



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 ~

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Parish Directory/Mass Times.....Page 2
- TALLer TalesPage 3
- Formed Pick of the WeekPage 4
- Grow+GoPage 5
- Readings for 4th Sunday of Easter .Page 6
- Ecumenical Men's Breakfast.....Page 7
- Retrouvaille Weekend.....Page 8
- Upcoming EventsPage 9
- School of Evangelization..... Page 10
- Weekly Calendar of Events Page 11
- Words on the WordPage 11
- Mass IntentionsPage 12
- Daily ReadingsPage 12
- Those Who Have Recently Died... Page 12
- Tire Tracks in d'Arc.....Page 13
- Announcements.....Page 14
- Prayers for the Sick & MilitaryPage 15
- Bringing Home the Word.....Page 16



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



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!" - Lk 24:33-34

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

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

SCHOOL
22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-775-8370
Fax: 586-447-3574
Website: www.stjoan.net

FAITH AND FAMILY
FORMATION OFFICE
22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-772-1282
Fax: 586-775-8374

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528

School

Phone: 586-775-8370
Fax: 586-447-3574

Faith Formation

Phone: 586-772-1282
Fax: 586-775-8374

In-Solidum Priest Team:

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Lead for SJA

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Fr. Jim Commyn (Moderator)
parish@stlucychurch.com

Fr. Eric Fedewa
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Fr. Stan Pachla
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Msgr. Gary Smetanka
msgsr.smetanka@stargp.org

Non-Resident Sacramental Minister

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

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Deacon Dom Pastore
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Business Manager

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Principal

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Assistant Principal

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Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
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Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

Youth Group

Linda Lietaert
lletaert@stjoan.net

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

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

Holy Day Masses

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

Reconciliation

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

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7am mass

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone. Or by calling us at 586-777-3670 during office hours.

Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Live Stream Broadcasts have become a standard part of our celebrations at St Joan of Arc. This has increased our mass participation at daily and weekend masses. It has also allowed many of our parishioners to stay in touch with their faith community remotely.

Go to: livestream.stjoan.church to watch all live streaming and to view archived celebrations.

Weekday Masses

Monday thru Friday @ 7am

Weekend Masses

Saturdays @ 4pm & 6pm
Sundays @ 8am, 10am, 12pm

Holy Hour

Thursdays @ 7pm



Getting Old:

Besides all the aches and pains that accompany getting older (more on that next weekend), I've noticed that my immediate reaction to

problems and issues has changed a bit. Until recently, I would jump in and try to deal with an issue or problem. Last weekend, I did a "double take" on my own reaction to a plumbing problem on campus. It was a sure sign I was getting older!

As I mentioned, years ago I would jump right in and deal with a problem, any problem. When you're the pastor or lead priest at a parish with aging buildings, you learn quickly what is needed to fix just about anything temporarily. You become a "jack of all trades but a master of none." I have my bag of tools and other things (Gorilla Tape, Flex Tape, Super Glu, WD40) that have helped me temporarily fix just about anything. If an issue happens, I love dropping everything to go and deal with whatever issue is confronting me.

I remember a few years ago when Father John Bettin and I were finishing up being in the office on a Friday evening when he heard the sound of gushing water in the Parish Center. It was one of those frigid days, and a pipe burst in the Parish Center kitchen that sent a ton of water into that half of the Parish Center and throughout the basement. I remember he and I grabbing some boots and a few tools, and while waiting for help to arrive, we just got down to business to fix the issue. We went down to the basement, and while standing in the water trying to assess the damage, we saw the water literately gushing through the electrical panels. Father John and I looked at each other simultaneously and said, "We probably shouldn't be down here standing in the water with that sight!"

Then you might remember last Christmas Eve when a pipe burst in the back of the Church. Father Andrew left the altar in vestments to help the team of people deal with the gushing water flowing into the Church. It took everything I had to stay up at the altar and focused rather than get involved. My curiosity got the best of me, so I texted Father Andrew during the readings to find out how bad it was back there. I choked when I saw the answer: "HUNDREDS of gallons."

Well, the other day I had to use the Parish Center bathroom. This is the larger bathroom near the kitchen. For anyone who has ever used that bathroom, you know that it used to sound like a dangerous whitewater rapid every time you flushed the toilet. We often joke that you had better stand back a few feet when you flushed that toilet; otherwise, you could be taken captive by the gravitational pull of the water going down that toilet.

Well, I flushed the toilet, and it just bubbled and gurgled. "That was weird," I thought to myself. So, I flushed it again, and it bubbled and gurgled again. It was like watching a volcano waiting to erupt. I was already late going over to confessions, so I took some mental notes about what I might need later in the afternoon to fix the problem. Then I saw the water had gone down significantly, so I thought I would try flushing it again. Much to my amazement, it bubbled up even more. I decided I would deal with it later, so I grabbed my coat and started to walk out the back Parish Center door near Father Andrew's house. As I got close to the door, I heard the sound of gushing water in the basement. "Uh-oh." I thought to myself. "Houston, we have a problem." As I descended the steps, I saw water all over the floor. When I turned the corner, I could see the sewer pipe had busted, and water was flowing out of it and onto the floor. "I don't have time to deal with this," I thought to myself. So, I did what any OLD priest would do: I rolled my eyes, waved it off, walked back upstairs, and called Dina and Pete and told them we needed a "Clean Up in Aisle 5!" Yikes, I'm one of those OLD priests now!

The Annual Raffle, A Kick-Off to Summer Event, CSA, and other Parish Events:

For the last few months, the Parish Leadership Team and I have been working with our School and Athletic Leadership Teams and other Pastoral Staff Members to determine a new path going forward for some of our annual events. We were mindful that we needed to bring back or create some new parish-wide social events. We have been brainstorming what could be done that would align with our core values and mission. As a band of disciples on mission with Christ, our missionary nature must be reflected in all our activities, from the way we celebrate the liturgy to how we engage all our parishioners, young and old, new and long-standing, in every ministry or event we undertake. Because our task as a parish is to lead all souls to heaven, we have

decided that all of our ministries, outreach, and events need to be transformative, radically hospitable, and each needs to boldly make disciples.

First, we have decided to change up the events of what used to be the old festival weekend. We decided we would have instead a "Kick-Off to Summer" event for the whole parish that will take place on Sunday, June 11th after the 12-noon mass. The day will be family focused. Doing anything on the old festival weekend often put us at odds with the weather. Moving the date to early June gives us a better chance for warmer and sunnier weather. We'll have food trucks that day and all sorts of family-focused activities. This will also be the date for the annual raffle. More details about this day will be forthcoming. The annual raffle tickets will be mailed in early May.

We've already restarted the 85+ senior dinners (by the time you've read this article, we will have already had all three planned gatherings). In addition, we have an Alumni Social scheduled in August. A Marriage Date Night has been set for mid-August, a Parish Breakfast in September, the annual School Gala on October 21st, a "Fall Fest" in late October, a Family Game night in November, and a *Marches de Noel* and Nativity Story Gathering in early December.

When we mail out the annual raffle ticket packets, we will include a full calendar of events with all the details. I just wanted to give a "bird's eye view" of our plans.

Regarding the annual Catholic Services Appeal (the CSA), we will hold off on that initiative until late June.

As you will see, we have some great events planned for the remainder of the calendar year. I'm grateful for the hard work of our Leadership Teams and staff who have helped put all of this together to benefit our incredible parish community.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of April 23, 2023



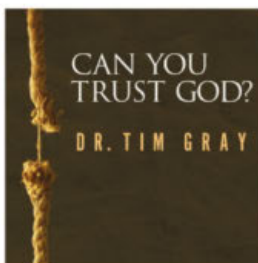
Episode 1: Saint Mark the Evangelist

Just who is St. Mark, the author of this short but action-packed Gospel? Using outside sources, other books of the Bible, and the Gospel itself, Dr. Gray takes a closeup look at St. Mark, and his connection with St. Peter and the Christians of Rome.



Who is St. Catherine of Siena?

In light of St. Catherine of Siena's feast day, join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Elizabeth Klein, as they celebrate this holy woman: a nurse and mystic with papal influence who became a doctor of the Church.



Can You Trust God? by Dr. Tim Gray

To be a saint, we must trust God wholeheartedly. Since the fall of our first parents, however, humanity has been tempted to mistrust the Father's love for us. Scripture scholar Dr. Tim Gray takes us on a journey that addresses the pervasive misconceptions about God, showing us that there is no reason not to follow him.

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



April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 2:14, 22-33 | 1 Pt 1:17-21 | Lk 24:13-35

GROW AS A DISCIPLE

PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

The two disciples had every reason and opportunity to see that it was Jesus walking beside them. They knew that the tomb was empty and the women who had discovered it had relayed what the angel had told them: Jesus was alive. It had only been three days since he had died. Yet, even as he was in their midst, the two disciples' eyes were prevented from recognizing it was Jesus. Only when he broke bread with them did they perceive and understand. Jesus walks beside us as well, but perhaps our eyes, like those of the two disciples, are prevented from recognizing him. What clouds our vision? It could be fear, doubt, despair, as on that road to Emmaus. Or maybe it is pride or hardness of heart. Like the early disciples, we must speak to Jesus, and tell him our story. Jesus comes to meet us, and we in turn have an opportunity to encounter him in many ways, most particularly in the breaking of the bread - the Eucharist. No matter how frantic or chaotic our lives may have become, attending Mass serves as an anchor, and a reminder of Jesus' presence with us every day.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It took them a minute to "get it," but once the disciples recognized Jesus they didn't hesitate. They made a hasty return to Jerusalem to share the news with the other disciples: "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Having encountered Jesus in the breaking of the bread, they felt compelled to share the Good News of his resurrection with others. As Catholics, we can ask the Lord for eyes to see Jesus in our daily lives and especially at Mass. Nourished by the Eucharist, we can share our love for Jesus and our hope in the resurrection with others we encounter. Wherever we are and whatever we do, we can rest assured that Jesus walks alongside us.

PRAY Pray with the psalmist: "Lord, you will show us the path of life."

Readings for the 4th Sunday of Easter



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 30 A

Reading One – Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call." He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

Responsorial – Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side. With your rod and your staff that give me courage.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reading Two – 1 Pt 2:20b-25

Beloved: If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. *He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.*

When he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed himself over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Alleluia – Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Jn 10:1-10

Jesus said: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers." Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them.

So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

THE ECUMENICAL MEN'S BREAKFAST
HOSTS THE

53RD 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



ARE YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE STRUGGLING?
DOES YOUR MARRIAGE NEED SAVING?

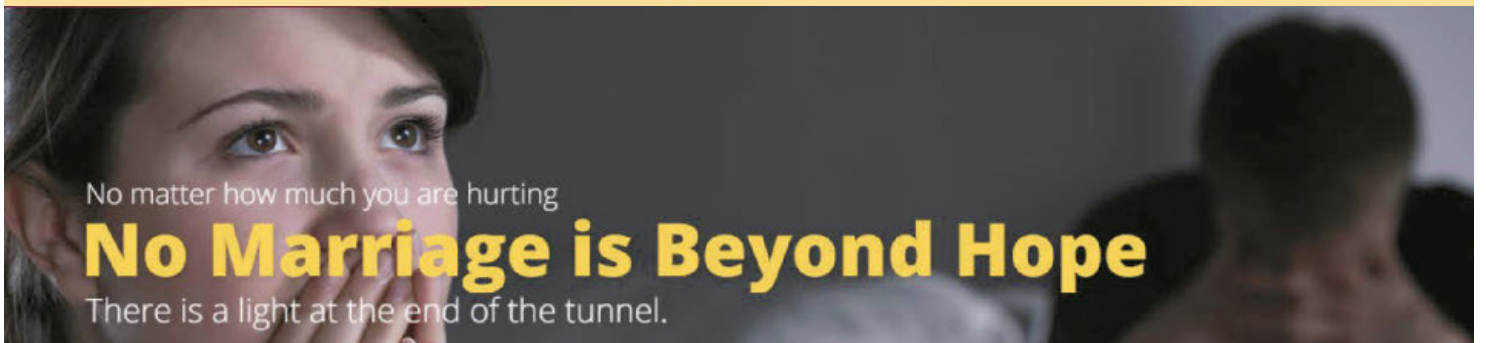
Consider **Retrouvaille**TM

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Has infidelity or addiction made your marriage an emotional wasteland?
- Are you frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse?
- Are you constantly fighting? Or do you simply shut down?
- Have you considered separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

Since 1977, this highly successful Catholic ministry has helped countless hopeless couples heal and renew their marriages and restore their love for one another.

Next local weekend: May 5-7, 2023

HelpOurMarriage.org or call 800-470-2230



No matter how much you are hurting

No Marriage is Beyond Hope

There is a light at the end of the tunnel.



**Come support
Lakeshore Knights of Columbus
Spring Vendor Show with Food Trucks
And Beer Tent.**

**25003 Little Mack, St Clair Shores
Sunday, May 7th, 12:00pm-6:00pm**



**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**



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!



—School of— EVANGELIZATION

Led by Companions of the Cross seminarians



Empowered to
Share the Gospel

A retreat that is both educational
and spiritually uplifting!

Learn practical tools to enter into
the mission of evangelization, and
receive a new zeal and empowering
from the Holy Spirit to bring Jesus
to the world around you. Join us!



practical
workshops



praise &
worship



prayer
ministry

Fri. May 5, 2023: 7pm-9pm &
Sat. May 6, 2023: 8am-4pm
Street Evangelization: 6:30-8:30pm.

Where? 17330 Quincy St Detroit,
MI 48221

Cost: FREE & Lunch Provided

Register at:
companionscross.org/SOE

companionscross.org



COMPANIONS
OF THE CROSS

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, April 24th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, April 25th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM Confirmation - Live Streamed

Wednesday, April 26th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 AM Funeral for Neil Murtha

6:00 PM Evening Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, April 27th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM Holy Hour

Friday, April 28th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 AM Funeral for Catherine Francis

Saturday, April 29th

11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:30 AM Baptism of Paityn R. Moran

1:30 PM Baptism of Mila Rose Petrus

2:39 PM Baptism of Jack Elliott Jarvi

4:00 PM Sunday Mass Vigil - Live Streamed

6:00 PM Sunday Mass Vigil - Live Streamed

Sunday, April 30th

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 23, 2023 – Precious Value

We live in tenuous economic times.

A number of things have conspired in the recent months to suggest, at the very least, that the period of economic expansion the United States has enjoyed for some time may be on the wane.

A recent story in the *Wall Street Journal* warned, perilously, of a coming “lost decade” economically, based on an analysis by the Washington, D.C.-based World Bank. It cited several factors in the projection, from Covid-19 to high inflation, from the war in Ukraine to an aging workforce, and from weakening investment to slowing productivity.

“Across the world, a structural growth slowdown is under way,” the bank is quoted in the story as saying. “At current trends, the global potential growth rate – the maximum rate at which an economy can grow without igniting inflation – is expected to fall to a three-decade low over the remainder of the 2020s.”

That’s a sobering forecast, to be sure.

But there’s more to be said.

First, the so-called experts have been wrong before, and things can change quickly, including in a positive way; optimism has a way of gaining momentum.

But even if that’s not the case, the good news is that our ultimate happiness is not tied to economic success, but to the victory of Christ which we celebrate this Easter season.

“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,” we hear in today’s second reading from the First Letter of St. Peter. “Realizing,” he goes on to say, “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.”

© 2023, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday April 24, 2023 Easter Weekday, Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr (White/Red)

7:00 a.m. Simone Vandekerckhove

Tuesday April 25, 2023 Saint Mark, Evangelist (Red)

7:00 a.m. The deceased members of the Calisi Family who died in the month of April

Wednesday April 26, 2023 Easter Weekday (White)

7:00 a.m. Bayard Kurth

6:00 p.m. A Special Intention for Jason Gerard on his 50th Birthday

Thursday April 27, 2023 Easter Weekday (White)

7:00 p.m. Norm Durfee

Friday April 28, 2023 Easter Weekday, Saint Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest (White/Red/White)

7:00 a.m. Hugo Calisi

Saturday, April 29, 2023 Vigil of the 4th Sunday in Easter

4:00 p.m. Bonnie Batche, Michael DePetro and Special Intentions for the J. Champine Family, the Thomas Family, the Long Family, the Plath Family, the McManus Family, the Morton Family, for Alison Reslow, and for Alfred & Linda Fincham on their 50th Wedding Anniversary

6:00 p.m. Dr. Edmund Aubrey

Sunday April 30, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Easter (White)

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc Parishioners

10:00 a.m. A Special Intention for Matt & Ashley Forrest

12:00 p.m. Dennis Venuto, Richard & Virginia Robinette, Dominic R. Ortisi, Katherine A. Bush, the deceased members of the McMahan Family, Rosario Medina, Jeffrey Hardy, Daisy Marie Buenavista, Felician King, Alison Reslow

Daily Readings

Monday, April 24

Acts 6:8-15
John 6:22-29

Friday, April 28

Acts 9:1-20
John 6:52-59

Tuesday, April 25

1 Peter 5:5b-14
Mark 16:15-20

Saturday, April 29

Acts 9:31-42
John 6:60-69

Wednesday, April 26

Acts 8:1b-8
John 6:35-40

Sunday, April 30

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
1 Peter 2:20b-25
John 10:1-10

Thursday, April 27

Acts 8:26-40
John 6:44-51



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.”

**Diane Rochwalski
Yvonne Perry
Neil Murtha**



“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 ~ Republished from 4/18/21



IX out of X for Effort; Zero for Execution:

Last week I mentioned that I was planning to plant some vegetables and I promised an update on

progress. I didn't expect it to be yet, but make hay while the sun shines.

Last week I decided it was a good time to start my project. I was planning to build a raised planter. Frankly, the way the cost of lumber has sky-rocketed recently, I was open to buying a pre-made box too, so I headed-off to Home Depot scope it all out. On the way there, I was talking by phone to a friend who is always working on some project or another. I asked, out of interest, "So when you're working on something, do you like to plan it on paper, or just go to the store and figure it out as you go?" We both agreed that just going to the store and "winging-it" was more fun, but that sometimes it's more complicated and you have to figure out how many pieces you can get out of each piece of lumber to avoid wasting any. "This one is a simple project, though," I said.

So I got to the store and found a reasonably-priced planter box, though it was not raised off the ground. So I decided I could easily enough make legs for it, color them and attach the box. I went over to the lumber section and picked-up the wood. The planter was made of cedar wood, so I went to the paint and stain department, found some exterior stain for the legs in a small can. I found the color-swatch and what I thought was a good match for the box and I took the stain to be mixed. It was all going so well. Then I pick-up some soil bags and headed home to set to work.

I measured the width of the planter and framed-up one set of legs in an "X" shape, wider at the bottom for stability. I measured the top of the legs so that the top width matched the bottom of the planter. Then I squared them off level so the planter would sit horizontally on top. With one set of legs framed-up, I lay it down on the garage floor to model it for the second set. I went to grab the rest of the lumber and had to kind of do a double-take. "Tell me I didn't do that... Tell me I didn't... I did, didn't I?!"

Remember how I said this was a simple project that I could plan as I went along? Guess what I'd done.... My expertise in

math is lacking....I'd only allowed for 3 legs!



IX out of X for effort; zero for execution. In carpentry terms, this is known by the same term as it is known in any other endeavor: "a fail." But, undeterred, I am ever-resourceful. Some would return to the store... "But have you seen the price of lumber these days?!" I'm not one to return to the store to try again, unless I *have* to. So I decided I could find another way to make my tripod-ed-planter a go. And I did! Buuuut.... Not without further math issues. I measured the third leg up against the set I'd already made, taking into account the horizontal header on top that was for attaching the planter. And I cut the leg to size to match that. With the off-cuts, I made a header for the third leg and screwed that on top. Then I screwed the other off-cut onto the bottom to make a foot. So now I had a nice "I" shaped leg and I rested it up against the first set of legs.... And I hung my head.... "How did that happen?!" The third leg was 1.5 inches taller! Of course, it was easy to see... the first set of legs was an "X" shape so it didn't need a foot. The third leg had a header AND a foot! Head in hands.... A simple project, right?!

So I unscrewed the header and cut 1.5 inches off the leg and screwed the header back on. Finally, they matched.... Well, kind of.... height-wise at least.

By now, one of our office staff was watching out the window of the Parish Center kitchen, amused by what was going on. "Unique, at least," he said. "That's right!" I agreed, "Have you seen the price of lumber these days?!"

By now it was starting to rain, so I gathered-up my tools and moved inside the garage and stained the legs. "Four hours to fully dry" the can said.... "I need to get this done," I said, "10 minutes is close to four hours!" So legs stained I fixed the box on top.

Okay, so it may not be pretty. But I had an

objective here; I set out to grow vegetables, and life on the farm is not always pretty. No-one ever looked at their filet-mignon on the plate and asked what its cow-shed looked like before life went south!



Realizing I could use a bracket between the legs for stability, I considered borrowing one temporarily from the work-bench I built a few weeks ago, but I know how that goes.... it would never get replaced. At that moment, the friend I had been talking with on my way to Home Depot stopped by. He was about to build a sandbox for his young niece, who lives a couple of streets away from St. Joan. He was on his way to Home Depot and so he asked if I wanted him to pick-up some more wood for me. I said, "Sure, since you're going anyway. An hour later he was back with my 2x4, which I measured and cut to size. Now I had to get the stain out again or else it would never get stained and would stand as a reminder of my incompetence for ever more.

By now it had been 3 hours since I stained the first stage of the project, "Three hours is almost four hours." So I put the planter out in the backyard, minus the new leg-bracket. I filled it with soil and planted the seeds—cucumbers and carrots. Stay tuned!! The moral of this story?.... Urgh...answers on a postcard....



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.

St. Joan of Arc Pilgrimage

June 16-25, 2023

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

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

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

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

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

St. Joan of Arc parishioner:
Darryl Bryk



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
Vern Dave
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
Laurie Krim
Concetta Leone
David Lott
Dorothy Lubinski
Joan Mannino
Karen McMahon
Charlotte Miller
Mark Moffitt
Jennie Mooney
Adam Moore
Jim Moore
Joel Moore
Paula Nagel

Karl Osantowske
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Tracy Rauch
Alison Reslow
Sr. Alice Riegel
Diane Rochwalski
Suzanne Roland
Pat Rybak
Sara Rybicki
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.

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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Bringing Home the Word

Third Sunday of Easter (A)
April 23, 2023

He Will Walk You Home

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

It was a very simple encounter. Two people, possibly husband and wife, on their way home from Jerusalem to a neighboring village, are joined by a lone traveler walking on the same path. The couple was downcast for some reason, and the lone traveler showed interest and concern. It was nothing out of the ordinary, just simple human interest. However, it's often just such an unexpected situation that becomes a profound event of God.

Jesus was talking beside them, explaining their sacred writings, and

they did not recognize him. What would it take for them to realize the identity of their companion? As he appeared to continue his journey, they offered him hospitality: "Stay with us" (Luke 24:29). Though they didn't understand who he was or everything he had said to them, their hearts were open to him and so he stayed. "At table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them" (Luke 24:30). That did it! Now they knew. "He was made known to them in the breaking of bread" (Luke 24:35).

This is another moving story about the past and the present. How often we fail to recognize Jesus in our midst. He is with us in the very ordinary events of life, like walking home or preparing a meal. He is there even in our misunderstandings and disappointments. When we realize this, our hearts burn within us. We begin to see that the entire world is a place of encounter. Every human action holds the possibility of revelation. †

How often we fail to recognize Jesus in our midst.

A Word from Pope Francis

Dear brothers and sisters, we are always journeying in life. And we become what we go toward. Let us choose the way of God, not of self.... We will discover that there are no unexpected events, no uphill path, no night that cannot be faced with Jesus.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 26, 2020



Sunday Readings

Acts 2:14, 22-33

God raised [Jesus] up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it.

1 Peter 1:17-21

He was...revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory.

Luke 24:13-35

He took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Have I ever experienced our Lord in an unexpected encounter?
- Where do I least expect to find him today?

The Problem of Evil and God's "Silence"

By Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

Why doesn't God make things easier? Perhaps the most vexing faith question of all time is the problem of God's silence and his seeming indifference. Why does God allow evil? Why do bad things happen to good people?

The presence of evil in the world poses a deeper question. Why does God seem to be hidden? If God is so massively real, why do so many people not recognize, acknowledge, or care about his existence? Why do believers have to live, almost always it seems, on the edges of doubt? Why doesn't God make his existence clear, a fact beyond doubt? Why doesn't God silence his critics?

Evil exists because God respects freedom, both in nature and in human beings. When we are confronted with the problem of evil in the world, the conclusion we might draw is not that God doesn't exist or doesn't care, but rather that God respects and values freedom in a way that we don't.

God doesn't make things easier because God can't make things easier, at least not without making us and the world into something far less than we are. When God made us, he gave us as much freedom, creativity, and spunk as was possible. He



didn't play it safe but gave us as much godliness as he could without making us into gods ourselves. Simply put, in making us, God went so far as to give us a freedom that even he won't tamper with. That's risky, but as a parent, it seems God would rather risk than control, allow creativity outside of his influence than limit ingenuity, and tolerate the misuse of freedom than relate to robots. God is perceived as silent because he allows human freedom and ingenuity to be precisely what they are meant to be: noncoerced, even by God. God is not a frightened parent who needs to control, nor a threatened creator who kept what was best back for himself. God allows evil because God respects the freedom and ingenuity of creation and, as we know from our faith, can ultimately redeem whatever goes wrong.

Things could only be simpler if God had made us Swiss clocks—wonderfully tuned to preset rhythms, with no mess, no sin, no evil, and the beauty of perfect crystal. But then there wouldn't be any love, freedom, creativity, or meaning. No. God built us on a razor's edge, so full of godly fire that we are capable of both martyrdom and murder. †

In the resurrection we are assured that there are no doors that are eternally closed. Every time we close a door, or one is closed on us, God opens another for us. The resurrection assures us that God never gives up on us, even if we give up on ourselves, that God writes straight with the crooked lines of our lives, that we can forever revirginize, regain lost innocence, and move beyond bitterness.

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, when we fail to recognize you in friend or stranger, in familiar or foreign, please open our eyes of faith, we pray. Amen! Alleluia!

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 24–29

Monday, Easter Weekday:

Acts 6:8–15 / Jn 6:22–29

Tuesday, St. Mark:

1 Pt 5:5b–14 / Mk 16:15–20

Wednesday, Easter Weekday:

Acts 8:1b–8/Jn 6:35–40

Thursday, Easter Weekday:

Acts 8:26–40 / Jn 6:44–51

Friday, Easter Weekday:

Acts 9:1–20 / Jn 6:52–59

Saturday, St. Catherine of Siena:

Acts 9:31–42 / Jn 6:60–69

Bringing Home
the Word 

April 23, 2023

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