



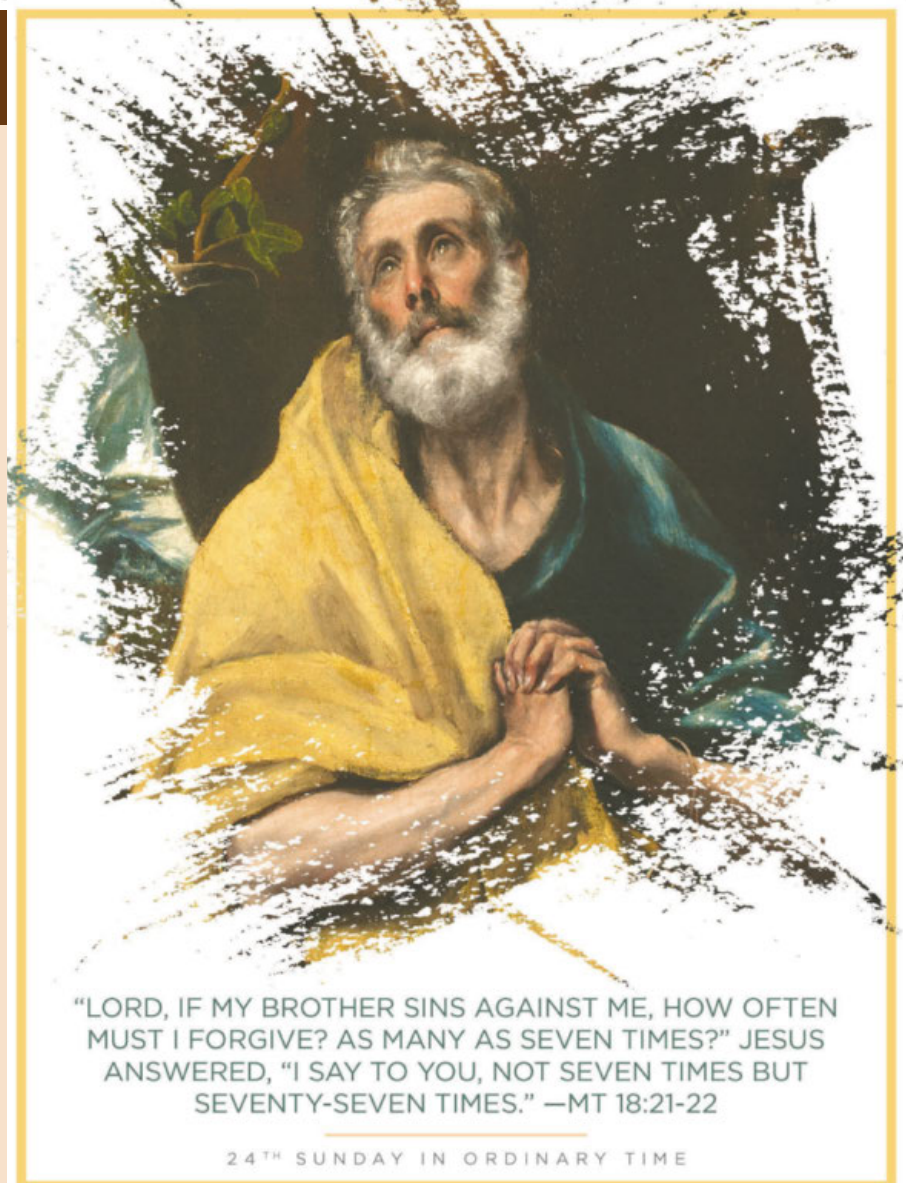
SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

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.sjascs.org

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

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

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

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

School

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

Faith Formation

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

In-Solidum Priest

Team:

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin
gmbugarin@sjascs.org
Lead for SJA

Fr. Adam Nowak
anowak@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 Trudell
ctrudell@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
llietaert@stjoan.net

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am
Wednesday: 6:00 pm

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

Wednesdays: 5:00 pm
Saturdays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
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: (Summer Hours)
Monday - Thursday from 8:30am - 4:00pm
Friday: 8:30am—12:00pm

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.

OCIA: 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
Wednesday @ 6pm

Weekend Masses

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

Holy Hour

Thursdays @ 7pm



Cruisin' with Mom (Part EIGHT): For the last several weeks, I have been sharing about my trip with my mom on board the Viking Octantis for a

Great Lakes Cruise. Our journey began in Toronto, and from there, we traversed the Welland Canal Locks and made stops in Port Colborne, Point Pelee, Detroit, Alpena, Mackinac Island, and finally, Milwaukee.

In last week's chronicles of "Cruisin with Mom," I mentioned that after visiting with two of my sisters for a walk along the Detroit Riverwalk while we were at our Detroit stop, we boarded the ship, went up to Deck 5, took our "selfie" with my two sisters in the background on the shore, and then decided to have a late lunch with a clear view of the Detroit side. We were supposed to depart early that afternoon, but it was clear from all the activity happening below we were not going anywhere soon.

Because of my newfound interest in cruise ships, my mom has had me watching some of these behind-the-scenes cruise ship shows on Discovery Channel or whatever channel they are on. One of the shows I've watched occasionally is called *Mighty Cruise Ships*. With passengers exceeding 5,000, these huge ships would be too much for me! But I've enjoyed all the behind-the-scenes stuff they show. One area of these shows that has intrigued me and is somewhat of a preamble for today's *Cruisin' with Mom* story is what has to take place to get food on these ships. Vegetables by the semi-full. Tons of chicken and meat.

But these shows also highlight the often nerve-racking moments when a semi is late or they decide to reject the food because a crate or two was spoiled. The choreography behind the scenes is mesmerizing! A lot has to happen in a port or when they turn a ship around for a new load of passengers!

As my mom and I were having lunch, we noticed some crew members walking over to a little driveway on the right side of the Ren Cen. This was where my sisters were hanging out when we took our little "selfie," so the location was already in our field of view. It was clear it was some form of loading area. But it was clear they were having problems. There was a large rental truck they were trying to navigate around

this tight corner. As more and more Viking Cruise staff started walking over to the location, it was clear the truck had something for our ship that had to be delivered. They were driving this truck in reverse, and navigating around this corner was becoming increasingly difficult. It was funny because the truck would appear, and then they would wave it back up the ramp because their attempts at navigating this corner kept failing. More staff from the ship started walking over to the area. Then I noted the food manager walking off the ship, and he started heading that way. Over and over again, they couldn't navigate this truck around this tight corner, but now the number of staff from the ship congregating in this location to help was growing. At one point, even I wanted to get off the ship and try to help! As my mom and I were entertained watching all this commotion, I thought whatever this truck had must have been pretty important!

Eventually, they gave up and kept the truck in place rather than move it closer to the ship's cargo bay. Then they opened the back of the truck, and I was expecting something really important, but it was nothing more than empty barrels! Then, the staff formed somewhat of a human chain to move all these empty barrels (more like huge empty storage drums) off the truck and over to the ship's cargo area. My mom and I surmised these must have been the empty barrels from the ship's garbage or possibly even the ship's recyclable materials. At this point, I wanted the captain to blow the ship's horn in celebration that this precious cargo of many huge empty drums finally made it on board. Once all the barrels were on board, the ship's crew made it back to the ship, and they started to pull the anchor. It was now time to leave Detroit. We got to see my sisters. We walked around the Detroit Riverwalk. We had lunch. We were entertained with some behind-the-scenes cruise ship stuff. And, now, it was time to leave. As we started to move, I passed by the enormous cookie table in the World Café and grabbed a cookie. I was trying to be good because I was eating so much. When my mom saw me grab only one cookie, she questioned me in utter disbelief, "You're only taking ONE?" I shrugged my shoulders and grabbed a few more! This cruise stuff was hard work!

Next stop: Alpena!

Protecting God's Children Recertification: As many of you know, one of my other ministries in the Archdiocese of Detroit is to oversee the

implementation of our Safe Environment policies and procedures in accord with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which was enacted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2002 and then updated in 2018. The "Dallas Charter," as it is known because of the city in which it was adopted, established a set of uniform "zero tolerance" procedures for all (arch)dioceses in the United States regarding the handling of sex abuse allegations involving minors and vulnerable adults. The Dallas Charter also required that all U.S. dioceses implement practices, such as universal criminal background checks and mandatory safe environment training, that would prevent abuse from occurring in the first place. The Charter is reviewed at least every seven years to ensure its practices are of the highest and most current standards. The co-workers assisting me in this enormous effort all work out of the Parish Center.

The Archdiocese of Detroit recently revised its Safe Environment Policies such that ALL volunteers and employees, regardless of whether they work with children or vulnerable adults, must undergo a criminal background check, sign off on a code of conduct, and complete or take a recertification *Protecting God's Children* workshop or online self-paced module. This means EVERYONE, whether a lector, choir member, volunteer at school, or activity volunteer, MUST comply with our new policies. The changes apply to everyone, even if you've previously taken a *Protecting God's Children* workshop. To learn more about our new policies and what you must do to keep yourself up to date, please visit protect.aod.org or scan the QR code below.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org



THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of September 17, 2023



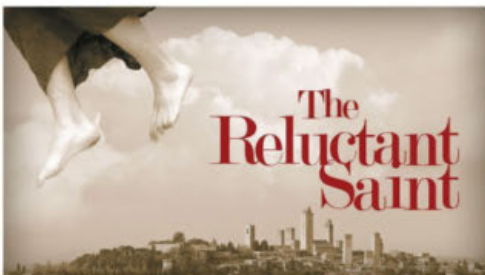
Padre Pio: Miracle Man

This movie captures the Capuchin friar's intense faith, devotion, and deep spiritual concern for others, as well as his great compassion for the sick and suffering. It reveals the amazing details and events in Padre Pio's life as a boy and throughout his fifty years as a friar, dramatizing the frequent attacks from the devil, as well as the persecution he suffered at the hands of people, including those in the Church.



The Calling of Matthew

Dr. Tim Gray provides an extended analysis of Caravaggio's The Calling of St. Matthew.



The Reluctant Saint: The Story of St. Joseph Cupertino

This film portrays the life of St. Joseph of Cupertino, the humble Franciscan friar who literally rose to sainthood. In the impoverished village of seventeenth century Cupertino, Italy, Joseph's peasant mother convinces the reluctant abbot to accept her son into the monastery. With the support of the kindly local bishop who sees in him a great deal more than others do, and by a series of miraculous incidents, the simple but pious Joseph is ordained a priest.

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

St. Matthew, Patron Saint of Accountants and Bankers

At the age of 29, Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, completed what has become one of the most famous and recognizable works of art – *the Calling of St. Matthew*. I have had the pleasure of viewing this painting in person and it is stunning! It was commissioned for the Church of St. Louis of the French, in Rome, where it remains today. The painting is a favorite of Pope Francis, who used to visit the church as a boy. Referring to St. Matthew in the painting, Pope Francis has remarked, "This is me, a sinner on whom the Lord has turned his gaze."

Though I doubt this small image in the bulletin will do it justice, the painting is a remarkable example of the use of light and shadows. You'll notice that Jesus is pointing to St. Matthew. Jesus' outstretched hand is meant to look like the hand of God as he awakens Adam in Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel.

We will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Matthew the Apostle on Thursday, September 21, so I thought I would offer a brief reflection on St. Matthew's call to conversion.

The Gospel reveals little about the Apostle that Jesus called in the midst of his work as a tax collector, except that as a collaborator with the Romans he was an outcast from Jewish religious practice (the Law), and as one who made his living by collecting taxes, he was generally despised by everyone except other tax collectors or law breakers. As a hereditary Jew within his own world, Matthew presumably would have been marginalized – alienated from communal relationships, and divided from his roots and family life by the work that he did in collaboration with a hated political oppressor. Even raised a Jew, such a person in the first century would have had little opportunity, or even desire, to know and ponder the intricacies of the Law of Moses and its implications for relationship with God. But in the context of his work and associations, Jesus calls

him into a new kind of family – one that will be united in the Grace of God's own Spirit – united in companionship with Jesus in service to the Father. A family that will need and honor his gifts, diverse though they may be.

In the Gospel that we will hear on Thursday (MT 9:9-13) the pharisees ask Jesus' disciples: "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus saw Matthew sitting at his customs table, He must have seen how the people despised this tax collector. Jesus must have sensed that this kind of resentment and rejection changed and hurt the tax collector. Had it made Matthew defensive and thick skinned? Had he become gruff and insensitive to others? Did he bark at and push others away? Jesus, I'm sure, immediately felt compassion for Matthew.

I imagine that the first thing Matthew noticed was how Jesus was looking at him. Could it have been that the first experience Matthew had of someone looking on him with love and compassion? When their eyes met, Matthew must have had a sense of that – no blame, no judgment – just love.



As I picture the scene, Matthew immediately sensed that Jesus somehow understood the predicament he was in. He got himself into this and he'd not been an attractive character at all. He played the role people had put him in. But, Jesus didn't fix him in that role somehow. Before He uttered a word, Jesus' eyes must have said to Matthew, "I know this isn't really you. I understand how much playing this role is distorting you, souring you, hardening you." It was as though Jesus' face, and the sadness it

revealed, reflected the sadness in Matthew's heart.

"Follow me." The words must have made their ways straight to Matthew's heart. Never had his heart been so opened by such understanding and acceptance. For a moment, he must have thought, "Me? I'm just a ... I can't change ... I'm stuck here ... And, what'll they say about ..." But those protests were surely replaced with something responding from deep inside that welcomed this call, this liberation, this vote of confidence. Without a word, with their eyes still locked in that communication of intimacy, Matthew's heart said, "Yes! Amen! I'm yours!" Nothing else had a hold on him. There were no excuses, doubts, or fears. Matthew had been healed as he had been called. His yes was his surrender to being loved.

Can we look up from our own custom table today and see Jesus gazing at us with compassion and love? He knows and understands whatever has us locked into roles, images, or patterns that aren't very attractive and that we don't really like about ourselves. Can we let ourselves experience and feel his love? On the other side of that loving acceptance there is a freedom to imagine Him calling us today, in our situation, and saying, "Follow me."

Prayer of St. Matthew

God of mercy, you chose a tax collector, Saint Matthew, to share the dignity of the Apostles.

In doing so, you showed us that with you, all things are possible, and that though we are sinners, we too can answer your noble call to evangelize the world.

By St Matthew's example and prayers help us to follow Christ and remain faithful in your service.

Blessings, Fr. Adam

September 17, 2023

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30—28:7 | Rom 14:7-9 | Mt 18:21-35

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

Forgiveness. It seems like a relatively simple *concept*, doesn't it? We ask our merciful Father for it every day when we pray the Our Father: "... forgive us our trespasses..." Then reality hits, as we remember the second part of that phrase: "...as we forgive those who trespass against us ..." *As we forgive others*. Oh, that long, hard road of forgiveness! Easier said than done. Sometimes those old sayings have some merit, don't they? And when we look at today's readings, there is nothing cryptic about them: forgive *not seven times but seventy-seven times*, let go of wrath and anger, forgive your brother and sister *from your heart*. Yes, forgiveness is a simple concept, but it's not easy. Perhaps the answer is to re-read today's Scriptures and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the strength to put in the hard work if there is someone in our lives to whom we need to offer our heartfelt forgiveness.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Bishop Robert Barron, in his *Word on Fire Bible* on the Gospels, has four suggestions related to this Gospel on how to become "a better forgiver." The one that stood out to me immediately is "forgive offenses quickly." Don't let them fester and "settle deeply into your psyche." This seems like very sage advice because we can all have a tendency to "stew" about things that are bothering us, which rarely makes them better. Bishop Barron's other suggestions are: Pay attention to your own sins, go to confessions regularly, and offer forgiveness through a concrete act or sign. Which brings us back to the simplicity of it all: God will always forgive us, so we must always forgive others. Doesn't it make sense that to live in the house of our merciful Father, we must emulate him and have loving hearts rather than vengeful hearts?

PRAY Examine your heart and take a hard look at whether you are holding on to a wrong that was committed against you. Take it to God in prayer. The more we open our hearts to forgive others, the more at peace we can be. Ponder the last words of today's reading from Sirach:

*Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor;
remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.*



Readings for the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 24 A

Reading One – Is 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial – Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD and highly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

The LORD is just in all his ways and holy in all his works. The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

Reading Two – Phil 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit.

Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Alleluia – Cf. Acts 16:14b

Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Mt 20:1-16a

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Join us for St. Joan of Arc School's 17th Annual Gala and ...

color the night

Red & White

Our annual gala is an awesome night filled with good food and great fun. Thanks to our amazing parish, school community, and friends, it's a huge benefit to our school as it's the most important fundraiser each year. Invite your friends, host a table, or plan to purchase some lucky raffle tickets in support of this big event.

**Can you donate items for our silent or live auction?
Need more information?**

**Contact Pam Graskewicz (313-443-9059 / pgraskewicz@hotmail.com)
Emily Radatz (586-873-3183 / emilyaradatz@gmail.com)
or Kathy Kalich (kkalich@stjoan.net)**



October 21, 2023

At the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club



A foundation of faith and excellence.

St. Joan of Arc
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Gala Contributor Form



17th Annual

Auction & Dinner Gala

EVENT DATE: 10/21/2023



AUCTION ITEMS

One of the greatest sources of revenue for the Gala event comes from items that are auctioned. These items are donated by local businesses as well as from private individuals, many of whom are families of St. Joan of Arc School. If you would like to donate an auction item, or know of somebody that you can ask... this would go a long way to helping this year's auction be especially successful.

RAFFLE TICKETS

Our grand prize raffle is the backbone of this fundraiser. Only with steady sales of tickets for this raffle over several months can the Gala committee bring you the Gala dinner and auction event. For ticket sales information, check with the Parish and School offices. Help by buying tickets or becoming a ticket agent, selling them to friends, family or coworkers.

DINNER & AUCTION TICKETS

Come to the Gala event on Oct. 21, 2023. Party with your friends and members of the School and Parish community. Enjoy a gourmet dinner, open bar, live entertainment, live and silent auctions, raffles and much more. The event will be held at the prestigious

Grosse Pointe
Yacht Club



ADVERTISE

Advertise your product or service in our keepsake Gala Auction item catalog.

VOLUNTEER

Join our 100% volunteer committee that plans and works this event.

www.sjaauction.org



CONTRIBUTOR FORM

DUE DATE: **SEPTEMBER 29, 2023**

Donor: Please print clearly so we may accurately acknowledge your company

Name: _____ Date: _____

Company Name: _____ Phone# _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Auction Item/Cash Donation: Please include any restrictions and expiration dates.

Donation Description: _____

Total Donor Value: \$ _____ Gift certificate included _____ Event committee to create _____

Program Ad: Please attach business card or email camera ready ad to gala@stjoan.net

_____ Back Cover Ad in Full Color \$1,000 _____ 1/2 Page Ad (B & W) \$150

_____ Inside Cover Ads in Full Color \$500 _____ Business Card (B & W) \$75

_____ Full Page Ad (B & W) \$250

Event Tickets: \$125.00/ea (Sold online. Available September 2023. Check sjaauction.org for details)

Please make all checks payable to St. Joan of Arc School. Please submit donations and ads no later than September 29, 2023 to ensure recognitions in the Gala program. The Gala committee reserves the right to hold any item received after the deadline for the 2024 Gala.

For any questions regarding donations, tickets or advertising please contact:

- Kathy Kalich at kkalich@stjoan.net

- Parish Center at 586-777-3670 or gala@stjoan.net

- Pam Graskewicz at 313-443-9059

- Emily Radatz at 586-873-3183

GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE

\$5,000 in prizes: one(1) \$3000, one (1) \$1000 and two (2) \$500 cash prizes. Tickets are available for \$20 each or six for \$100.

22415 Overlake Street, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
Office: 586-775-8370 Website: www.sjaauction.org

TAX ID NO: 38-1420316



Crossroads

For close to 20 years, our parish has helped serve meals at Crossroads. We will follow the same process as we did in 2022. Rather than ask for food donations, we will ask for cash donations so that all the food that is needed can be purchased.

Sept 24th is the date we will be cooking and serving food at Crossroads. Our menu will consist of chili, hot dogs, condiments, cornbread, cookies, fruit, and beverages.

If we have additional funds, we will purchase toiletries as we did last year for all the guests that we serve at Crossroads. They were very happy to receive this gift from us!

WAYS TO GIVE:

- Online: sjasc.org/crossroads
- Cash / Check:
 - Drop off in the Sunday Collection Box
 - Drop off at the Parish Center

Please note the donation is for Crossroad! Envelopes are available in Gathering Place Bookcase and at the Parish Center.



Crossroads of Michigan was founded by Father James McLaren in 1971 in response to a growing number of people in the community who did not have access to the same resources and were not being treated the same as others. 52 years later this continues to be important and influences Crossroads' approach to finding better and sustainable solutions to people living in poverty than has been available to us.

All women are invited to join us for our next Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Studies

beginning
Sept. 25

Two Monday Sessions available
10 am and 7 pm

Join us in the Sr. Carol Center for a coffee and to learn about the fruits of these beautiful weekly Catholic Bible Studies written especially for women. All women are welcome and invited to bring a friend. Each group is doing a different study. Feel free to drop in on the first session. There's always an open seat. No experience necessary!

The morning group is starting the 8-week study "Ordering Your Priorities" and the evening group is embarking on the 6-week program, "Fearless and Free." No previous experience is needed. These shorter studies are a great way to enter these wonderful Bible studies.

Visit sjasc.org/walking-with-purpose for more information about these groups and studies.

Bereavement Group



SEEING THE LIGHT OF DAY

A faith based group meeting

Our Lady Star of the Sea

First Sunday of the Month

1:30 pm - In the Pointe

Contact the Parish office (313-884-5554) for more information



St. Joan of Arc OCIA

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

**Are you or anyone you know
interested in learning more about the
Catholic Church?**

What is OCIA?

OCIA is the process through which a person becomes a fully initiated member of the Catholic Faith. It's for

- Adults and children of catechetical age (over 7 years) who have not been baptized
- Those who have been baptized in another Christian denomination who want to become Catholic
- Those who were baptized as infants in the Catholic Church but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (First Eucharist and/or Confirmation) and who have had no faith formation

How long does it take?

Each person is on a personal journey in his/her relationship with God. Time varies depending on the individual. We walk with you in this process.

Do I have to commit to becoming Catholic if I enter the OCIA process?

No, the OCIA process is marked by opportunities for discernment along the way, and ultimately it is about one's readiness and desire to be received into the Church.

**A new OCIA
group at SJA
is starting
soon!**

Fill out the contact form for our OCIA coordinator, Patty Chase, at sjasc.org/ocia or call the Parish Center at 586-777-3670

A prayer for conversions

O blessed apostle, St. Paul, greatest of all converts, who labored unceasingly for the conversion of other souls, inspire me with the ardor of your zeal that I may pray and work for the conversion of my brethren, redeemed in the blood of Christ but not as yet blessed with the full light of his truth.

Mindful of the loving concern of the Divine Shepherd for the salvation of the "other sheep that are not of this fold," I now beg your intercession to obtain the grace of conversion for those who do not know you and your church.

May God, the Holy Spirit from whom alone this gift can come, hear my humble prayer and thus enable me to share with others the riches of my heritage of faith through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, September 18th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, September 19th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, September 20th

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

5:00 PM Reconciliation

6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, September 21st

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, September 22nd

7:00 AM Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 23rd

10:00 AM Funeral for Dorothy Taylor

11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:30 PM Baptism of Olivia P. Burns

4:00 PM Sunday Mass Vigil - Live Streamed

6:00 PM Sunday Mass Vigil - Live Streamed

Sunday, September 24th

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

Sept. 17, 2023 – Watch Your Temper

For people of goodwill, it can be downright infuriating.

News headlines are almost always bad, it's true, but some days can seem worse than others. On one recent day, for example, a sampling of local headlines included stories about a Troy man who was charged with a shooting at a Roseville liquor store earlier this summer, a Clinton Township man who was arraigned on charges of abusive behavior towards children with the use of a computer, and an arrest in Ann Arbor of a man believed to have been responsible for home invasions and assault.

The average person, doing their best to be attentive to the word of God and the laws of man, is dismayed by such things happening around us. Some people, to be sure, might be downright angry and harbor resentment towards the perpetrators of such evil.

And yet, we are reminded that in carrying around such feelings we are actually doing damage to ourselves.

"Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight," we hear in today's first reading from the Book of Sirach. "The vengeful will suffer the Lord's vengeance, for he remembers their sins in detail."

So what should we do about it?

"Forgive your neighbor's injustice," the reading continues, "then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven."

None of this is likely to be easy, especially when viewed against the yearning we all feel for a sense of justice here and now, in our communities and on our timetable. But, ultimately, that's not the point.

"Remember your last days," the reading concludes. "Set enmity aside; remember death and decay, and cease from sin! Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor; remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults."

© 2023, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

- Monday September 18, 2023 Weekday (Green)**
7:00 a.m. A Special Intention for Sue Zanoni
- Tuesday September 19, 2023 Weekday, Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr (Green/Red)**
7:00 a.m. Suzanne Roland
- Wednesday September 20, 2023 Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs (Red)**
7:00 a.m. Richard C. Rich
6:00 p.m. George J. Bugarin
- Thursday September 21, 2023 Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (Red)**
7:00 a.m. Herbert Thelen
- Friday September 22, 2023 Weekday (Green)**
7:00 a.m. The deceased members of the Calisi Family who died in the month of September
- Saturday, September 23, 2023 Vigil of the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)**
4:00 p.m. Helmut Linden, Bonnie Batche, the deceased members of the Batche Family, Thomas Lucchese, Gerard Rogier, Michael DePetro, Grace & Sam Valenti, Joseph Gradowski, Robert Palonis, Leon & Dorothy Potwardski and Special Intentions for the J. Champine Family, the Thomas Family, for Alison Reslow, Pam Haisenleder, Lorraine Jonas, and Sally Cabot
6:00 p.m. Jaclyn Maul
- Sunday September 24, 2023 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)**
8:00 a.m. For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc Parishioners
10:00 a.m. Felice DiBerardino
12:00 p.m. Michael Ciaramitaro, Mikie T. Artley, Joan Hardy, Felician King, Joseph Gradowski, William Boyke and Special Intentions for Alison Reslow, Pam Haisenleder, Lorraine Jonas and Sally Cabot

Daily Readings

- Monday, September 18** 1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 7:1-10
- Tuesday, September 19** 1 Timothy 3:1-13
Luke 7:11-17
- Wednesday, September 20** 1 Timothy 3:13-14
Luke 7:31-35
- Thursday, September 21** Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13
Matthew 9:9-13
- Friday, September 22** 1 Timothy 6:2c-12
Luke 8:1-3
- Saturday, September 23** 1 Timothy 6:13-16
Luke 8:4-15
- Sunday, September 24** Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Matthew 20:1-16a



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.”

Nancy Claphan



“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.

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Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrew Barth	Nick DiCresce	Zayne D. Kapinski	Mark Oumedian	Cathy Sullens
Geri Beaugrand	Jean Edwards	Thomas Kler	Joan Persichini	Terri Szolach
Gaetano Biondo	Dr. Elise Eden	Catherine Konen	Lee Petrella	Bernadette Thompson
Edna Burton	Frank Faiss	Delaney Kraemer	Frank Poeschel	James Thompson
Sally Cabot	Taylor Fisher	Shirley Kraemer	Carol S. Provencal	Linda Vitale
Angeline Calus	Jeanne Fleming	Laurie Krim	Tracy Rauch	Eileen Wallace
Lori Cardosi	Michelle Goode	Concetta Leone	Alison Reslow	Adrienne Weidenbach
Ed Cole	Jeanne Gainer	Mila Lictawa	Fe Reyes	Joseph Whalen
Joan Combellack	Roz Geitzen	David Lott	Sr. Alice Riegel	Marilyn Wicker
Maura Corrigan	James Glaeser	Dave Lucas	Jenna Rose	Joyce Wiekrykas
Richard Coatney	Larry Graham	Joan Mannino	Randal & Bica Roy	Loretta Williams
John Crawford	Chris Gretchen	Mary Lou Meier	Sara Rybicki	Richard Wojcik
Dorothy Damm	James Gutowski	Heather A. Miller	Victoria Rydholm	Joan Wright
Joan DeDene	Pam Haisenleder	Mark Moffitt	Lily Saith	Janet Yntema
Ray DeFrates	John Hanselman	Nina Mondalek	Dianne Schelosky	Eddie Zatyrcz
Catherine DeRose	Rich Hanselman	Jennie Mooney	Ann Simmonds	Patricia Zublin
Diane DeSantis	Judith Hasten	Adam Moore	Terri Smigels	
Alan DePorter	Leland Helzer	Jim Moore	Kathleen Smith	
David Detroyer	Valerie Hudson	Joel Moore	Cathy Spindler	
Grace Dickerson	Joan Ireland	Paula Nagel	Palma Strussione	
George Dickerson	Lorraine Jonas	Karl Osantowske	Raymond Strussione	

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

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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David J. Kennedy

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

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Brad Converse
Brody J. Fitzgerald
Jason Gaidis
Joseph Goeddeke

Frankie Kocis
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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
September 17, 2023

Limitless Forgiveness

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

What makes seven such an important number? It's the symbolism. It signifies wholeness, completeness, and totality. So, seventy-seven (or seventy times seven in some Bible translations) suggests infinity. Peter was exaggerating when he suggested that he might forgive his brother seven times. He presumed that if he acted in this way, his behavior would demonstrate the immeasurable extent of his personal graciousness. Jesus' response implied that there should be no end to our forgiving another. To underscore the significance of this magnanimity, Jesus offered God (in the guise of the king who forgave a huge debt) as the exemplar of forgiving.

Forgiving another's offense against us could well be one of the most difficult things we are asked to do. To ask for forgiveness does not seem as difficult. After all, when we bump into a perfect stranger in an elevator, we say, "Forgive me." But to forgive someone who has deliberately offended us, who has dishonored our sense of personal dignity, as slight as that offense might be, is neither as easy nor as casual a gesture. And yet, we must.

We all carry debts to others. Both the first reading and the Gospel passage remind us that the debts owed to us by others in no way compare with the debt we owe God, and yet God shows us compassion and forgives us. If we are grateful children of a compassionate God, we will want to be like God and we will forgive others. ✠

A Word from Pope Francis

How much suffering, how many wounds, how many wars could be avoided if forgiveness and mercy were the style of our life! Even in families....It is necessary to apply merciful love to all human relationships: between spouses, between parents and children, within our communities, in the Church and also in society and politics.

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020



Sunday Readings

Sirach 27:30—28:7

Remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook faults.

Romans 14:7–9

Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Matthew 18:21–35

Jesus answered, "I say to you, [forgive] not seven times but seventy-seven times."

*Jesus taught there
should be no end to our
forgiving one another.*



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS REFLECTION

- When you pray, "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us," do you mean it?
- Who does it hurt when we fail to forgive?

From Forgiven to Forgiver

Fr. Henri Nouwen

Perhaps the most radical statement Jesus ever made is: "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate." God's compassion is described by Jesus not simply to show me how willing God is to feel for me, or to forgive me my sins and offer me new life and happiness, but to invite me to become like God and to show the same compassion to others as he is showing to me. If the only meaning of the story were that people sin but God forgives, I could easily begin to think of my sins as a fine occasion for God to show me his forgiveness. There would be no real challenge in such an interpretation. I would resign myself to my weaknesses and keep hoping that eventually God would close God's eyes to them and let me come home, whatever I did. Such sentimental romanticism is not the message of the Gospels.

What I am called to make true is that whether I am the younger or the elder son, I am the son of my compassionate Father. I am an heir. No one says it more clearly than Paul when he writes: "The Spirit himself joins with our spirit to bear witness that we are children of God. And if we are children, then we are heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, provided that we share his sufferings, so as to share his glory." Indeed, as son and heir I am to become successor. I am destined to step into my Father's place and offer to others the same compassion that he has offered me. The return to the Father is ultimately the challenge to become the Father. †

From The Return of the Prodigal Son

Avoid All Forms of Self-Rejection

Fr. Henri Nouwen

You must avoid not only blaming others but also blaming yourself. You are inclined to blame yourself for the difficulties you experience in relationships. But self-blame is not a form of humility. It is a form of self-rejection in which you ignore or deny your own goodness and beauty.

When a friendship does not blossom, when a word is not received, when a gesture of love is not appreciated, do not blame it on yourself. This is both untrue and hurtful. Every time you reject yourself, you idealize others. You want to be with those whom you consider better,

stronger, more intelligent, more gifted than yourself. Thus you make yourself emotionally dependent, leading others to feel unable to fulfill your expectations and causing them to withdraw from you. This makes you blame yourself even more, and you enter a dangerous spiral of self-rejection and neediness.

Avoid all forms of self-rejection. Acknowledge your limitations, but claim your unique gifts and thereby live as an equal among equals. That will set you free from your obsessive and possessive needs and enable you to give and receive true affection and friendship. †

From The Inner Voice of Love



Merciful God, give us generous hearts and open minds that we may forgive others as we have been forgiven. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 18–23

Monday, Weekday: 1 Tm 2:1–8 / Lk 7:1–10

Tuesday, Weekday: 1 Tm 3:1–13 / Lk 7:11–17

Wednesday, Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions:
1 Tm 3:14–16 / Lk 7:31–35

Thursday, St. Matthew:

Eph 4:1–7, 11–13 / Mt 9:9–13

Friday, Weekday:

1 Tm 6:2c–12 / Lk 8:1–3

Saturday, St. Pius of Pietrelcina:

1 Tm 6:13–16 / Lk 8:4–15

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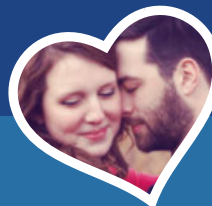
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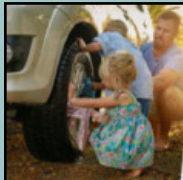
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