God.

**INVITATION** People often see Christ through the words and actions of others. This week, actively seek out opportunities to be the hands of Christ. What opportunities does your community have to practice corporal works of mercy?

# Scenes from Holy Week at St. Joan of Arc



Living Stations of the Cross at SJA School.



Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. Fr. Rich washes OCIA candidates' feet.



Good Friday Stations of the Cross and Liturgy.



Holy Saturday Blessing of Food Baskets, Easter Vigil lighting the Pascal Candle, and Easter Sunday renewal of Baptismal Promises.



THE ECUMENICAL MEN'S BREAKFAST  
HOSTS THE

53<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
HUSBANDS, WIVES AND  
FRIENDS BRUNCH

Saturday, May 6, 2023

9:00 - 10:30 A.M.

GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH  
16 LAKE SHORE DR, GROSSE POINTE FARMS



**Father Andrew Kowalczyk** St. Clare of Montefalco  
with guest speakers

**Jack Lintol, Sue Buckley, Rev. Jim Holley & John Schrage**

The program will feature their April 2022 trip to Poland to provide care  
and shelter for Ukrainian refugees

*Music entertainment provided by TBD  
Catered by TBD*

**FOR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CALL  
GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH  
OFFICE AT (313) 882-5330 BY 9:00 AM, APRIL 26, 2023, or email to:  
disante1@comcast.net**

**COST: \$10 per person - cash or check only; payable at the door**

# Readings for the 3rd Sunday in Easter



## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 23 A

### Reading One – Acts 2:14, 22-33

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words. You who are Israelites, hear these words. Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it. For David says of him: *I saw the Lord ever before me, with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed. Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted; my flesh, too, will dwell in hope, because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.*

### Responsorial – Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge; I say to the LORD, "My Lord are you." O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

I bless the LORD who counsels me; even in the night my heart exhorts me. I set the LORD ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.

**R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.**

### Reading Two – 1 Pt 1:17-21

Beloved: If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with

perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb.

He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

### Alleluia – Cf. Lk 24:32

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn while you speak to us.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel – Lk 24:13-35

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then



# St. Joan of Arc

beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their

eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

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## *The Image of Divine Mercy*

The Image of Jesus, the Divine Mercy, is to be venerated\* on Divine Mercy Sunday. It is to be given a place of honor in our churches and homes on this Sunday. Our Lord appeared to St. Faustina and then directed her to have this appearance of Himself as the Merciful Savior painted and then venerated publicly. He told her, **I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it** (*Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*, 341).

In the Image, the pale and red rays symbolize the Blood and Water that flowed from His side while He was on the Cross. But, in His appearance to St. Faustina, they had been transformed into glorious rays, a source of healing graces for sinners who will turn to Him with trust. That is why the Image bears the inscription: "Jesus, I trust in You!"

We can venerate the Image of Jesus, the Divine Mercy, by gazing upon it in prayer and adoration. As signs of our love for Jesus, we can place candles and flowers before the Image. First and foremost, as we gaze upon our Merciful Savior in prayer, we can decide to trust in Him and to perform works of mercy — responding to the call to be merciful as He has shown mercy to us.

**\* To "venerate" a sacred image simply means to perform some act or make some gesture of deep religious respect toward it because of the person whom it represents.**

Read more about Divine Mercy at [TheDivineMercy.org](http://TheDivineMercy.org)

# SCRAPBOOKING CROP

& Ladies Day Out

JOIN US FOR A SCRAPBOOKING AND  
CRAFTING EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, April 22, 2023  
9am-9pm in the SJA School Gym



\$40 Registration includes a Continental  
breakfast, lunch, dinner, desserts and beverages.

Registration deadline is April 20th.

- Power outlets at each table
- 50/50 Raffles
- Vendors
- Fun



## REGISTER ONLINE



For more information or to pay online go to  
[sjascs.org/ptg-scrapbooking](https://sjascs.org/ptg-scrapbooking)



*A foundation of faith and excellence.*

**St. Joan of Arc**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

[stjoan.net](https://stjoan.net)

Questions? Call or text:  
Courtney Seiler at 313-460-0711  
[kirbyqlane@gmail.com](mailto:kirbyqlane@gmail.com)

## Weekly Calendar of Events

### Monday, April 17th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
6:00 PM Confirmation Prep

### Tuesday, April 18th

7:00 AM Morning Mass Live Streamed  
6:00 PM Rescue Project Final Session

### Wednesday, April 19th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
6:00 PM Evening Mass - Live Streamed

### Thursday, April 20th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
4:00 PM 85+ Dinner - Emmaus Hall  
7:00 PM Holy Hour

### Friday, April 21st

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### Saturday, April 22nd

9:00 AM Scrapbooking in the Gym  
11:00 AM Reconciliation  
12:30 AM Baptism of Vincenzo M. Imbrunnone  
1:30 PM Baptism of Lily Elizabeth Palen  
4:00 PM Sunday Mass Vigil - Live Streamed  
6:00 PM Sunday Mass Vigil - Live Streamed

### Sunday, April 23rd

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

## Words on the Word

### *April 16, 2023 – Irreconcilable Differences*

If it seems like, as a country, we don't have as much in common anymore as we used to, there is now official validation of that. According to a recent story in the *Wall Street Journal*, many of the values that have held Americans together for decades or more have become less important to an increasing number of people.

The sobering report, based on a survey of Americans conducted by an academic group and a nonpartisan research organization, found that all of these areas had decreased in importance for Americans over the last 25 years: patriotism, religion, having children, and community involvement. Only a category called "money" showed an increase in importance.

"These differences are so dramatic, it paints a new and surprising portrait of a changing America," a national pollster was quoted as saying in the story. The story went on to say that he concluded, "perhaps the toll of our political division, Covid and the lowest economic confidence in decades is having a startling effect on our core values."

One prays that, as some or all of these variable factors shift, perhaps our common values as Americans might return.

There's a beautiful model for such a shared, common vision in today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

"All who believed were together and had all things in common," the reading says. "They would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

It was the Lord at the center of everything then. Perhaps one day it can be so again.

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# Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

## Mass Intentions

- Monday April 17, 2023 Easter Weekday (White)**  
7:00 a.m. Philip D'Agostino
- Tuesday April 18, 2023 Easter Weekday (White)**  
7:00 a.m. Mary and Frank Fleming
- Wednesday April 19, 2023 Easter Weekday (White)**  
7:00 a.m. Charles M. McQuillan  
6:00 p.m. Kelli Wade
- Thursday April 20, 2023 Easter Weekday (White)**  
7:00 p.m. Norbert Len
- Friday April 21, 2023 Easter Weekday, Saint Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (White)**  
7:00 a.m. Esmenia Salomon Silva and a Special Intention for Rosa Silva
- Saturday, April 22, 2023 Vigil of the 3rd Sunday in Easter (White)**  
4:00 p.m. John & Harriet Armaly Sr., Bonnie Batche, William Voss, Helen Blind, Jeffrey Kala, Charlotte Markantony, Pat Ireland, Gertrude Shaw, Edmond Aubrey  
6:00 p.m. Rosa & Francesco Maggi
- Sunday April 23, 2023 Third Sunday of Easter (White)**  
8:00 a.m. For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc Parishioners  
10:00 a.m. Rob Finn, Evan Battani, Robbie Battani  
12:00 p.m. Ann Marie Rogier, Pedro Silva, Marie Shaheen, Rosario Medina, Jose' Medina, Jeffrey Hardy, Daisy Marie Buenavista, Felician King, Bruno & Sylvia Lipski, Wilfred & Carol Plotkowski, Leonard Matusko

## Daily Readings

### Monday, April 17

Acts 4:23-31  
John 3:1-8

### Tuesday, April 18

Acts 4:32-37  
John 3:7b-15

### Wednesday, April 19

Acts 5:17-26  
John 3:16-21

### Thursday, April 20

Acts 5:27-33  
Luke 3:31-36

### Friday, April 21

Acts 5:34-42  
John 6:1-15

### Saturday, April 22

Acts 6:1-7  
John 6:16-21

### Sunday, April 23

Acts 2:14, 22-33  
1 Peter 1:17-21  
Luke 24:13-35



## I Am The Resurrection & The Life

“Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families.”



“I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. and he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way.”

*Minnie Louise Haskins*

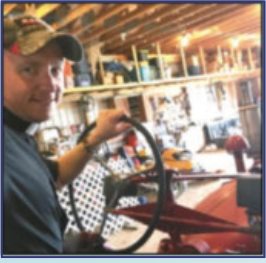


## Reporting Sexual Abuse

Individuals with knowledge of sexual abuse by clergy or other Church representatives are urged to contact local law enforcement and/or the Michigan Attorney General's Office at 844-324-3374 or [aginvestigations@michigan.gov](mailto:aginvestigations@michigan.gov).

Individuals also may contact the Archdiocese of Detroit by visiting [protect.aod.org](http://protect.aod.org) calling the toll-free, 24/7 victim assistance line at 866-343-8055 or by emailing [vac@aod.org](mailto: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



**“They devoted themselves...”:** During Easter masses we’ll have a change in the source of texts for the 1st Reading. Instead of having passages from the Old

Testament, during these seven Sundays we’ll have texts from the Acts of the Apostles. It’s a convenient review of the historical events that happened in the early years of the Church, after Jesus Christ’s Resurrection and Ascension. Our reading today takes place immediately after Peter’s stirring address on the day of Pentecost when 3,000 asked to be baptized. This is the first of the passages that outline the chief characteristics of the Christian community in Jerusalem: adherence to the teachings of the Twelve and the centering of religious life in the Eucharistic liturgy; a system of distribution of goods that led the wealthier Christians to sell their possessions when the needs of the poor of the community required it; and continual attendance at the Temple.

*“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers...”*

This simple sentence provides us with the model of the Christian life and the early attitude of the Church. This one sentence can serve as a form of examination of conscience for us to test how well we are living out an authentic life of a disciple. So what does this sentence tell us?

**1) The apostles provided a type of catechesis aimed at explaining to the disciples the Christian meaning of sacred Hebrew scriptures and the basic truths of faith which they had to believe and practice in order to attain salvation.**

Out of this grew the Profession of Faith statements of the Church and ultimately, centuries later, the development of the Nicene Creed that we profess to believe at each Sunday Mass. We recite it each week. Do you understand the words you are saying? Do you believe them? If not, are you putting in the effort to understand better through the many Catholic resources available to you? If practicing the tenets of our faith are our means of salvation, it would seem essential that we do all we can to understand our faith better.

**2) The fellowship among Christians living a communal life was an invaluable source of support for the new Christian Church.**

The Church was small and the culture was

hostile to the Christian community. The profound solidarity among the disciples meant that the community was protected and strengthened to withstand the onslaught of persecutions. The sense of community resulted from their practice of faith and their appreciation of it as a treasure they all shared. I have priest friends with whom I share common interests and, frankly, some different interest and hobbies. But what binds our friendship and makes it strong and enduring is the shared set of common interests and goals – we love Christ, seek growth in holiness and ultimately desire Heaven.

The early Christian community’s mutual affection enabled them to be detached from material things and to give-up their possessions to help those in need. This was not some form of communist ideal. Communism forces the communal life upon the people. The Christian community shared their possessions to meet each other’s needs because they were motivated to do so out of genuine love and the internal desire to serve each other.

**3) They celebrated the Eucharist, calling it “Breaking of the Bread.”**

After Pentecost the Mass and Eucharistic communion formed the center of Christian worship, celebrated at Christians’ homes. Later it was developing into a more elaborate liturgy, what we now call Mass. Do you desire to be a part of a praying community, or *apart from* a praying community. That commitment to pray together meant the early Christians always had support around them. Our commitment to praying for each other must be as uncompromising. Every Sunday there are parishioners in our pews who have lost a parent, a spouse, a child or had a difficult medical diagnosis or family situation since the previous Sunday. And they need you to be there to pray for them. Even though you may not know the particulars, we come to pray for an with each other. Once a month, most Sundays, every now and then when you’re not busy is not enough. Mass by livestream is for those unable to attend – it is *not* an acceptable “alternative” for those who can be at mass. Sure, there are times when we are out of town, and so we join another community, as the apostles did when they visited the different church communities. There are churches up north too!

With as many confessions as we heard in the parish during Lent, it is time to be clear for anyone who still needs to hear it: skipping mass on a Sunday or Holy day of obligation without a serious reason, (e.g. being sick, dangerous weather, inability to travel) is a grave and mortal sin that requires sacramental confession before receiving the

Eucharist. And until that sin is confessed, your soul is unable to receive the grace supplied by the Eucharist. It is a further offence against God to receive the Eucharist in a state of mortal sin. It is not sufficient to just decide to confess a missed mass next time you go to confession if it’s going to be weeks or months away, but still receive the Eucharist in the meantime.

The beauty of the Sacrament of Confession is that no matter how long it’s been, no matter how grave the sin, God’s mercy is always there. But we must never presume upon it. We need each other and we need each other to be holy and we need each other to be in a state of grace. In other words, none of us can live this life well alone – we need God’s grace and we need each other. We need a community of committed Christians.

**4) The Christians used to pray through the Scriptures, singing the psalms, and reading what some of them were writing, like the Gospels, and the letters that some of the apostles were writing to the different churches they had been established.**

Are you reading scripture, the very words God has spoken to us? Are you making use of the resources available to help you understand the bible? Familiarity with the readings before hearing them at mass will make a massive difference to your understanding of what is being read. Do you listen at mass or are you reading the bulletin or concerned with who may be texting you?

It would be interesting to see a show of hands at mass one day to see how many people own a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. After the Bible it has to be the best and most comprehensive collection of answers to the questions about our faith anyone could put their hands on. For \$10-\$25 you can buy a copy and read explanations of the Creed, teachings about the 3 persons of the Trinity, about Mary, about the 10 Commandments, about sin, about the sacraments, about how to deal with distractions in prayer or at mass, about many of the things people talk about and ask about in confession. It’s accessible, easy to read, has a full index and glossary and scripture references. It should be in every house and should be constantly being brought down from the shelf. I challenge everyone reading this article to make sure there is a recent Catechism in your home. If there isn’t, buy one; if you can’t afford to buy one, come and talk to me.

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew      adawson@sjascs.org

### 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.

April Knitting dates are:  
April 12th & April 26th

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



## 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.**

## 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  
Noreen Bidigare  
Gaetano Biondo  
Gilbert Bousho  
Lori Cardosi  
Ed Cole  
Joan Combellack  
Maura Corrigan  
John Crawford  
Joan DeDene  
Jane Dedene  
Catherine DeRose  
Diane DeSantis  
Grace Dickerson  
George Dickerson

Nick DiCresce  
Jean Edwards  
Frank Faiss  
Ben Fazio  
Susan Federoff  
Taylor Fisher  
Jeanne Fleming  
Michelle Goode  
Jeanne Gainer  
Roz Geitzen  
James Gutowski  
John Hanselman  
Rich Hanselman  
Judith Hasten  
Leland Helzer  
Colleen Hemmen

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

Paula Nagel  
Mark Oumedian  
Joan Persichini  
Carol S. Provencal  
Tracy Rauch  
Alison Reslow  
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  
Adrienne Weidenbach  
Joseph Whalen  
Marilyn Wicker  
Joyce Wiekrykas  
Loretta Williams  
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](mailto:info@sjascs.org).

## PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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Charles Bartlett  
James A. Brannigan  
Robert C. Carden  
Kevin Conley  
Kelli Lynch  
Maria Marable  
Hector M. Martinez  
Jacob Milatz  
R. Connor Montgomery  
Martin Rodriguez  
Dave Russell

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Samuel Baur  
Richard Brown  
Nathan Dickerson  
Greg DeMoss  
Brian C. Ellis  
Thaddeus Kapuscinski  
Joseph R. Kozlinski

Michelle Kuznia, DDS  
Greg Lietz  
Chris Listilla  
Daniel Meagher  
Mika Prinze  
Kyle Richardson  
Christopher Scholz  
John C. Tramazzo  
Dan Travis  
Joseph VanDusen  
David Weise  
Edward Williams  
Samantha Williams  
Timothy L. Wilt III

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Arthur J. Barron  
David Chute  
Kyle Cichowski  
John DuBay Jr.  
David J. Kennedy

Daniel Klein  
Paul Koss  
Matthew Krugler  
Jeffrey LaTour  
John Lewins  
Justin Lienemann  
Nick Lienemann  
Michael Light  
David Light  
Ryan McCarthy  
Lee Michael  
Thomas Reichling  
Frank Schuster  
Daniel Sparkman  
Tom Stevenson

### NAVY

Gary J. Annis  
Brad Converse  
Brody J. Fitzgerald  
Jason Gaidis  
Joseph Goeddeke

Frankie Kocis  
Joseph Marable  
Tom Miller, Jr  
Anthony M. Morgan  
Leonardo Pastoria  
Luciano Pastoria  
John Patterson  
Andrew Seator

### COAST GUARD

Michael Franklin  
Joseph Picotte  
Christopher Rogers

### NATIONAL GUARD

Robert Douglas III  
William DuBay





# Bringing Home the Word

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy) (A)

April 16, 2023

## "I Doubt It," Say All of Us

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Skepticism is a characteristic of a critical mind. Some claims are just too fantastic to trust: no salve can relieve you of all pain; no investment is certain to double your money; no politician can keep all promises; no one comes back from the dead. Who of us can fault Thomas for his initial skepticism?

Thomas has been known throughout history as "the doubter." However, he might be considered the patron saint of all of us. Because of his absence when Jesus stood in the midst of the

community, Thomas was expected to believe on the word of others. Like Thomas, we are torn between believing because of an experience of Jesus, and believing on the word of others. We all would prefer a direct, profound experience. However, that's not what we're offered.

But within the community we can indirectly experience Jesus—his goodness, his unselfish service to others, his desire to bring people together in peace and harmony. Today's first reading provides a glimpse of such a believing community devoted to "the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers" (Acts 2:42). Like our patron Thomas, we might be skeptical at first, but it is within a family or community of kindness and generosity that we can have our own experience of the risen Jesus. †

### Sunday Readings

**Acts 2:42-47**

Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

**1 Peter 1:3-9**

You may have to suffer through various trials, so...the genuineness of your faith...may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

**John 20:19-31**

These [signs] are written that you may [come to] believe that Jesus is the Messiah,...and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

***Thomas has been known throughout history as "the doubter." However, he might be considered the patron saint of all of us.***

### A Word from Pope Francis

The Lord is not looking for perfect Christians; the Lord is not looking for Christians who never doubt and always flaunt a steadfast faith. When a Christian is like that, something isn't right. No, the adventure of faith, as for Thomas, consists of lights and shadows. Otherwise, what kind of faith would that be?

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 24, 2022



### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do I struggle with doubt?
- Where do I feel my faith strengthened and renewed?



# Persevere in Faith!

By Fr. Daniel P. Horan, OFM

Sometimes I find it very difficult to believe. I'm sure I'm not alone, that I'm not the only one who asks whether what I profess to be true is indeed real. Surely there are many others who doubt God's love for them or that God even exists at all. I know there are many greater and holier exemplars of Christian living who likewise struggled from time to time with "dark nights of the soul," with uncertainty, with doubt.

The apostle Thomas—the one many know as "doubting Thomas"—exemplifies holiness that brings comfort to me during my faith struggles and also humanizes the saints. We are accustomed to thinking that to be holy or a disciple is to be unshakable in our convictions and sure-footed in our beliefs. And yet, what is revealed in the Gospels and in the lives of the saints is that the kind of sanctity God desires is not one of apodictic certitude but one of perseverance. The perseverance in our Christian faith is manifested in how we live in and through the struggles of our lives and our faith. Though Thomas doubted the resurrection, he still returned to the upper room with the gathered community of believers. The task for us is to reflect on how we respond to those inevitable moments of doubt and uncertainty in our Christian lives of faith.

As the Easter octave comes to a close today, we are sent forth into the remaining Easter season with the challenge to persist in the good works of faith, living our faith not only in thought and word but also in deed (James 2:14–16), even when we struggle to make sense of what has been handed on to us and find it difficult to recognize God's presence in our lives. †

***Thomas the Apostle doubted, as most people do. He still exemplifies holiness and humanizes the saints.***



# Divine Mercy Sunday

By Rev. Alfred McBride, OPraem

On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the canonization of Sr. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II proclaimed to the world that the first Sunday after Easter, "from now on throughout the Church, will be called 'Divine Mercy Sunday.'"

In Psalm 118, we sing a comforting sentence three times for emphasis: "His mercy endures forever." The Gospel begins with the risen Christ appearing to the apostles on Easter night, calming them and giving them "Peace." He fills them with joy, breathes on them, and charges them with these words: "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Christ gives his apostles the power of God's mercy for the sinner: the gift of forgiving sins from God's always-full treasury of mercy. With these words, Jesus gives us the gift of the sacrament of reconciliation (confession). We can choose to accept or refuse his present. Please, accept it. †

***In Psalm 118, we sing a comforting sentence three times for emphasis: "His mercy endures forever."***



*Lord Jesus, when we are tempted to doubt that good triumphs over evil, that life is stronger than death, fill us with faith and hope, we pray. Amen! Alleluia!*

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

April 17–22

**Monday, Easter Weekday:**

Acts 4:23–31 / Jn 3:1–8

**Tuesday, Easter Weekday:**

Acts 4:32–37 / Jn 3:7b–15

**Wednesday, Easter Weekday:**

Acts 5:17–26 / Jn 3:16–21

**Thursday, Easter Weekday:**

Acts 5:27–33 / Jn 3:31–36

**Friday, Easter Weekday:**

Acts 5:34–42 / Jn 6:1–15

**Saturday, Easter Weekday:**

Acts 6:1–7 / Jn 6:16–21

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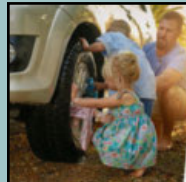
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