

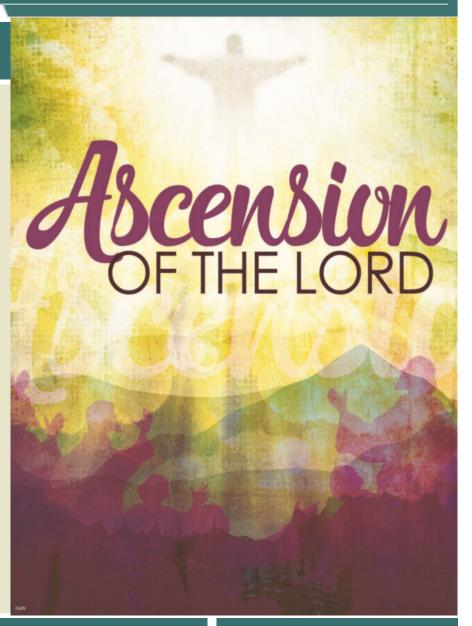
SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

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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Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

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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

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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 msgr.smetanka@stargp.org

Sacramental Minister

Non-Resident

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz tstrasz@sjascs.org

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Office of Faith & Family Formation

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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: 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



Pest Control: As I was typing the title of this column, I laughed because I instantly thought people could take the title in one of two ways: 1) as in someone is being

a pest and needs to be controlled, or 2) you have pests, as in critters, that need to be controlled. I wish the former was my problem, but it's the latter, and it's an "eyeful." Based on a recent visit to Dr. Timothy Page in Birmingham, a nationally recognized ophthalmologist specializing in complex and refractive cataract surgery, I learned I almost need my own personal Orkin Pro! What a story, and believe me, I couldn't make this stuff up!

A couple of years ago, around this time of year, I had cataract surgery. Yes, it is an everyday fact of life for many of us as we age, but I was lucky enough to have it done before I turned 60! But this is just the way my body works! What's also "normal" about me is that I tend to be that 1 in a 1,000,000 where something goes awry. That's just the way it works for me.

A few months ago, I had my last wisdom tooth pulled. As I was getting prepped for the procedure, the Novocaine wasn't doing the job, so they had to give me multiple doses to get my lip and jaw numb. Sitting there listening to the dentist, I thought I was glad I wasn't awake for my knee surgery. I always say I want to be awake for these surgeries and procedures, but after my little wisdom tooth extraction, I started to think otherwise. As Dr. Leone was doing his work, I knew he was encountering problems. The simple little procedure began to take more time than expected. When I heard: "This is so unusual.... This normally doesn't happen.... Boy, this tooth is giving me some issues. I don't know why it's like this," I knew I was having issues. As Dr. Leone continued trying to extract the tooth, I immediately started chatting with myself, "I'm sorry, you obviously haven't met Msgr. Bugarin before. This ALWAYS happens!" There should be some checkbox item on all those forms you have to sign walking into a new doctor's office that says you're a problem child! I'm it. I own it. That's just the way it is!

Going back to my cataract issue. Within the first few weeks of my cataract surgery, I felt as if something just wasn't right. I could feel the lens in my eye. What made it even more annoying was that I had difficulty seeing clearly, even with glasses. Doctor Malach from Metropolitan Eye Center has been so good with me trying to figure out what was happening. We tried various solutions, but the problem child here kept having issues. My eye would hurt mainly at the end of the day, and then I would have this glimmering effect. Light, we thought, was getting underneath the new lens. There would be times at night when I would be driving and passing a series of lights, and it would appear as if there was some lightening in the area. There was no lightening; it was just PCS ... Problem Child Syndrome!

Doctor Mallach and I gave it the college try, and the thought was that I needed to replace the lens with another one of a different type of material. I was just one of those 1 in a 1,000,000 patients. Of course!

Last week, I had my appointment with Dr. Page. I was in his office for 2.5 hours, undergoing a battery of eye tests. Dr. Page then spent about a half hour with me. As he was reading off a bunch of numbers and saying things that sounded Greek to me to the tech in the room, I heard him say, "AHA. That's it." He then sat back in his chair, turned off the blinding light shining in my dilated eyes, and said, "I know what you're dealing with!" "OKAY, don't keep me in suspense," I thought. I expected him to say that my next stop was to his surgical desk to schedule the surgery to replace the lens. "Well, your cataract lens is perfect. It's centered, and there are no abnormalities around the edges. The lens is absolutely perfect." I then thought to myself, "SURE. NO abnormalities? Perfect? Have you met Msgr. Bugarin before?" "Well, you have dust mites, and they've built a home in your eyelids and eyelashes. And your eyes don't like that which the dust mites leave behind. They are also eating away at all the essential oils in your eyelids and eyelashes." Now, THAT sounds more like a problem child issue! He then shared that the swelling in my eyes and how and when my eye gives me issues made sense to him. What I have is Blepharitis and Meibomian Gland Dysfunction (MGD). So, in simple terms, I'm dealing with dust mites and dust mite poop, and my eyes don't like it. Where's the Orkin Pro when you need them? I guess more than 50% of people have this issue but don't know it.

So, I have to clean my eyes with an eyewash, take some over-the-counter eye

drops for dry eyes, and some specialty prescription drops to help get rid of the little pests who have built a home in my eye! Only me!

I couldn't wait to get in my car and tell my family and the staff about my "issue." Upon hearing the news when I saw her, my sister Jackie stepped back and asked, "DO they jump?"

Happy Mother's Day: As we celebrate this special day dedicated to moms, we take a moment to thank and pray for our mother, who gave us life and showed us love. We pray for mothers who lost a child through death that they may continually turn to their faith to find hope and assurance their child is in the loving arms of the eternal Father. We also pray for women who care for the children they encounter daily, even though they have no children of their own.

While looking for some reflections on Mother's Day, I found this reflection from blogger Christy Wilkens: "Motherhood is a path for mothers to sanctify their families, and for mothers, in turn, to be sanctified by and through their families. And moms, in order to do this, God gives you the family that you need. I want to reemphasize that. He gives you the family that you need. He doesn't give you your neighbor's family, or your best friend's, or your frenemy's. He may not even give you the family you want, the family you hoped and prayed for, the family you dreamed of since you were a young girl. For many of us, it means a family bigger or smaller than we imagined. But He gives you the family that will sanctify you."

Since so many call or email around Mother's Day seeking to find a copy of Father Rich's Beatitudes of a Mother, a PDF copy has been posted on the homepage of our parish website. Consider sharing and/or reading Father Rich's Beatitudes of a Mother at your Mother's Day gathering!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

Happy Mother's Day!

In Christ,

gmb gmb@sjascs.org



Week of May 12, 2024



Deuteronomy | Old Testament: Book Overviews | The Bible Project

Watch our overview video on the book of Deuteronomy. which breaks down the literary design of the book and its flow of thought. In Deuteronomy, Moses gives final words of wisdom and warning before the Israelites enter the promised land, challenging them to be faithful to God.



The Book Swap | Episode 1 | Benjamin Cello

It's time to read a book! Benjamin Cello, Annie Appleseed, and Miss Gretchen, the Music Teacher, go to the Bookendless Book Tower for a book swap party, hosted by Professor Wordsworth and the Bookworms. Along the way they explore classics of literature and the one Holy Book that stands above all others, the Book that can change your life forever.



Finding Fatima

Produced by the award-winning filmmakers of the highly acclaimed feature film The 13th Day, this powerful and in-depth documentary combines archival footage, dramatic reenactments, original interviews with Fatima experts, and stunning visuals to tell the whole story of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima.

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

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and Augustics press

Along the Way

Adventure Time

As you may remember, I was on vacation last week with my dad in God's country – a little flying and a lot of driving (about 1100 miles). Every year my dad and I take a trip together. In the past we've hiked in Zion National Park, traversed Disney World with my oldest niece, took a helicopter ride into the Grand Canyon, and explored the French Quarter in New Orleans.

Our trip this year took us from Minot, North Dakota all the way to Denver, Colorado, with stops in South Dakota and Wyoming. The beginning of our trip was dedicated to attending my graduation from the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. Last year the Archdiocese granted me a scholarship from the Msgr. Gerald A. McEnhill Business Education Fund for Priests. So, since January 2023 I've been a fultime (online) student. People have asked, "why does a priest need to study business?"

Of course, the primary 'business' of a priest is the salvation of souls. Nonetheless, while the Church is a spiritual entity, it is also a non-profit civil corporation. Priests still must ensure that the lights stay on, and the employees get compensated. Having taken classes in human resources management, leadership and management theory, finance, accounting, marketing, etc. have been and will be extremely helpful for my own ministry as a priest, especially as I move into my new role as Moderator.

The more you can effectively manage the business side of the parish, the freer you are to focus on the mission: the salvation of souls and forming disciples for Jesus Christ.

I chose the University of Mary because of its outstanding Catholic identity and, because the university offered a dual degree program that I found intriguing: Master of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Business Philosophy. Thus, I was able not only to learn the business side of things, but the Catholic philosophical foundations of business as well.



I think now, after being a student for 23.5 years, I am done with school for a while...

So, after graduation we left Bismarck early in the morning to drive about 5 hours to Mt. Rushmore. Unfortunately, it was snowing, and the mountain was covered in clouds so the most we saw was the chin of one of the presidents. We preserved, however, and we were able to get a picture with Mt. Rushmore – in the gift shop! I guess that kind of counts, right? Even so, it was a beautiful drive through the mountains and hills. We saw pheasants, deer, antelope, bison, and (of course) lots of cows.



After spending about an hour around Mt. Rushmore we continued our journey a mere 35 minutes away to Crazy Horse Memorial. When we arrived, it was no longer snowing, but again, the mountain was covered in clouds. A bit disappointed, we took a tour of the museum, watched the video on the history of Crazy Horse, and hoped that the clouds would break.

In the Black Hills, the memorial was commissioned by Henry Standing Bear, a Lakota elder, and the sculpting began with Korczak Ziolkowski at the helm. Crazy Horse was a Lakota war

leader who was famous for fighting against the U.S. military at many battles, including the Battle of Little Bighorn. Today, two of Korczak's children and four of his grandchildren are still working to bring the vision to life. The memorial has been under construction for 75 years and is completely privately funded. I doubt it will be finished in my lifetime.

Ready to give up, we stepped outside, and the clouds had lifted from the mountain. With great excitement, we booked a private tour that took us to the top of the mountain where we walked on the arm of Crazy Horse. The monument, even uncompleted, is gigantic. While the faces of the presidents at Mt. Rushmore are 60 feet high, the face of Crazy Horse is 87.5 feet high. When completed, the sculpture will stand 641 feet long and 563 feet tall making it the world's largest sculpture by far.



It is already a breathtaking sight so I can't image how amazing it will be when completed.

Well, I think that's about enough for this week. Next week we will continue the journey together and I'll share some more pictures! In the meantime, enjoy this quote from St. Augustine: "Some people, to discover God, read books. But there is a great book: the very appearance of created things. Look above you! Look below you! Note it. Read it. God, whom you want to discover, never wrote that book with ink. Instead, He set before your eyes the things that He had made. Can you ask for a louder voice than that?"

Blessings,

Fr. Adam



May 12, 2024

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Eph 1:17-23 | Mk 16:15-20

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

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

It's easy for me to get impatient with the Lord - to wonder why he makes me wait for an answer to a prayer or, worse, why his answer may be no. However, when I look back at the lessons of the Bible, it becomes clear that God works on his timetable, not mine. That same message comes through in today's first reading. The apostles ask Jesus whether he will be restoring the kingdom to Israel, and he is clear in his answer: "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority." And then, after saying this, he ascends to the Father. Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus has left his disciples again. But instead of leaving them to weep and mourn - as happened after his death - this time, our Lord left them with a mission. They were to "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." They did, faithfully, and they traveled far and wide. Armed with the gift of the Holy Spirit which they received at Pentecost, they baptized countless people as they shared the Good News about Jesus and his gift of salvation.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After Jesus gives the disciples the command to go out and preach the Gospel, he says that "whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." He offers salvation for those who believe in him. And he says that the disciples, and us, will be his witnesses in the world. Sacred tradition tells us that Andrew and Philip preached in Asia Minor while Bartholomew and Thomas spent time in India. Others are said to have gone to Palestine, Persia, and Ethiopia. All died a martyr's death – except John who had been entrusted with the care of our Blessed Mother. We are his witnesses today, and we are also commissioned to go into the world and proclaim the Gospel. Today, as we celebrate his ascension into heaven, let us allow ourselves a moment to gaze upward and behold Jesus' power and glory. Let the Ascension renew our commitment to do the work he has asked us to do, and remind us of his presence here with us in all that we do.

PRAY We know the mission Jesus has given us and we know we have the Holy Spirit to help us carry it out. For prayer this week, meditate on Paul's words to the Ephesians and ask the Lord for "a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of [our] hearts be enlightened, that [we] may know what is the hope that belongs to his call."

Readings for Pentecost

■St. Joan of Arc

Reading One - Acts 2:1-11

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

Responsorial - Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD, my God, you are great indeed! How manifold are your works, O LORD! the earth is full of your creatures.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD be glad in his works! Pleasing to him be my theme; I will be glad in the LORD.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Reading Two - Gal 5:16-25

Brothers and sisters, live by the Spirit and you will certainly not gratify the desire of the flesh. For the flesh has desires against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you may not do what you want. But if you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: immorality, impurity, lust, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions, occasions of envy, drinking bouts, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

Sequence - Veni, Sancte Spiritus

Come, Holy Spirit, come! And from your celestial home Shed a ray of light divine! Come, Father of the poor! Come, source of all our store! Come, within our bosoms shine. You, of comforters the best; You, the soul's most welcome guest; Sweet refreshment here below; In our labor, rest most sweet; Grateful coolness in the heat; Solace in the midst of woe. O most blessed Light divine, Shine within these hearts of yours, And our inmost being fill! Where you are not, we have naught, Nothing good in deed or thought, Nothing free from taint of ill. Heal our wounds, our strength renew; On our dryness pour your dew; Wash the stains of guilt away: Bend the stubborn heart and will; Melt the frozen, warm the chill; Guide the steps that go astray. On the faithful, who adore

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■St. Joan • Arc

And confess you, evermore In your sevenfold gift descend; Give them virtue's sure reward; Give them your salvation, Lord; Give them joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia.

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth that proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me. And you also testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you."



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Congratulations to the youth of our parish and school in receiving Sacraments of Initiation

t's been an exciting few weeks at St. Joan of Arc!

On April 23, the atmosphere was filled with joy and reverence as students received the sacrament of confirmation from Bishop Walter Hurley. This significant event marked the culmination of a two-year confirmation process, during which students not only deepened their understanding of the Catholic faith but also formed lasting bonds with one another.



Confirmation is a pivotal moment in the lives of Catholic youth, solidifying their commitment to the faith and their journey toward spiritual maturity. The effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. From this, Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal

grace. Throughout the formation process, students had the opportunity to connect the faith to their daily lives and encounter Jesus in

various ways, including through a retreat, prayer and service activities. Confirmation formation is more than just a class, it's a journey of faith where students grow closer to God and to one another.



Msgr. Mike uses props as he talks to students about making good choices and being Eucharistic people.



Students from our school and Faith Formation, as well a few students from Our Lady Star of the Sea, stand with Bishop Hurley, Msgr. Mike and Fr. Adam after receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

On May 4, students from our parish and school received Jesus for the first time in the Blessed Sacrament as we celebrated First Communion weekend. Parents played a central role in preparing their children for this sacrament, reaffirming the parish's commitment to support and restore the role of parents as the primary teachers of the faith.

As we celebrate these milestones with our students, let's keep cheering them on and praying for them and their families in their faith journey.



Family Faith Formation

It's a Wrap! Our third year of Family Formation Sundays finish with faith and fun!

Years of Growth As we conclude the third year of our Family Formation Sunday program, we rejoice in the journey we have taken together as a parish community. This

year, our families have focused on Catholic prayer and living a liturgical life, coming together each month to deepen their faith and strengthen their bonds.

Throughout the year, families gathered for Mass at 10 am on the first Sunday of each month, setting the tone for a morning of spiritual enrichment and communal joy. Following Mass, parents were engaged in insightful talks by Fr. Adam, while children embarked on adventures in their respective classrooms with skilled Catechists.

Guided by the resources provided by Sophia Institute Press, "A Family of Faith," at home, our families delved into lessons, table talk and activities designed to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of our Catholic faith.

As we look forward to the next year, we are excited to continue to make further enhancements to better support our families on their faith journey. Our commitment to bringing the faith into our parish family homes remains steadfast, as we recognize the invaluable role of parents as the first teachers of the faith to their children.

As we reflect on the past year, we extend our gratitude to all families who participated, Fr. Adam, our Catechists and student helpers who made our Sunday experiences possible.

May we all continue to grow together as we build a vibrant and faith-filled community.

Learn more about Faith Formation at St. Joan of Arc by calling our Director of Faith and Family Formation, Mrs. Kristine Hass at 586-772-1282 or emailing her at khass@sjascs.org.





Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, May 13th

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

Tuesday, May 14th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM Wind & Fire - Emmaus Hall

Wednesday, May 15th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

5:00 PM Reconciliation

6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, May 16th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, May 17th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, May 18th

10:00 Exceptional Faith Formation Closing Mass

11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:00 PM Memorial Mass for Michael & Barbara Kilbride

1:30 PM Baptism of Josie James Locklear

4:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, May 12th

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

May 12, 2024 – Who's In Control?

It's part of our nature as human beings to want to feel like we're in control of our own destiny.

Choosing and working a plan for career, family and health is a good and responsible thing, to be sure.

At the same time though, it's critical to remember that, in the final analysis, it's God who is in control. And what we're called to do, humbly and cooperatively, is proceed with love in every circumstance.

Speaking to his disciples in today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus tells them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority."

He's speaking about the restoration of Israel in this context, but he's also speaking to them and to us about what we may perceive as our right to know God's plan.

Headlines were made a few weeks ago when two children were killed and about a dozen more people were injured when a woman crashed her car into a boat club in Monroe County. It seems so random and so senseless, and many people of goodwill are left to wonder how such a tragedy could possibly fit into God's plan.

And yet we know it somehow does. And we know that, put into similar circumstances or somehow asked to interact with someone in those circumstances, God will give us the ability to do so.

"Grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift," we hear in today's second reading from Ephesians. "And he gave some as apostles ... others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to ... (build) up the body of Christ."

We've all got a role to play, and God is the director.

© 2024 Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday May 13, 2024 Easter Weekday; Our Lady of

Fatima (White)

7:00 am A Special Intention for Jack & Peg

Shaughnessy on their 68th Wedding

Anniversary

Tuesday May 14, 2024 Saint Matthias, Apostle (Red)

7:00 am Helen Mastay

Wednesday May 15, 2024 Easter Weekday (White)

7:00 am Pedro Silva

6:00 pm Dorothy Shuder

Thursday May 16, 2024 Easter Weekday (White)

7:00 am Bernard J. Champine

Friday May 17, 2024 Easter Weekday (White)

7:00 am Gerard Rogier

Saturday, May 18, 2024 Vigil for Pentecost (White)

4:00 pm Daniel Benedis, Irene Troia, Bonnie Batche,

Grace & Sam Valenti, Edward, Helen and Henry Blind, Joan Weber, Dr. Lori Karol, Gary Bezy, Mary Lou Racine, Souraya Nehro-Moses, Samuel Moses, Special Intentions for Hans & Elizabeth Stahl, the J. Champine Family, the Thomas Family, Alison Reslow, Lorraine Jonas, Pam Haisenleder, Linda Frank

6:00 pm Beatrice Ketelhut

Sunday, May 19, 2024 Pentecost Sunday (Red)

8:00 am For the Intentions for St. Joan of Arc

Parishioners

10:00 am John Frahm

12:00 Dorothy Lubinki & her parents, the living and

deceased members of the Rogier & Dettloff Families, Colleen Hemmen, Kenneth Choike,

Helen Choike, Aggie Butki, Eugene

Dombrzalski, Margaret Segodnia and Special Intentions for Alison Reslow, Pam Haisenleder,

Lorraine Jonas, and Linda Frank

Daily Readings

Monday, May 13 Friday, May 17

Acts 19:1-8 Acts 25:13b-21 John 16:29-33 John 21:15-19

Tuesday, May 14 Saturday, May 18

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 John 15:9-17 John 21:20-25

Wednesday, May 15 Sunday, May 19

Acts 20:28-38 Acts 2:1-11

John 17:11b-19 1Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

John 20:19-23

Thursday, May 16

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 John 17:20-26



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."

Bruno Attanasio Gladys Turner Elaine Oswald Lenore Hayes



"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.

Beatitudes of a Mother

By Fr. Rich Bartoszek
Dedicated to my Mom: Sally Cabot
Mother's Day 1992

Blessed is she who carried us for nine months and brought us into this world for she shall be called MOM.

Blessed be MOM who taught us to walk, to say our first words and to rock our fears away.

Blessed be MOM who washed our clothes, ironed our shirts, darned our socks, always found our mittens at each end of the house, and told us, "Put something on your head or you'll catch a cold."

Blessed be MOM who nursed us through toothaches and earaches, mumps and measles, chicken pox and small pox, sore throats, colds and even the times we faked it and she knew it.

Blessed be MOM for the cookies she baked, the cakes she made the cupcakes for birthdays in school, the many meals we ate in a hurry without saying thanks or how good it was.

Blessed be MOM for the times she helped us ride our first bike without training wheels, the scraped knees she made better, the black eyes she made go away and sore fingers she endlessly kissed and wrapped in Band-Aids.

Blessed be MOM for the times she walked beside us or watched from a distance like the first day of school when we didn't want to go and she didn't want to leave us. Going to boarding school. The school plays she made costumes for, the graduations from eighth grade, high school and college she watched us go through.

Blessed be MOM for the birthday parties, Halloween costumes, graduation parties, the little gifts and treats she bought while sacrificing her own desires.

Blessed be MOM for the rides to school, the help with homework which came to mind just before bedtime, the help with the project that was due tomorrow and for the encouragement to always study hard.

Blessed be MOM for the picnics in summer, summer vacations, lemonade on hot summer days, hot chocolate in winter, for valentines and Easter baskets, for Santa Claus and teddy bears. For all the holidays she made so special by all the special things she did.

Blessed be MOM for the nice things she always said about our school pictures despite crooked ties, stupid smiles, uncombed hair and the outfit she didn't want us to wear.

Blesses be MOM for the times she said, "Bring me the change," and we forgot.

Blessed be MOM for the times we forgot to call when we got there and she sat home getting a little bit grayer.

Blessed be MOM for the bedtime stories, the prayers she taught us and the times she said with a stern voice, "Wait 'til you get home!"

Blessed be MOM for the times she sat in the bleachers knowing in her heart her kids were the most valuable players the team had ... even if they sat on the bench.

Beatitudes of a Mother

Blessed be MOM for the free advice she always gave; the psychology she used to get us to do what she wanted us to, the comfort she gave when things didn't work out and the pride she had when we succeeded.

Blessed be MOM who never grows old in the eyes of her children but who watches her children go through the passages of life like moving out on their own, weddings, ordinations, entering religious life, relocating because of job transfers.

Blessed be MOM for the blessings she's given and the understanding she has always shown when our lives didn't take the right direction.

Blessed be MOM for the tears she shed over and over again which always proved she would do anything for her children.

Blessed be MOM for the many prayers she offered for us, the times she asked God to take care of us and bring us home in one piece.

Blessed be MOM as she becomes a "Grandma" now and has held back from saying, "I told you so," "What goes around, comes around," "Remember when you were small," "May your children be just like you, so you know what you put me through."

Blessed be the MOM who loves unconditionally, who accept their children whether their marriage fails, whether her kids are straight or gay, whether they got in trouble with the law or whether they became pope or president.

Blessed be those MOMS who have lost a child at any stage of life. She has given back to God part of her heart, which means part of her is already in heaven.

Blessed be the MOMS who have struggled in life, as single parents, through poverty and depressions, through addictions or illness, may they know peace and stability.

Blessed be MOM as she has begun to slow up with arthritis in her hard worked joints, with vision that might not be as strong as it once was, but is still good enough to play bingo!

Blessed be the MOMS TO BE ONE DAY, may they learn from their own teachers.

Blessed be those women who wanted to be MOMS, but never were. May they recognize the ways in which God has compensated their lives, in other ways, to mother and love.

Blessed be MOM as she and God are together in heaven, as one day we'll all be together again, but for now we'll celebrate Mother's Day here and she'll celebrate it with Jesus.

Blessed be all MOMS as we gather this day to thank God for the gift she is, whether on this side of life or the other. As we recall her many blessings, it's obvious, "Motherhood is not for Wimps." Motherhood is for those who love!

So wherever you are MOM, right beside us, miles away or in heaven, blessed may you always be for the love you have given and the many ways you have blessed our lives.

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Geri Beaugrand Kristen Benedict Edna Burton Lori Cardosi Ed Cole Tom Collins Toni Glaeser-Collins Joan Combellack Maura Corrigan John Crawford Olivia Crimando Jerry Dedene Joan DeDene Diane DeSantis Grace Dickerson George Dickerson Nick DiCresce Jane Doucet Kainoa Dunn Jean Edwards

Dr. Elise Eden Frank Faiss Ilene Fazio **Taylor Fisher** Jeanne Fleming Linda Frank Jeanne Gainer Roz Geitzen Larry Graham Peter Grantz Chris Gretchen Geoffrey Greve Helen Waltz-Gutowski Pam Haisenleder John Hanselman Rich Hanselman Judith Hasten Leland Helzer Ilona Higgins Joan Ireland

Chris Janutol Lorraine Jonas Zayne D. Kapinski Lorraine Kilroy Thomas Kler Catherine Konen Delaney Kraemer Shirley Kraemer Laurie Krim Maria Krzesowski Concetta Leone Mila Lictawa David Lott Dave Lucas Christa Maes Joan Mannino Cyndy McMahon Heather A. Miller Mark Moffitt Nina Mondalek

Jennie Mooney Mary Pore Vicky Pranger Carol S. Provencal Tracy Rauch Alison Reslow Fe Reyes Sr. Alice Riegel Paulette Russia Jenna Rose Victoria Rydholm Lily Saith Dianne Schelosky Thomas Sloan Terri Smigels Kathleen Smith Cathy Spindler Wendy Stevens Patty Stevenson Palma Strussione

Raymond Strussione Gloria Strzelecki Cathy Sullens Mary Surmont Terri Szolach Kim Thomas Bernadette Thompson James Thompson Linda Vitale Eileen Wallace Tom Ward Larry Weber Robert Werthman Adrienne Weidenbach Joseph Whalen Marilyn Wicker Joyce Wiekrykas Loretta Williams Jenny Wojcik Joan Wright

Pray for the Sick List: Please note that we regularly clear the "Pray for the Sick List" because the list grows beyond our space allocation and we don't always hear from people when they've gotten better. If you would like to add a person please call the Parish Center front desk at 586.777.3670 or send an email to our general inbox at info@sjascs.org.

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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Bringing Home the Word

Ascension of the Lord (B) May 12, 2024

Up in Heaven

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

The message of this feast is that Jesus was taken up into heaven. Just what does this mean? Is heaven "up there" along with the moon and the stars? Cosmology would question that. Today's readings also indicate that Jesus is seated at God's right hand. Is this science, or is it a concrete image used to explain something more marvelous than words can describe?

Traditionally, the place of honor is at the dignitary's right hand (decided by a right-hander, no doubt). That Jesus sits at God's right hand means he enjoys the place of highest honor. The responsorial psalm refers to this exalted place as the

Sunday Readings

Acts 1:1-11

[A]s they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

Ephesians 1:17-23 or Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13

I...urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness.

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." throne of God. "Throne" suggests king. Thus, the readings tell us that Jesus, who is now exalted with divine honor, is above everything else. Finally, to say that heaven is "above" means that it is beyond earth, perhaps not in actual distance, but in distinction and glory. Thus, Jesus' ascension means the risen Lord is no longer limited by the restrictions of earth's space and time but now enjoys the highest honor with God everywhere and always.

This is the message the disciples were sent to preach. This is the message we also are sent to preach. But how are we to do it? By the way we live our lives. Emmanuel Célestin Cardinal Suhard of Paris (1874–1949) wrote: "To be a witness...means to live in such a way that one's life would not make sense if God did not exist." Do our lives show that we believe this? †

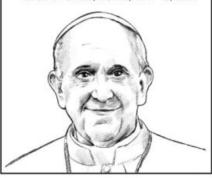
The risen Lord is no longer limited by space and time but now enjoys the highest honor with God everywhere and always.



A Word from Pope Francis

Do we really think we can build peace by destroying the other? In the name of God who created all human beings equal in rights, duties and dignity...I make an appeal for calm and, for those who are responsible to put a stop to the clamor of weapons and to follow the paths of peace....

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 16, 2021



REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GREATIONS

- Who witnesses to God's goodness in my life?
- Am I such a witness by how I live?

When You Seek to Be the Perfect Mom

Agnes Bojaxhiu, now known worldwide as "Mother Teresa," was born in Macedonia in 1910. A Sister of Loreto, she was sent to India, where she spent years educating wealthy girls. Teresa began to experience a series of visions in which Jesus asked her to serve the poorest of the poor. She did just that for the rest of her life, founding the Missionaries of Charity. She was canonized in 2016.

hen I have visited a friend whose house is spotless and whose life seems perfectly organized, I feel more than a twinge of inferiority. I'm forever behind on everything that needs to be done, and our house looks like a toy factory merged with a laundromat that blew up. Why can't I keep up? I wonder. I want to be the organized, efficient, got-it-



together mom. I want my child to have a household that runs like a machine, with a mom who juggles everything calmly and expertly.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta has insight to share with those of us seeking after perfection. She once said that we are not all called to do great things, but we are called to do little things with great love. Not with great efficiency, not even with great skill. Great love. Saint Teresa should help us realize that when our children grow up, we want more than anything for them to remember feeling happy and loved because of the little things. To remember a mom who made time to play in the sandbox, dance in the kitchen, and read to them in bed. We want them to recall a mom who did these littlest things with the greatest love. *

Source: Saints on Call: Everyday Devotions for Moms by Christine Gibson, © 2011, (820342) available at Liguori.org.

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From "The Liturgical Year: How Christians Celebrate Time" by Sandra DeGidio, OSM

The Church year...is the way we Christians add a religious or spiritual dimension to the natural seasons, months, weeks, and days. It was only after the resurrection that Jesus' followers finally understood the saving activity of Christ within the story of his life, words, and works. Because of this understanding, the first Christians gathered on Sunday in Jesus' name to break bread and share the stories of the redeeming work of Christ. By the end of the first century, a Church manual called the *Didache* instructed Christians to come together every Sunday (the Lord's Day) for giving thanks, proclaiming the word, and breaking bread. The first day of the week, the day Christ rose, gave shape to the week and to the year. †

Catholic Update—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church teaching and tradition on contemporary topics.

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Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit that we may be your witnesses to our families, friends, neighbors, and all whom we meet, we pray. Amen! Alleluia!

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

May 13-18

Monday, Easter Weekday: Acts 19:1–8 / Jn 16:29–33

Tuesday, St. Matthias: Acts 1:15–17, 20–26 / Jn 15:9–17

Wednesday, Easter Weekday: Acts 20:28–38 / Jn 17:11b–19 Thursday, Easter Weekday: Acts 22:30; 23:6–11 / Jn 17:20–26

Friday, Easter Weekday: Acts 25:13b–21 / Jn 21:15–19

Saturday, Easter Weekday: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31 / Jn 21:20–25



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