

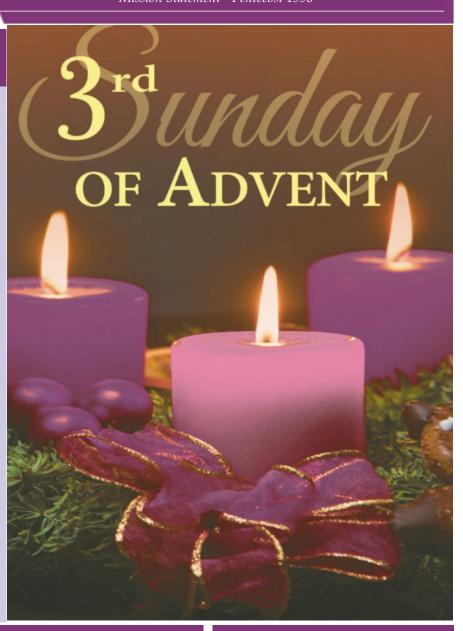
## SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

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:

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

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#### Youth Group

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#### **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: Monday - Thursday from 8:30am - 5:00pm Friday: 8:30am—4:00pm

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

#### **TALLer Tales**



You Don't Listen: My mom is fond of saying I don't listen. She will claim that I'll listen to Father Rich about stuff but won't listen to her or my sisters. Of course,

I disagree, but I never seem to win that battle, maybe because I'm not listening!

The above tidbit was important to know before I delved into today's story! There's always a backstory!

On Monday, November 27, I drove up to Caro, Michigan, for the funeral of Ray DeFrates. Many would remember Ray as THE Guesser at SJA's Festival. Ray worked the SJA Festival for many decades, and he and his wife Ann were people you couldn't wait to see when the Festival people came rolling into town. Ray had been battling cancer recently and was in the middle of treatments when he passed away rather unexpectedly.

Anyone working at the festival would have known Ray and Ann. While Ray was working outside as the guesser (his booth was always opposite the Ticket and Ushers' booths right on Overlake), Ann, his wife, handled the finances for NAME (North American Midway Entertainment) Company, which was the company we always had for the midway part of our festival. Ray was an icon and someone who could get away with saying things that no one else could ever say. We would laugh hearing him talk to people as they passed his booth. He always tried to win people over to either step on the scale or allow him to guess their age. He would frequently guess someone's weight but would lead them to believe he was WAY OFF. The person would be grateful for the low number, but then Ray would say, "No, that was in kilograms ... Step on the scale." Ray was just a gentleman and someone that many people looked up to!

After the funeral, I went and visited some extended family who live about 10 minutes from the funeral home. I was there no longer than 10 minutes because I wanted to get back on the road as it was a pretty snowy day. As I started to travel through the Caro farming community's back roads, I put my car in 4-wheel drive. The snow squalls were intense, and I wanted the extra traction. As I left Ben and Amy's house, I wanted to make sure I went back through town and unto M-53 rather than pick up I-75. I didn't want to travel on

I-75 for any other reason than to drive my backcountry roads. It was beautiful with the new snow and the quietness of the country roads. Amy gave me directions from their house to ensure my GPS avoided the I-75 route. Once on the road, I called my mom and told her I was leaving Ben and Amy's house. She was surprised I wanted to venture back down to M-53 rather than take I-75. "Well, if you want my opinion, it would be better to take I-75," my mom said. I told her I was enjoying the snow and Christmas music and wanted the quieter path through the country.

The drive was just peaceful. My M-53 route would allow me to drive through Almont (a town and area I know well). When I got to Almont, I had to decide whether to stop at McDonald's or Charlie Brown's (another Almont landmark) for a quick chicken sandwich, fries, and coffee. McDonald's won this time, and I continued on my way.

The roads were getting a bit slick as I continued my journey south. When I got to 15 and Van Dyke, I remember thinking that they should be out salting the roads. The untreated roads were undoubtedly going to be a problem. As I was slowing down with traffic for the light at 15 and Van Dyke, I got rear-ended. An Amazon driver also pulled over, ensured that both of us were okay, and was already on the phone with the police when he approached my car. I was grateful for his act of kindness. Thankfully, no one was hurt, and the police were on the scene in minutes.

After the police officer finished getting my statement and collecting my information, he gave me the accident report number and told me I could go (and before anyone asks ... the other driver received the citation). At this point, we were in the FCA Sterling Stamping plant employee parking lot. I got out of my car, surveyed the damage, and took a few pictures.

Over the years, I've learned that with my family, it's always easier to do a conference call with any news of importance. So, I built a conference call with my mom and sisters; this way, I only had to tell the story once! After my mom made sure no one was hurt, she said, "I TOLD you to take I-75 ... see you don't listen!"

Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas Mass Schedule: This year creates a bit of complexity for Masses next weekend because the Fourth Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve. Please understand that

we are obligated to attend mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent AND Christmas. Next weekend has no "Blue Light Special" or special deals.

So, our schedule of Masses next weekend is as follows:

**Fourth Sunday of Advent:** 

Saturday, December 23, at 4 PM and 6 PM; Sunday, December 24, at 8 AM and 10 AM ONLY (there is no 12 PM Mass this day).

Christmas Eve/Day: Sunday, December 24, at 4 PM, 6 PM, and 10 PM; Monday, December 25, at 8 AM, 10 AM, and 12 PM.

All of our masses will be live-streamed. And, as we have done in the past, we will have two 4 PM Masses. Father Adam will be the celebrant of the 4 PM Mass in Church, and I will be the celebrant of the 4 PM Mass in Emmaus Hall.

As you will note, there will be no Midnight Mass. Instead, the Midnight Mass has been "moved" to 10 PM. The move has proved pretty popular over the past few years and is a welcomed reality for the staff who have to turn around and be back in Church first thing on Christmas morning.

Christmas Greetings: Since next weekend's bulletin will be our special Christmas edition, I want to take the opportunity now to extend my Christmas greetings and prayers to you, our faithful and regular parishioners. I am truly grateful for the many ways you share your time, talent, and treasure around the parish. Through your extraordinary generosity, we are changing many lives and doing so much to deepen people's relationship with the Lord! It's incredible to realize all the great work and ministry that is being done at our parish. Thank you for everything you do that makes us such an amazing parish!

May the Christ child, the Prince of Peace, enlighten your hearts and homes with the warmth of his light and love! Know you will be remembered in my prayers and masses this Christmas.

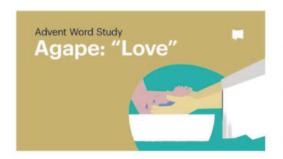
Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers. Merry Christmas!

In Christ,

gmb gmb@sjascs.org



## Week of December 17, 2023



## Agape/Love | Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project

The word "love" is one of the sloppiest words in our language, as it primarily refers to a feeling that happens to a person. In the New Testament, "love" refers to a way of treating people that was defined by Jesus himself: seeking the well-being of others regardless of their response.



### Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.



## O Holy Night, The King is Born: What Christmas Is About | Brother Francis

Celebrate the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation of the birth of God's Son! Witness the moving submission of Mary, Joseph, and others as they make way for our Savior.

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

#### Along the Way

#### **Holiday Grief**

As I was thinking about what to write this week, my mom came to mind. Christmas Eve this year would have been her 58<sup>th</sup> birthday, but instead, this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas without her. I know many of us have gone through loss in our lives and the holiday season can be difficult. I found this 2022 article from *Psychology Today* entitled, "Working Through Grief During the Holidays." I hope you find these words, written by Dr. Suzanne Degges-White, to be helpful:

"If your holiday season is a time of grief and hurt, know that you are not alone. Others suffer, too, as the world blares entreaties to be "merry and bright," but peace and comfort are still attainable for you in the holidays. The past few years have taken an unexpectedly high toll through the loss of too many lives to COVID-19, gun violence, and suicide. These three dark forces have altered the shape of too many lives and as the winter holidays draw arrive, the grief we feel over the people no longer at our tables grows more acute.

While loss due to a loved one's death is typically the most acute experience of grief, the loss of primary relationships can be especially painful during holidays. In life, rituals provide a sense of direction, stability, and an anchor for us as we move through the year. We may not realize how much we enjoy the rituals in our lives until something happens to disrupt their occurrence or shift the composition of the group with whom we celebrate or mark them. Family dinners, carpooling, holiday gift-giving, special desserts, and so on may all play a significant role in the shape of our lives. When someone is missing, we mourn their absence at an event, but also recognize that the ritual and celebration have inalterably changed, as well. The joy and safety that rituals provide may be interrupted by intense sadness, despair, feelings of loneliness, and anxiety as new ways of doing things must be found.

#### The Push-Pull of Grieving

Research suggests that many people cope with loss through a "push-pull" type of grieving—we engage in activities that have a loss-oriented focus and those that have a restoration-oriented focus.

Grief is not a passive process—we engage in grief through the investment of energy and emotional resources. Loss-oriented activities include activities like looking at photos of the person you're mourning, like family photos from prior holiday events. Loss-oriented events might include actively seeking out reminders of your loved one, such as going to places you went together or watching movies you had enjoyed together. When dealing with the heartbreak related to a relationship breakup, you may find yourself listening to music that reminds you of your ex, looking at social media posts of you and your ex, or current posts of your ex that do not include you. We are often drawn to things that drive us to experience intense emotions related to a loss. There can be a sweet pleasure in the pain we feel when priming our memories of shared experiences that we can never have again. There's pleasure in pain and it's also cathartic to experience the strong emotions that we are stirring up.

On the other hand, we may balance these loss-focused activities with restorationoriented behaviors. These are activities that allow us to throw ourselves into something that helps minimize our cognitive investment in the loss. These can be busywork types of activities, such as raking leaves, shoveling snow, cleaning the house, or washing the dishes. Sometimes physical activity can be a balm for the grieving heart. Not every restoration-focused activity needs to be solo—spending time with people who care about us and help distract us from the grief for a bit can be healing. Having a laugh can be a great way to cope with our loss physically and mentally. Mourning doesn't follow just one path, but grief should never be seen as an endpoint in itself—we may work through grief and carry our grief with us somewhere in our hearts, but grief is not a destination.

#### **Tips to Cope with Your Own Grief**

- Allow yourself space to acknowledge any losses, despair, or hurt you are feeling. Don't pretend your feelings do not matter—they do. And they will do more harm to your well-being if you don't acknowledge they exist.
- Don't isolate yourself from others.
   Social connection has great healing power.
- Share your feelings with others who care about you—make it "okay" for you and for them to talk about the person who's no longer there.
- Create a special new ritual that honors the person who is no longer there.
   Light a special candle and offer a silent or spoken tribute to this person.

- Choose a special recipe that was always a favorite and prepare it each year. These activities mark the joy that person brought to you and let you honor their memory in meaningful ways.
- Seek professional help if you feel overwhelmed and unable to manage on your own. Don't turn to unhealthy self-soothing behaviors such as <u>alcohol</u>, overeating, or other risky behaviors.

## **Tips to Help Someone Else Manage Their Grief**

- Be present for this person—even if you don't know the right words to say, your supportive presence will be enough.
- Rather than ask a generic "How can I help?" offer specific acts of assistance— "Who do you need me to call?" "I'm picking up dinner—would you prefer pizza or fried chicken?" "I'm stopping by the grocery store on my way in from work today. What do you need me to pick up for you?" "Why don't I pick up the kids from school this week? Let me know if you'd like me to set a place for you and your child for dinner at my house."
- Don't make judgmental comments about how grief "should" look.
   Everyone's grief is going to be different—we all mourn loss, but in our own unique way.
- Don't forget about this person in two months or six months. Continue to reach out and include them in events—it can be especially painful for widows and widowers to have their entire social circles close them out once they have lost their partner. If couples' activities don't encourage their inclusion, reach out for individual opportunities to get together.
- Invite this person to talk about the person they've lost—don't assume that avoiding the topic makes the loss any easier for the person to bear. Be the person who allows them to be vulnerable to talk about their loss."

Advent Blessings, Fr. Adam





December 17, 2023

### Third Sunday of Advent

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Is 61:1-2A, 10-11 | 1 Thes 5:16-24 | Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." Such simple words from today's second reading. And yet it is not always easy to put them into practice. It is difficult to rejoice if we or people we love are hurting. It can be hard to pray when life is pulling us in a thousand different directions. But on this Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of rejoicing, we are asked to focus on a truth that can make both rejoicing and praying easier: Jesus entered humanity in flesh and blood to save us from our sins. This truth means that even if we don't feel like there is much gladness or joy in our lives today, we can rejoice in the knowledge that we all have the chance to spend eternity in a place where pain, disappointment and suffering will be no more. With our eyes focused on that prize, praying can become a natural part of our days.

#### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Sometimes, I can make everything so complicated. I want to create charts and checklists to ensure that I am doing everything just right. But St. Paul's words today make me realize that living well is really not that complicated. He writes: "Retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil." That's it! Of course, while this is not complicated, it does require us to make prayerful, faithful efforts toward this end - and it is an end for which God has given us his grace, the help of the Church, and the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ. This includes St. Paul, who prays for us, "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." This is what is good in these dark days of Advent: the light of Christ is coming into our world. The Gospel says that John the Baptist testified to this truth - to the light. We can too! Let us continue to pray, to rejoice and to give thanks for God's gifts, especially the gift of his Son.

SING Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

#### Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

## St. Joan of Arc

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 24

#### Reading One - 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

#### Responsorial - Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

#### R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

The promises of the LORD I will sing forever; through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you have said, "My kindness is established forever"; in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

#### R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant: Forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations."

#### R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

"He shall say of me, 'You are my father, my God, the Rock, my savior.' Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him, and my covenant with him stands firm."

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

#### Reading Two - Rom 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### Alleluia - Lk 1:38

#### Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word. **Alleluia, alleluia.** 

#### Gospel - Lk 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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#### Readings for the Nativity of the Lord



#### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – DECEMBER 25

#### Reading One - Is 9:1-6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

#### Responsorial - Ps 96:1-2,2-3,11-12,13

- R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.
  Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all you lands. Sing to the LORD; bless his name.
  R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.
  Announce his salvation, day after day. Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous
- R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord. Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice; let the sea and what fills it resound; let the plains be joyful and all that is in them! Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.
- R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.
  They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes; for he comes to rule the earth. He shall rule the world with justice and the peoples with his constancy.
  R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

#### Reading Two - Ti 2:11-14

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

#### Gospel - Lk: 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

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deeds.

#### Capuchin Retreat Center



# Capuchin Referent Center WEEKEND RETREATS 2023-24

#### YOUR FRANCISCAN HOME

Our theme for the 2023-24 season is: "In the Footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi."

By delving into our Franciscan tradition, we will unravel the life of St. Francis and explore key events in his conversion and ministry. Through his life, the weekend retreat will be an opportunity to know St. Francis more deeply, to recognize those opportunities of grace in your own life, to deepen your awareness of God's loving presence, and to embrace the Gospel with evermore joy.

So, we invite you to join us for one of following weekend retreats.

For Women

Sep 8-10, 2023 Sep 22-24, 2023 Sep 29-Oct 1, 2023 Oct 13-15, 2023 Oct 27-29, 2023 Jan 19-21, 2024 Feb 2-4, 2024 Mar 1-3, 2024 Mar 22-24, 2024 April 5-7, 2024 April 19-21, 2024

April 26-28, 2024

May 3-5, 2024



Suggested Donation \$ 250

For Men

Nov 3-5, 2023 Jan 5-7, 2024 Jan 12-14, 2024 Mar 8-10, 2024

For Couples

Jan 26-28, 2024

#### To Register

For online registrations,
visit www.capretreat.org
or
Email: info@capretreat.org
or
Call 248-651-4826



Location

62460 Mt Vernon Road, Washington, MI 48094

#### St. Basil the Great - Vigil of Reparation



First Friday Evening Vigil of Reparation

You are invited to participate in a 5-hour night vigil of reparation modeled after the vigils at Fatima to console the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

When: January 5, 2024 from 7 pm to 12 midnight

Where: Saint Basil the Great Church, 22800 Schroeder, Eastpointe, 48021

7 pm-Sorrowful mysteries of rosary and confession

7:30 pm- Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

**8:30 pm-** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament inside church w/hymns; additional confession time following procession if needed.

9 pm-Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

9:30 pm- quiet adoration and staggered 10-minute break

**10:00 pm** – Joyful mysteries

10:30 pm - Prayers of Reparation and prayer for the entrustment of the family

11pm- Glorious mysteries

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Consecration to the Immaculate heart of Mary

11:30 pm- Procession of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima inside church w/hymns

11:45 pm -Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Vigil concludes with prayers for intentions of the Holy Father, one our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory be

We welcome you to join us even if you are not able to stay for the full 5 hours.

#### Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

#### Weekly Calendar of Events

#### Monday, December 18th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed 10:00 AM Walking with Purpose - EH

#### **Tuesday, December 19th**

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed 1:00 PM Reconciliation

#### Wednesday, December 20th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed 4:30 PM Reconciliation 6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

#### Thursday, December 21st

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

#### Friday, December 22nd

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed **Parish Center Closed** 

#### Saturday, December 23rd

11:00 AM Reconciliation

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

#### Sunday, December 24th

8:00 AM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM Sunday Mass - Live Streamed
4:00 PM Christmas Eve Vigil Mass - LS
6:00 PM Christmas Eve Vigil Mass - LS

10:00 PM Christmas Eve Vigil Mass - LS

#### Monday, December 25th

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

#### Words on the Word

#### Dec. 17, 2023 - Constant Prayer

Life's biggest lessons can sometimes be taught, in a sense, seemingly by accident.

Consider the circumstances surrounding the tragic death last summer of a beloved 23-year-old social studies teacher in Fraser. According to a recent story in *The Detroit News*, the young man was struck and killed in June while changing a flat tire on the side of I -94.

According to the story, the driver of the car that hit the teacher has been charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, and faces sentencing early next month.

The article provided details on scholarships that had been established by the family of the teacher, who himself was a graduate of Fraser High School, "in the hopes of continuing the (man's) legacy of teaching and kindness."

It's an unfortunate story, to be sure. But it also can help in understanding St. Paul's admonition to be in constant prayer. For the man's family, prayer can lead to peace and the inspiration to establish the scholarships. For the driver of the car that struck the teacher, prayer can perhaps lead to an understanding of justice and redemption. For scholarship recipients, prayer can help foster a sense of gratitude. And for other observers of the story's circumstances, prayer can lead to deeper reflection on the importance of living life in the service of others.

Regardless, we're called to make prayer the foundation of our lives.

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing," St. Paul says in today's second reading from his first letter to the Thessalonians. "In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil."

Christmas is a week away. Do we pray relentlessly, without ever stopping, in all of life's circumstances?

#### © 2023, Words on the Word

#### Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday December 18, 2023 Late Advent Weekday

(Purple)

7:00 a.m. The deceased members of the Calisi Family who

died in the month of December

Tuesday December 19, 2023 Late Advent Weekday

(Purple)

7:00 a.m. Audrey Benedis

Wednesday December 20, 2023 Late Advent Weekday

(Purple)

7:00 a.m. Kathleen H. Doak

6:00 p.m. Michele DeLeeuw & Kevin Collins

Thursday December 21, 2023 Late Advent Weekday

(Purple)

7:00 a.m. Esmenia Salomon Silva

Friday December 22, 2023 Late Advent Weekday

(Purple)

7:00 a.m. Frank & Theresa Lopez

Saturday, December 23, 2023 Vigil for the Fourth Sunday

in Advent (Purple)

4:00 p.m. Paul Rothrock, Tommy Schwalm, Bonnie Batche,

Steve Wright, Michele DeLeeuw, Helen Fadler and special intentions for the Thomas Family, the J. Champine Family, for Alison Reslow, Pam Haisenleder, Lorraine Jonas, and Linda Frank.

6:00 p.m. Raquel Kosebutzki

Sunday December 24, 2023 Fourth Sunday in Advent

(Purple) / Christmas Eve (White)

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

10:00 a.m. Frank Shuder

4:00 p.m. Joan & Helmut Linden, Ralph Marzolino, Marie

Champine, George & Sophia Rupinski, Pedro Silva, Charlotte Miller, Jill Miller, Jaclyn Maul, Joseph Paluzzi Sr., the deceased members of the Zaranek, Walters & Gaidis Families, Joe DiTrapani, Grace & Sam Valenti, Lisa Miller, Joseph & Angeline Calus, George J. Bugarin, the deceased members of the Bugarin, Shuder, Labut, Hunsucker and Finn families, for Fran McCarron, Karyn Stellino, Georgiann Kaptur, Timothy McCarthy, Lucile Zelenak, Aldo Cardosi, Michael Cardosi, and special intentions for Natividad Mallare, the Bommarito Bakery Family & Staff, Peggy McCarron, Itzamara

Izzard, David & Donna Lawrence, Gary Kowalewski, Joan Kowalewski, Lori Beckier, the Fontecchio Family, Alison Reslow, Lorraine Jonas,

Pam Haisenleder and Linda Frank

6:00 p.m. The deceased members of the Rogier & Dettloff

Families

10:00 p.m. Sally Cabot

Monday December 25, 2023 The Nativity of the Lord

(White)

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

ers

10:00 a.m. Stancel Mecha

12:00 p.m. The deceased members of the Allor & Petrella

Families, Julian Ross, Joseph & Florence Semany, Charles Semany, Ron Lagodna, John L. & Marguerite Joseph, Roland & Gerry Doak, Mary T. Hobig, Kenneth Choike, Patricia Williams, Jose' Medina, Rosario Medina, Jeffrey Hardy, Joan Hardy, Dini Hamm, Feliciana Punzalan, Daisy Marie Buenavesta, and special intentions for the Mallare Family, Pam Haisenleder, Alison Reslow, Lorraine Jonas, Linda Frank and for the Priests, Faculty and Staff of

St. Joan of Arc

Daily Readings

Monday, December 18 Friday, December 22

Jeremiah 23:5-8 1 Samuel 1:24-28 Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 1:46-56

Tuesday, December 19 Saturday, December 23

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24

Luke 1:5-25 Luke 1:57-66

Wednesday, December 20 Sunday, December 24

Isaiah 7:10-14 Isaiah 62:1-5 Luke 1:26-38 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Matthew 1:1-25

Thursday, December 21

Song of Songs 2:8-14

Luke 1:39-45

Monday, December 25

Is 9:1-6 Ti 2: 11-14 Lk 2:1-14

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."

Paula Nagel Helene Mahoney Marie Maison Deacon +

"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

## **NEW MEN'S FELLOWSHIP STUDY**

# What do we mean when we say "God"?

Misconceptions about God abound, even among Christians, and these misconceptions can become obstacles in our relationship with God. Augustine Institute Assistant Professor Dr. Elizabeth Klein presents a careful study of Scripture that will lead you to a deeper and clearer awareness of who God is, equipping you to share this truth with others.

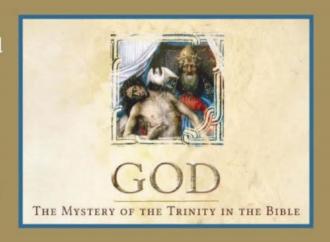
Starting in the Old Testament, Dr. Klein presents what God says about himself at various points in salvation history and how he reveals to Israel that "the Lord is one" (Deuteronomy 6:4). Moving to the New Testament, Dr. Klein shows how this one God then reveals himself as three. Along the way, you'll get answers to questions such as:

- How can God be transcendent and personal?
- If God is one, how can Jesus be God?
- What does it mean that "God is love" (1 John 4:8)?
- Why is the doctrine of the trinity the central mystery of our faith when the word "Trinity" never appears in the Bible?

This dynamic program combines an in-depth biblical study with insightful questions, an explanation of common misunderstandings regarding God, and personal reflections that will strengthen your faith in the one true God, who is a communion of three Divine Persons.

Join our Men's Fellowship group beginning in December on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month as they embark on this new study by the Augustine Institute.

Contact Pat Adamcik at 586-775-3385 or Larry Kreszowski at 313-882-9369 to sign up.







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!

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#### Prayers Needed

#### PRAY FOR THE SICK

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**Taylor Fisher** Jeanne Fleming Linda Frank Michelle Goode Jeanne Gainer Roz Geitzen Larry Graham Chris Gretchen Geoffrey Greve Helen Waltz-Gutowski James Gutowski Pam Haisenleder John Hanselman Rich Hanselman Judith Hasten Leland Helzer Valerie Hudson Joan Ireland Lorraine Jonas Zayne D. Kapinski

Marilyn Kiefer

Thomas Kler Catherine Konen Delaney Kraemer Shirley Kraemer Laurie Krim Concetta Leone Mila Lictawa David Lott Dave Lucas Christa Maes Joan Mannino Cyndy McMahon Mary Lou Meier Heather A. Miller Mark Moffitt Nina Mondalek Jennie Mooney Adam Moore Jim Moore Joel Moore Mark Oumedian

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Terri Szolach Bernadette Thompson James Thompson Linda Vitale Eileen Wallace Tom Ward Larry Weber Robert Werthman Adrienne Weidenbach Joseph Whalen Marilyn Wicker Joyce Wiekrykas Loretta Williams Richard Wojcik Joan Wright Janet Yntema Eddie Zatyracz Michael Zinevich 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

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## Bringing Home the Word

Third Sunday of Advent (B) December 17, 2023

## Who Are You?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

C o far, the readings for Sundays in Advent have shown God leading the people into a new way of life—a way of righteousness and loyalty, of honesty and responsibility. Today the readings show the people beginning to see that the accomplishment of this transformation would come through the leadership of one individual. Who might that person be?

The passage from Isaiah describes a prophet, one anointed by God and bringing good news to the poor. When the Baptist appears on the scene in John's Gospel, people wonder if it might be him. He insists he is not the one, nor is he a prophet. Then, as we read in John 1:19, "Who are you?" Recalling the passage from Isaiah read on the First Sunday of

Advent, John tells them he is the one repairing the road, getting it ready for the long-awaited one to arrive. He adds that his baptism is a baptism of repentance. He is readying them to be what Paul describes as "perfectly holy...blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

We now see that these readings are preparing us for salvation. We are now told that such divine graciousness will be inaugurated by an individual, one who has not yet been identified. Will it be a powerful king? A mighty warrior? A spectacular prophet? Those in the time before Christ didn't know. We now know that it will be someone powerful enough to initiate a revolutionary change in the lives of the entire people. Now waiting gets exciting! #

### John is the one preparing the road, getting it ready

to arrive.



#### A Word from **Pope Francis**

Jesus has come to bring joy to all people for all time. It is not just a hopeful joy or a joy postponed until paradise: as if here on earth we are sad but in paradise we will be filled with joy. No! It is not that, but a joy already real and tangible now, because Jesus himself is our joy.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 14, 2014



### **Sunday Readings**

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

I will rejoice heartily in the LORD, my being exults in my God.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

John 1:6-8, 19-28

[John the Baptist said,] "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord."

REFLECTION UESTIONS for the long-awaited one

- Can you imagine how surprising Jesus was to those who were waiting for the Messiah?
- What messages from the Gospel are surprising even today?



## The Loneliest Children

Editor's note: This article appeared in Liguorian in December 1955. Today there are similar efforts, including Prison Fellowship Angel Tree.

S everal years ago, a salesman named Dan Vinson decided that the loneliest people at Christmas must be children whose fathers are in prison.

Since 1943, Mr. Vinson and some volunteer workers have sent out millions of Christmas toys each year which have been donated by businessmen everywhere. The children have never heard of Mr. Vinson, and that is the way he wants it to be. He believes that children want presents from someone they love, so wardens and convicts are contacted, and the imprisoned father is sent a list of toys. He checks the ones he wants, and volunteers package the selections and mail them to the prison, where the father



readdresses the package to his children. Dan Vinson often says, "A man never stands so straight as when he stoops to help a child." #

## Better than a Sermon

A 7 hen Frederick Ozanam, the founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, was eighteen, he endured many temptations. One day, in great agony of soul, he entered a church in Paris where he saw an old man devoutly reciting his rosary [and]...knelt behind him. The old man was the scientist André-Marie Ampere, [a founder of the science of classical electromagnetism]. The sight of such faith touched Ozanam deeply. Suddenly prayers and tears welled up in his heart. It was a complete victory over his temptations. "The rosary of Ampere," said Ozanam afterward, "did more for me than all books and sermons put together." #

From Liguorian, December 1956

## Signs of the Season—Part III: Christmas Cards

Paige Byrne Shortal

Christmas cards are something of a ritual in our home, both the sending and the receiving. Somehow it became a "sin" to open a Christmas card alone. When the mail comes, the cards are set aside, to remain unopened until the next family meal. After dinner, the cards are gathered, and we take turns reading them aloud.

We send a lot of cards. Each year I wonder if we should keep sending a card to a woman who was in my choir twenty years ago, or the high school classmate, or the teacher who made such a difference. But it's so easy to lose people and I don't want to be the first to let go.

Good news isn't complete until we've shared it with someone. Christmas cards are a cozy, civilized way of telling the story again. We need to tell it. We need to hear it. That God is. That God loves us. That God cares. That God is involved in our world. That the Incarnation Story is really true. And in the midst of the loss and sin and pettiness and fear and all the things that distract us from our one most important task of creating on this earth small colonies of heaven—that nothing is

powerful enough to make the story less true. I need to hear it again. And I need to share it. \*



Lord Jesus, so that believers everywhere may embrace the truth you came to reveal, we pray—Be born in us, be born in our world.

The Redemptorists

#### WEEKDAY READINGS

December 18-23

Monday, Advent Weekday: Jer 23:5–8 / Mt 1:18–25

**Tuesday,** Advent Weekday: Jgs 13:2–7, 24–25a / Lk 1:5–25

Wednesday, Advent Weekday: Is 7:10–14 / Lk 1:26–38 **Thursday,** Advent Weekday: Sg 2:8–14 or Zep 3:14–18a / Lk 1:39–45

Friday, Advent Weekday: 1 Sm 1:24–28 / Lk 1:46–56

**Saturday,** Advent Weekday: Mal 3:1–4, 23–24 / Lk 1:57–66



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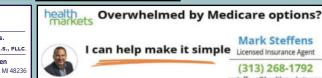
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