

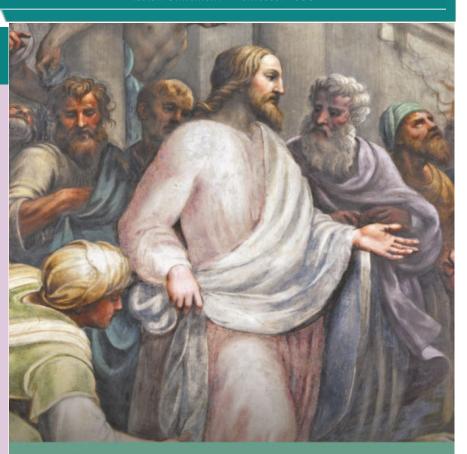
SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

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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22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-010-

He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." - Mk 7:14-15

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

CLPI

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Phone: 586-777-3670 Fax: 586-774-5528 Website: www.sjascs.org

SCHOOL 22415 Overlake Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

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

Website: www.stjoan.net

FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION OFFICE 22415 Overlake Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

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

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

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

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

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

In-Solidum Priest Team:

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

Fr. Robert Voiland rvoiland@sjascs.org

Msgr. Gary Smetanka (Moderator) msgr.smetanka@stargp.org

Fr. Jim Commyn parish@stlucychurch.com

Fr. Eric Fedewa frericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Non-Resident Priest Support

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore dpastore@sjascs.org

Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone dciaffone@sjascs.org

Music Director

Catherine Trudell ctrudell@sjascs.org

Principal

Amy Pattie apattie@stjoan.net

Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser ckaiser@stjoan.net

Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass khass@sjascs.org

Exceptional Children Michelle Russo

Michelle Russo

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: 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



A Guest in the House: The Polish people have an awesome proverb that I've often quoted during some of my homilies. The saying in Polish is "Gość w dom,

Bóg w dom" which translates as "A guest in the house is God in the House." I can attest to the fact from my journeys to Poland that the Polish people truly live this cherished proverb!

While I've tried to live that proverb to the best of my abilities, I now have to say this only applies to HUMAN guests!

A few Thursdays ago, it was another typical busy day at SJA with a flurry of activities. Sometime late in the afternoon, I walked over to my house. Usually, I don't visit my house during the day unless I've forgotten something or forgotten to take my anti-inflammatory meds and vitamins, which I'm supposed to do first thing in the morning. While I was at the house (okay, it's TMI, but it's part of the story), I had to use the bathroom. I ran upstairs and used the bathroom there. While there, I heard this distinct noise of some fluttering upstairs. My first thought was that maybe a bird hit my window. It was quick, and I continued about "my business." Then, the toilet seat broke, and I almost flew to the ground. When the commotion settled down, I heard the fluttering again, but it was even more distinct and louder. And I was convinced this wasn't my Guardian Angel making a dramatic entrance to help me! My next thought was that I had bats in the house again, but given it was daytime, I started to question whether they were bats again. The fluttering this time was loud and prolonged. I decided to close the bathroom door; I figured I could only deal with one problem at a time. I just thought that whatever was in my house could wait a minute while I made sure I didn't fall to the ground with a toilet seat that just broke and became unhinged.

When I finished things in the bathroom, I slowly opened my bathroom door and timidly started hunting around to see what guest was lurking in my house. Of course, I called Dina and told her to bring out the cavalry because I had something in my house and didn't have time to deal with it myself. I then saw this huge bird sitting on my plush and comfortable fleece blanket I use in the wintertime; the blanket was behind my chair. The bird was just sitting

there. I immediately noted two things: 1) it was big, and 2) it had a red marking on its head. I called Dina and told her the visitor was a huge bird. I then put people on the hunt for a net to capture my flying visitor. I called around to some staff, and eventually, John showed up with gloves and a large towel. When we got to my upstairs sitting room, the bird was now standing on a TV table my mom uses when she's at my house. As soon as John saw the bird, he said, "Oh, that's a woodpecker. Check out that beak. That could hurt." So, he put on some gloves, and we approached my guest. The woodpecker didn't move an inch. He must have been tired and scared because John was able to throw the towel over him and safely capture him. His eyes were closed at this point, and he didn't flinch. We then went outside and released him. It took a few seconds, but he regained consciousness and flew off to a tree.

We then returned to my house and discovered all the places my unexpected visitor traversed. He was in my kitchen, near my front door, on my couch, on my stairs, on my blanket and a few other places. How did I know he was there? Well, he left multiple surprises for me in many locations throughout the house. I wasn't going to toss the blanket because it's a rare one that's longer than I'm tall so it went into the washer a few times on my "Steam and Sanitize" cycle. But now I had to deal with the cleanup. Ultimately, we had to call Zeppelin Cleaning to come in and professionally clean and sanitize my coaches, chairs, and carpet where all the "surprises" were left.

After checking the whole house and the videos and testimony of people who were around, we determined that a group who had to do something in my house earlier that day propped my side door open for a bit. That's the only explanation we could come up with for how that woodpecker got in my house.

I'm unsure whether the staff laughed more about the toilet seat adventure or the story about the woodpecker! I'm just glad it happened during the day rather than in the middle of the night! All I can say is that life at SJA is NEVER dull!

Prayer for Priestly Vocations: As you know, we've been praying a prayer for priestly vocations after the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass since the Archdiocese of Detroit began its Year of Prayer for Priestly Vocations on the Vigil of Pentecost in 2022. This initiative "technically" concluded on the Solemnity

of Pentecost in 2023. This year of intense prayer for priestly vocations in the Archdiocese of Detroit was launched in response to a significant milestone in 2022. That year, we did not have any men ordained to the priesthood! It was a humbling reality requiring us to re-energize our vocation initiatives.

I remember a homily that Father Adam gave on vocations. He emphasized that he didn't believe we had a crisis of vocations but rather a crisis of listening to the voice of God. His thoughts and points rang true in so many ways, not just on the topic of priestly vocations.

At SJA, I made a decision to continue reciting that prayer for priestly vocations even when most parishes stopped the practice when the Year of Prayer concluded in mid-2023. I wanted to keep the importance of praying for priestly vocations at the forefront of our minds.

Yet, all vocations in the Church need God's help! There is a need to pray for an increase in vocations to the permanent diaconate, to the religious and consecrated life, to the vocation of marriage, the vocation of single life, and the vocation of all lay ministries. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that vocations are a divine calling to serve within the Church and in the world. According to the Catechism, "the universal call to holiness is closely linked to the call to each particular vocation (CCC: 825)". Each vocation is a unique path to live out one's faith in service to God and others, recognizing "the particular mission entrusted to them by God (CCC: 873)"

Beginning this weekend, we will move from praying that prayer for priestly vocations to a prayer for all of the Church's vocations in the Prayers of the Faithful. It remains my hope and prayer that we will keep the intention of praying for vocations constantly on our hearts and minds ... and not just at Mass. I pray that you will include this intention in your own prayers and in the prayers you say as a family! May we continue to seek God's guidance and blessings in nurturing all of these precious vocations.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers. Happy Labor Day Weekend.

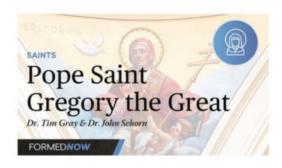
In Christ,

gmb gmb@sjascs.org

This Week on FORMED



Week of September 01, 2024



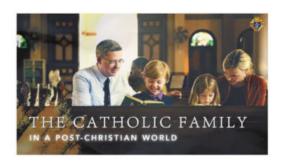
Pope Saint Gregory the Great

In the history of the Church, there are less than five popes esteemed with the title "the Great." One of the lesser known members of this impressive group is Pope St. Gregory the Great. Gregory is known for his prolific writing, his radical humility, his emphasis on missions, and his dedication to almsgiving. Enjoy this discussion between Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn.



Modernism | Heresies | Episode 7

We live in a post-modern world. But to understand the post-modern world, we must understand the heresy of modernism. What is modernism? Join Dr. James Prothro and Dr. Christopher Mooney for an informative discussion on the heresy of modernism.



The Catholic Family in a Post-Christian World | The Mission of the Family | Ep 1

God has a plan for marriage and the family. By understanding God's goal for family life and its relationship to the world, families will be better prepared for the challenges of living this vision in modern society.

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

Voiland's View

In the auto industry and other manufacturing businesses, there is usually a department within the manufacturing structure called *Reliability*, or something to that effect. The people in this department measure how dependable the company's product is. Consumers want to buy products that are going to perform as expected and to last for a good, long time. So, the reliability people test their company's products to see that the products work as intended, and that they keep working as the days pass. We like to get our money's worth out of stuff!

Religious faith carries a certain reliability factor of its own. We want to "get our money's worth" out of our religion, just like everything else. Because we give to the Church in a variety of ways, we expect a return on our investment. One of the things we give is a portion of our material wealth. Every Catholic church has a regular collection of money to cover the bills. We all know the Church is not immune to the high cost of living in the world. Recognizing that running a church takes a lot of money, most of us pitch in. There are still other means of church support aside from helping to pay the air-conditioning and heating bill. We send financial aid to the missions. We donate gently-used clothing and household items for reuse. We drop a few dollars in an envelope for one of the many diverse needs of the local and global Church.

But there is another level of giving that outshines worldly donations. Our financial investment in the Catholic Church ultimately pales in comparison to the personal investment we offer on behalf of our Faith. Here, we are talking about putting our very souls on the line. We are sticking ourselves out there in a very vulnerable way. Not only are we trying to live according to the rules of our Catholic faith, we are also doing our best to promote the goodness of it to others. We would ideally like to see everyone in the Church. With our own eternal well-being in mind, as well as that of others, we

need some assurance that we are on

the right track in the practice of our Faith. We need a reliability department! The only thing is, we cannot test religion the same we way we test an automobile engine, or set of windshield wipers, or a computer keyboard. Religion doesn't respond to physical stress testing. Yet, we do have a way to know if it works. The way is called historical experience. The age-old record of the Catholic Church is a particularly convincing indicator that we who practice the Faith are on the right track.

As much as the adversaries of Catholicism like to focus on the flaws and failures of the Church, the fact that the Church even continues to exist today is remarkable evidence that we are indeed the Church founded by Christ – and that we are doing the work he wants done. Our mere survival was marveled at by people like St. John Chrysostom as early as the 4th century. He points out the near absurdity that twelve men like the Apostles would have been able to guide an institution like the Catholic Church. The Apostles were common, uneducated men: fishermen, a political operative, a tax collector, men of no wealth or notable social power. Yet, they began a universal Church, presently claiming over 1.3 billion members. The Apostles carried on this project under the direction of a charismatic Teacher who ended up crucified by the Roman authorities. Upon Jesus' impending death, all of the Apostles except John, abandoned him.

St. John Chrysostom relates in his writings that only if Jesus Christ *truly* rose from the dead, and empowered these frail men, could they have been effective founders of Catholicism through Christ. Any other explanation would be irrational and absurd. Who in his right mind would preach, and ultimately be murdered, for trying to implement the wild dreams of a dead man who claimed to be the Son of God? Indeed, during Christ's earlier ministry, Gamaliel, a Pharisee, prophetically told the Jewish leaders regarding Jesus and his followers: "I tell you, have nothing to do with these men, and let them go. For if this endeavor or this activity is of human origin, it will destroy itself. But if it comes from God, you will not be able to destroy them; you may even find yourselves fighting against God" (Acts 5: 38-39). Yes, fighting against God.

No one has been, or will be, able to destroy the Church, because it comes from God through Christ. It is Christ himself who transformed a ragtag group of bumbling Apostles into a glorious union of brilliant religious leaders by the working of the Holy Spirit. That same Holy Spirit continues to work in the Church today. He works by making weak, broken human beings strong through our submission to him. St. Paul's claim that "when I am weak, it is then that I am strong," continues to be lived out in each of us today. Throughout the history of the Church, God has raised up unlikely men and women to bear fruit in seemingly dead circumstances. Just as the murder of God on the cross brought about the salvation of every man, woman, and child in human history, so is our weakness and suffering transformed, miraculously, into victory in Christ Jesus. For this to happen requires only that we get out of God's way by simply being his children and doing what he commands us through Jesus. Jesus has established a Church, our Catholic Church, that is reliable beyond imagination.

But we cannot feel confident in our Faith by doing human testing on it. We can't 'kick the Church's tires'. We must open our eyes to the ways God has revealed himself through the people and Sacramental life of the Church throughout time. To see clearly, we need to shield ourselves and our loved ones from the glittering distractions of the world that pull us from Jesus' truth. Our Faith is rocksolid. Take time to look at the two-thousand years of extraordinary evidence.

Blessings in Christ, Fr. Bob



STUDY AND PRAYER MINISTRY Thursdays from 1-2:30

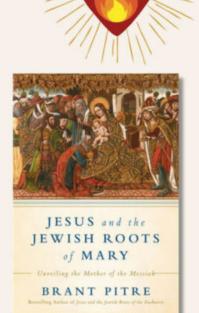
Beginning on September 19, this newly formed learning and intercessory prayer ministry will begin the first in a series of studies of interest regarding our Catholic teachings.

The first nine-week study will look at Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary. (Ignatius Press)

There will be an optional outing and day of prayer at the Solanus Casey Center in November.

There is no book fee for this first study.

Contact Susan Hughes at 313-410-9504 or Sandy Walters at 586-241-8677 with questions. Sign up at sjascs.org/hearts-afire



Walking with Purpose - Women's Bible Studies

Morning and evening groups are starting 6-week studies beginning Monday, September 16

10 am-noon: Rooted and Radiant

7-9 pm: Reclaiming Friendships

Ideal if you want to ...



- Know Jesus as He is
- · Know how to stay faithful in the middle of a culture that is constantly telling you that Christ is not enough
- Know how to sift through the modern messages that are being thrown at you
- Be able to compare the glamour of the world to the infinite value of "being in Christ"

Ideal if you ...



- Are lonely and desire lasting friendships
- Need to know and understand what it means that God created each of us in His
- Crave an authentic community, the kind in which we experience His joy and goodness

Visit sjascs.org/walking-with-purpose for more information about these studies

Readings for the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 8 B

Reading One - Is 35:4-7a

Thus says the LORD: Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

Responsorial - Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The God of Jacob keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets captives free.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The LORD gives sight to the blind; the LORD raises up those who were bowed down. The LORD loves the just; the LORD protects strangers.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The fatherless and the widow the LORD sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The LORD shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

Reading Two - Jas 2:1-5

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. For if a man with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here, please," while you say to the poor one, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil designs?

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?

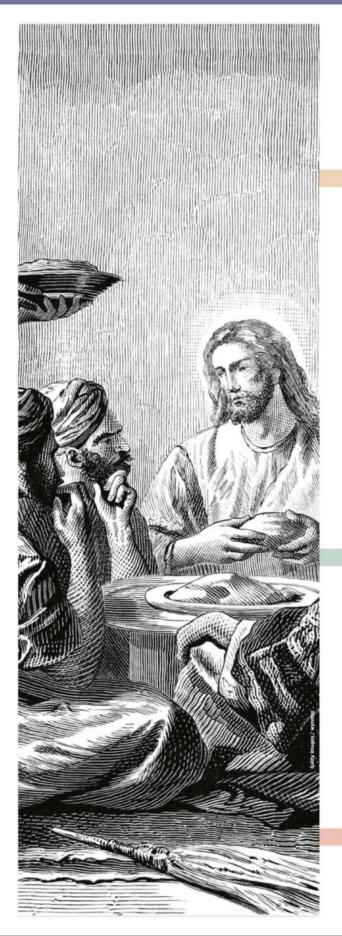
Alleluia - Cf. Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - Mk 7:31-37

Again Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" — And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."



September 1, 2024

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 | Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 | Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

Traditions are so important to us! They help define and preserve our heritage and our communities while also offering comfort and stability. They shape our human world as we see and live it. But in today's Gospel, Jesus scolds the Pharisees and scribes for allowing "the tradition of the elders" to drive them to hypocrisy: "In vain do they worship [the Lord], teaching as doctrines human precepts." He accuses them, saying "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." How could this be? Were the laws of ritual purity not important? They were, insofar as they were observed for the right reason: glorifying and honoring God, and being mindful of their covenantal relationship. We know, historically, that those who had questioned Jesus, leading to his response, were interested more in legalities, religious control, pride, and power. There was little "love for their neighbor" and a fair amount of "love for themselves." Therefore, Jesus is instructive when he tells them, "Nothing that enters one from the outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." In other words: Ritual actions don't make us pure; the purity or impurity of our heart is what matters.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

What does it mean to be pure or impure of heart? Intentions matter; motivations matter. Jesus, quoting Isaiah, tells the Pharisees and scribes that they are honoring him with their lips but not their hearts; in other words, they were paying him "lip-service." "Oh those Pharisees!" we might say. They are easy to criticize and pontificate upon, aren't they? But how about us? It is worth looking at ourselves and honestly asking whether there might be times when we, too, are simply offering lip service to God? Are we truly offering him our hearts when we engage in our traditions and our activities? Our goal, as Jesus' disciples, is to be "doers of the word and not hearers only," as James puts it so succinctly in his letter. We are to hear God's word and commandments and then act on them in love.

ACT "From within people ... come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice...," Jesus says. Pray specifically this week for the grace to see where God may want to purify your heart. Meditate on Psalm 51:10: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

We only need \$9,894 to reach our goal!



WAYS TO GIVE

ONLINE

sja.aodcsa.org

or use this QR Code



PHONE 888-331-8695

> SJA's GOAL: \$ 203,487

\$ 193,593 95% of our Goal



SAVE THE DATE

18th Annual Gala for St. Joan of Arc School

SPARKSNIGHT RED WHITE November

November 2, 2024

Our annual Gala is the largest fundraiser to benefit St. Joan of Arc School! We **ENCOURAGE** everyone to wear a SPARK of red and white!!

Here are ways you can support this great event!

- * Attend the event! Tickets are \$125/person and will go on sale in late September.
 - Your ticket includes a plated dinner, open bar, DJ & dancing, and a front row seat to our silent and live auctions...and a chance to win from our Charger Corner raffle!
- **Buy raffle tickets!** \$5000 in prizes to four lucky winners!
 - Raffle tickets will be on sale after all masses beginning the weekend of October 5th/6th
 - Tickets are \$20/each or 6 for \$100. Cash or check accepted. Payable to: St. Joan of Arc
- ** Auction Donations! Contact the School or Parish Center offices to donate auction items.
 - Give Back Boards will be available beginning the weekend of Sept 7th/8th.
 - PLEASE NOTE: We are only able to accept new and wrapped items.
- **Be a Sponsor or Advertise!** Promote your business thru our various sponsorship & advertising opportunities. Contact Emily Radatz for further information.

Contact Us:

Pam Graskewicz (pgraskewicz@hotmail.com), Kathy Kalich (kkalich@stjoan.net), or Emily Radatz (emilyaradatz@gmail.com)

Mark your calendar for a great time...

NOVEMBER 2, 2024 | GROSSE POINTE YACHT CLUB

Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, September 2



7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed 9:00 AM Mass - St. Lucy's Catholic Church Campus Closed for the Holiday

Tuesday, September 3

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, September 4th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

5:00 PM Reconciliation

6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, September 5th

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

Friday, September 6th

7:00 AM Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 7th

11:00 AM Reconciliation

12:30 PM Baptism of Tristan J. Gilstad

Boy Scout Popcorn Sale After All Masses

4:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 PM Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, September 8th

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

September 1, 2024 – Do Something!

What to do, what to do?

It can sound like an urgent call to action, an emergency. But in the day-to-day patterns of our lives, it can also be a simple and all-to-common question: On which things, exactly, should we be spending our time?

The possibilities, to be sure, are seemingly endless. But the choices we make about the things we do can have a significant impact on our health. A website that collates important research reported a few weeks ago on a new study that found having a sense of purpose to our lives – or a lack thereof – can have an impact on cognitive well-being.

"Our findings indicate that personal growth and purpose in life may be more cognitively demanding than other components of wellbeing, and therefore may serve as more sensitive indicators of cognitive aging," the researchers were quoted as saying.

In other words, things like feeling accepted and in control of our environment, and having a sense of autonomy, among other things, are important for psychological well-being, but growth and purpose seem to be even more important.

Which brings the focus back to the priorities and activities we choose to pursue. St. James has poignant advice for his readers in today's second reading.

"Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls," he writes. "Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world."

And so the marching orders are clear: get out that and do something – something worthwhile and helpful to others, something that shows God's love in their lives, manifested in you!

© 2024, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday September 2, 2024 Weekday (Green)

7:00 am Elaine Henwick

Tuesday September 3, 2024 Saint Gregory the

Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

(White)

7:00 am Special Intentions for the Family of Tina

Calisi

Wednesday September 4, 2024 Weekday (Green)

7:00 am Eileen Tabbert

6:00 pm Stephen and Nancy Fattore

Thursday September 5, 2024 Weekday (Green)

7:00 am Elizabeth Sunga

Friday September 6, 2024 Weekday (Green)

7:00 am Violet Pare

Saturday, September 7, 2024 Vigil for the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Orecin

4:00 pm Bonnie Batche, Madeline Intravaia, Thomas Benoit, Dennis Lex, Marie Ann Easley, and

Special Intentions for the J. Champine Family, the Thomas Family, Robert

Varrasse, Tom & Diana Ziolkowski, Alison Reslow, Marco Julian Moro, and Prayerful Appreciation for the Priest and Staff of St.

Joan of Arc

6:00 pm Joseph & Florence Semany

Sunday, September 8, 2024 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

8:00 am The Intentions of SJA Parishioners

10:00 am Carmella & Emilio Fazi

12:00 pm Regina deLeon, Kenneth Choike, Louisa

Sarra, Nicholas Rafaill, Diane Rozewski,

Anthony Chrzanowski and Special Intentions for Alison Reslow and Marco

Julian Moro

Daily Readings

Monday, September 2 Friday, September 6

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Luke 4:16-30 Luke 5:33-39

Tuesday, September 3 Saturday, September 7

1 Corinthians 2:10b-16 1 Corinthians 4:6b-15

Luke 4:31-37 Luke 6:1-5

Wednesday, September 4 Sunday, September 8

1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Isaiah 35:4-7a Luke 4:38-44 James 2:1-5

Thursday, September 5

1 Corinthians 3:18-23 Luke 5:1-11



Mark 7:31-37

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."

Nick DiCresce Michael Charrette Shirley Ann Affer Maria Easley

"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."



Reporting Sexual Abuse

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

Individuals also may contact the Archdiocese of Detroit by visiting protect.aod.org calling the toll-free, 24/7 victim assistance line at 866-343-8055 or by emailing vac@aod.org. There are no time limits or restrictions on individuals wishing to report abuse.

Every complaint shared with the Archdiocese of Detroit, regardless of its source or the date of the alleged activity, is reported to civil authorities. No complaints are held back, pre-screened or disregarded.



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Opportunities for Fellowship



St. Joan of Arc will be sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive Sunday, September 8th, from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm in the Emmaus Hall adjacent to church.

Blood donors are still needed and the schedule has openings! Donors with appointments will be prioritized but walk-ins will be taken as time permits.

To make an appointment, log on to <u>RedCrossBlood.org</u> (sponsor code: stjoanblooddrive) or call John Staperfenne at #248-789-8274.

Please help save a life and become a Red Cross Blood Donor!







Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Geri Beaugrand James Belloli Marie Therese Belloli Kristen Benedict Edna Burton Marie Byrski Maryann Carlin Ed Cole Toni Glaeser-Collins Joan Combellack Maura Corrigan John Crawford Olivia Crimando Jerry Dedene Joan DeDene Anita Dembeck Debra Dembeck Grace Dickerson George Dickerson Jane Doucet Kainoa Dunn Jean Edwards

Frank Faiss **Taylor Fisher** Jeanne Fleming Linda Frank Jeanne Gainer Larry Gehrke Larry Graham Peter Grantz Chris Gretchen Geoffrey Greve Helen Waltz-Gutowski Pam Haisenleder Judith Hasten Leland Helzer Ilona Higgins Joan Ireland Chris Janutol Lorraine Jonas Rosemary Jonas Zayne D. Kapinski Lorraine Kilroy Catherine Konen

Delaney Kraemer Shirley Kraemer Laurie Krim Maria Krzesowski Charles LaCombe Patricia LaCombe Concetta Leone Mila Lictawa David Lott Dave Lucas Dominik Mackowski Patrick Maher Ilene Manning Joan Mannino Cyndy McMahon Heather A. Miller Mark Moffitt Nina Mondalek Jennie Mooney Marco Julian Moro Michelle Pierson Vicky Pranger

Carol S. Provencal Tracy Rauch Alison Reslow Fe Reves Sr. Alice Riegel Paulette Russia Jenna Rose Victoria Rydholm Lily Saith Barbara R. Scharneck Dianne Schelosky Thomas Sloan Terri Smigels Kathleen Smith Cathy Spindler Frances Stafford Wendy Stevens Patty Stevenson Palma Strussione Raymond Strussione Gloria Strzelecki Cathy Sullens

Mary Surmont Deacon Edward Swartz Paul Szymanski Terri Szolach Kim Thomas Bernadette Thompson James Thompson Linda Vitale Eileen Wallace Elaine Walters Tom Ward Larry Weber Adrienne Weidenbach Joan Weitz, O.P. Robert Werthman Joseph Whalen Marilyn Wicker Timothy Wilt Jr. 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

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
September 1, 2024

Law Versus Values

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

That is a very difficult choice to place before people. Why can't we choose both? Actually, that is the ideal.

Law is a legislated way that a group lives out a value. We value safe highways, and so we legislate traffic regulations, speed limits, and so forth. We value communal prayer, and so we devise liturgical calendars and worship ceremonies. Usually, the way we live out a value changes more frequently than the value itself. However, it often happens that people become so attached to a custom or law, though unfamiliar with the underlying value it embodies, that a change of custom becomes very disruptive. This certainly happened in the

Sunday Readings

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

What great nation has statutes and ordinances that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?

James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

[Jesus said,] "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition."

Church after the Second Vatican Council, which took place in the 1960s.

This seems to be the source of tension in today's Gospel scene. Washing hands before eating was a ritual custom here, not just a hygienic one. It probably originated with priests who bloodied their hands while sacrificing animals. Eventually, ritual washing became one of the 613 customs that Pharisees expected every Jewish man to observe. Referred to as "a hedge around the law," such customs served to ensure the law itself was protected and would not be broken. Jesus' disciples did not observe this ritual, and so they were criticized.

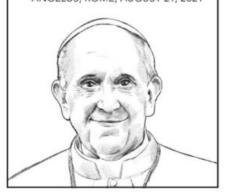
Jesus immediately came to their defense. He did not disparage the value of appropriate ritual behavior. Rather, he accused his opponents of clinging to out-of-date practices while disregarding underlying values. Practices are external; values are internal. Laws and customs can change; fundamental principles and standards endure. †

People become so attached to a custom, though unfamiliar with the value it embodies, that a change of custom is disruptive.

A Word from Pope Francis

How often we blame others, society, the world, for everything that happens to us! It is always the fault of "others:" it is the fault of people, of those who govern, of misfortune, and so on.... [B]ut spending time blaming others is wasting time.... Let us ask the Lord today to free us from blaming others.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 29, 2021



QUESTIONS OUESTIONS MEETER TIONS

- What Christian values do you try to live?
- What is the most challenging, and why?

Icon of the Poor

Paige Byrne Shortal

This month at Sunday Mass we will hear excerpts from the Letter of James, written around the year 47 AD to encourage Christians whose faith was weakening. It has one dominant theme: Christianity is not a philosophy, but a faith that must be put into practice. James addresses many issues: gossip, the need for patience, care for widows, orphans, and the sick, the responsibility of each Christian to live a virtuous life and to correct others when necessary. He also makes several passionate statements about the fate of the rich who oppress the poor.

This epistle sometimes reads like advice from a fatherly bishop and sometimes like a rant from a very frustrated pastor. After all, it's been less than twenty years since Jesus' death and



resurrection. James was addressing firstand second-generation Christians who were already wandering from the Way, but he saves his harshest words for the rich, words I take to heart.

Most people would say our family lives simply, yet we lack for nothing

necessary, not only to sustain life but to make it pleasant and always interesting. I've never been hungry. I've never helplessly watched my babies cry for food or shiver in the cold. I've never suffered needlessly for lack of medicine.

The only time I feel poor is when I'm confronted with poverty my poor efforts cannot affect. When I was in Guatemala to adopt our first son, I took him on a bus ride through the city. A woman in traditional dress and carrying a baby on her back was bent over, picking up something from the ground. As the bus paused in traffic, I looked closer and saw there had been a spill of corn. She was picking it up, kernel by kernel, and tucking it carefully into the folds of her shawl. The traffic jam broke, and I never saw her again, except...I see her every day, every time I scrape leftovers into the compost bowl. She is my personal icon, reminding me of my riches and the poverty of so many. *

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From "The Works of Mercy: Heart of Catholic Identity" by Fr James F. Keenan, SJ

Scripture tells us that mercy is the condition for salvation. This is made clear in the Last Judgment (see Matthew 25), where the saved are those who performed what we later called the corporal works of mercy—feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. It is through the practice of these works of mercy that we concretely live our Christian faith. Through them, we show our willingness to enter into the chaos of another. **

Catholic Update—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church teaching and tradition on contemporary topics. Liguori.org • 800-325-9526



God of abundance, please protect those who do not have enough to sustain life, and make ways for generous people to share their blessings. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 2-7

Monday, Weekday: 1 Cor 2:1–5 / Lk 4:16–30 Tuesday, St. Gregory the Great: 1 Cor 2:10b–16 / Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday, Weekday: 1 Cor 3:1–9 / Lk 4:38–44 Thursday, Weekday: 1 Cor 3:18–23 / Lk 5:1–11 Friday, Weekday: 1 Cor 4:1–5 / Lk 5:33–39 Saturday, Weekday:

1 Cor 4:6b–15 / Lk 6:1–5



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