



# 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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## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are you who are now hungry,  
for you will be satisfied.  
Blessed are you who are now weeping,  
for you will laugh."  
- Lk 6:21

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

CLPI

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**22412 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-777-3670  
Fax: 586-774-5528  
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**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
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Fax: 586-447-3574  
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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

#### 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  
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#### Business Manager

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#### 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

#### 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](http://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](http://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



## Cutting the Umbilical Cord:

Well, this week, I officially started fending for myself ... well, sort of. My saintly mom and my just-as-saintly sister Jackie have

“stepped back” from their 24/7 roles as my recovery dream team and full-time Florence Nightingales. My mom and Jackie formed an incredible care team. God bless them both!

I’m learning that healing is a slow process (can someone hit fast-forward, please?), but I’m getting there. Many people have warned me that I have to let it happen, and if I can be patient and slow down, the body can do incredible things with its healing powers. It truly is amazing and awesome how God created the human body!

First of all, a HUGE shoutout to my mom, who moved into my house several days before my January 17 surgery. She wanted to be with me during the most challenging part of the recovery process. My mom left her cozy and spacious condo to come live in my three tiny upstairs rooms ... by choice! We did talk about me recovering at the condo where there’s a walk-in shower, loads of space, and all the stuff you’d want when you can barely move. But logistics won out, and I stayed at my house. My rationale was that Jackie worked next door, and I would have more people nearby if something happened or I came up with some genius plan that backfired. And, to be honest, it was more about my command center and tech cave. Plus (for my tech friends), I didn’t want to deal with VPNs and lag time when controlling our streaming equipment. Priorities, people!

Since I have been practicing with my iWalk and have started to feel confident using it up and down the stairs while still using a knee scooter elsewhere, I felt confident I could start doing things myself. With a Keurig machine upstairs for coffee and stuff to make my newfound love of hot oatmeal within reach, we figured it was time to cut the cord and see if I could handle all of this myself. Plus, I knew that Jackie and others would be around during the day.

I’m not going to lie ... I got spoiled. Mom would have coffee ready every

morning, and then we’d watch the 7 AM Mass together. Jackie would pop over to handle the laundry and other details. I’m still not sure how anyone survives a recovery process like this without a live-in team. Lunch and dinner all just appeared like magic. Five-star service all the way.

Given that I have another 8–12 weeks of this non-weight-bearing “fun” (I’m considering this my Lenten “thing”), I decided to create a duplicate “command center” downstairs, complete with another set of wedges, pillows, chair platform, computer, phone, and all I need at my fingertips as if I were upstairs. This way, I could simply eat downstairs, stay downstairs, and have all I needed at my disposal. Thus, I can now choose between Upstairs Me and Downstairs Me without missing a beat. Jackie will still be around to help, Mom will swing by on the weekends, and Father Bob will continue to swing by with communion and the daily pep talk and prayer to be patient.

Monday was the big day. Mom packed up and left for the condo. Jackie made sure I had dinner, and everything else squared away. “Are you sure you can do this?” she nervously asked, probably imagining the worst. I nodded slightly too confidently and said I would be fine.

Then came bedtime. The true test. I scooted over to my bed on my knee scooter and started my new nightly routine. Normally, my mom would be there arranging the fortress of my wedge and pillows, ensuring my foot was properly propped up, tucking me in like royalty ... you get the picture. This time, it was just me, so I decided to record the whole circus on my phone because if you didn’t laugh at this stuff, you’d go crazy and cry.

I tossed my wedge and pillows around like bricks, trying to untangle the rogue sheets without falling off the bed and jokingly calling out, “Mom? Mom? Are you there?” Of course, she wasn’t. She was now back at her comfy condo. After what felt like an eternity, I finally got myself settled. The umbilical cord was cut. I made it. I was victorious.

But then, I realized I had forgotten the golden rule, Robyn, my pre-surgery OT guru, taught me. She was insistent that EVERY move required MUCH thought. “Think twice, move once” was to be the mantra. What would I need, and more importantly, she was emphatic you had to pre-plan the bathroom breaks. Here I was,

all tucked in and cozy, only to realize I was now worried I had to make a bathroom stop. Absolute failure!

Recovery is giving me a crash course in slowing down—literally. It turns out that when your brain ignores the memo to take it easy, pain steps in like a drill sergeant yelling in your face, “SLOW DOWN!” Our bodies have their God-created way of saying, “So, you don’t want to listen ... fine, here’s a “sharp” reminder.” Okay, God, I’m learning ... slowly!

**Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger Appointed as the New Archbishop of Detroit:** This week, Pope Francis appointed Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger of Tucson as the sixth Archbishop of Detroit, following the resignation of Archbishop Allen Vigneron, who reached the retirement age of 75. Archbishop-elect Weisenburger’s installation will take place on March 18 at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Born in 1960 in Oklahoma City, Archbishop-elect Weisenburger was ordained a priest in 1987 for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. He served in various pastoral and administrative roles, focusing on care for underserved communities and strengthening church operations. Later, as Bishop of Salina, Kansas (2012-2016), he worked to fortify rural parishes and address agricultural community needs. He then led the Diocese of Tucson, Arizona, where he engaged with border issues and ministered to the growing Hispanic Catholic population.

Known for his approachable leadership and focus on evangelization and community building, Archbishop-elect Weisenburger brings a wealth of experience to Detroit. He has asked the faithful of Detroit to support him during this transition by prayer and by praying a daily rosary—a simple yet powerful way to assist him as he prepares to assume his new apostolic mission.

More details about Archbishop-elect Weisenburger’s background and vision can be found elsewhere in the bulletin.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb  
gmb@sjascs.org



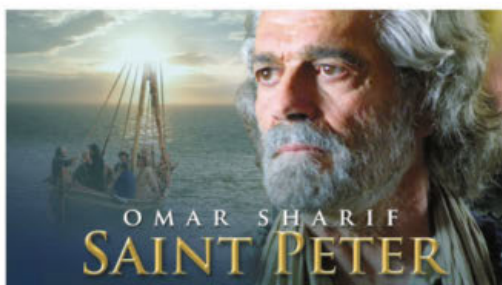
# This Week on Formed

Week of February 16, 2025



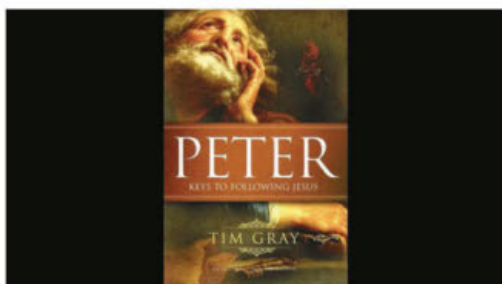
## Personal Apostolate

Every Catholic is called to share their faith — and there are simple, easy ways to do this. No megaphones needed. Just start the journey of discipleship with two friends. This episode's focus is sharing our faith with others.



## Saint Peter

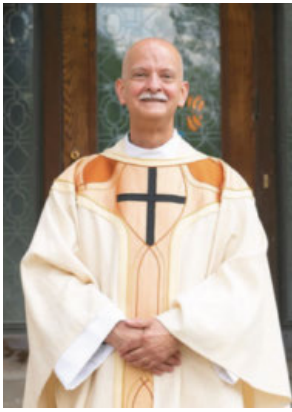
Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.



## Peter: Keys to Following Jesus by Tim Gray

Renowned scholar Dr. Tim Gray masterfully guides you through the tumultuous and inspiring life of Peter—from his call to discipleship to his eventual martyrdom in Rome. Using Sacred Scripture and tradition, Dr. Gray highlights important lessons from Peter's life.

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



**“So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”**

These powerful words come at the end

of chapter 13 of St. Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians. This chapter, as you might recall, is cherished for its use at wedding ceremonies. In this letter, Paul speaks at length about the beautiful qualities of love, the way true love is expressed, and the effects love has in our world. Paul explains that, “love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

To someone who tends to be a little cynical – or maybe just practical – Paul’s poetic description of love can seem rather . . . well, mushy. Explaining what love is in the terms Paul uses in his Corinthians letter is not incorrect, but it is truly idealized. His description fits really well with an infatuated, young, engaged couple overcome by starry-eyed visions of perfect marital bliss. In such overflowing love, they can plan their wedding day while floating ten feet off the ground under perfect, sunny skies. The sound of angels singing sweetly in their ears. But most of us who have been around for a while know better. Life is not all roses and sweetness. Life is tough. So, where does love come into the picture?

The things that Paul says to the Corinthians about love are all true.

But they are true when they come with the understanding that Christian love – charity – is not the least bit mushy. True love, underneath it all, is hard as nails. Love is basically a rational decision. It is a decision to act for the good of oneself and others. Deep down, the nature of love is not emotional. Love comes from the inner recesses of our soul, from our basic human identity.

We can say that love comes from the heart, too. Heart and soul work in concert to allow us to love. Human hearts, though, are not colored candy Valentine’s Day hearts. Our hearts are human engines that run hot with passionate emotions – or cold with selfish hatred. Our hearts are fueled with intellectual knowledge and spiritual inspiration. Our hearts do indeed burn in order to motivate us. Yet, how we end up moving may or may not be loving.

The heart-shaped-candy-type of love that drives teenagers to yearn for each other barely deserves to be called love at all. It certainly is not an expression of charity. It is natural . . . instinctive . . . but that’s pretty much it. Simple eroticism attracts men and women together, as it should, but what comes after simple physical attraction can be anything but love. Not much of who we are as persons is engaged in hit-and-run relationships. Such encounters are all surface, with no real personal investment. Superficial “love” leaves out the intricacy of our mind. We don’t even genuinely engage our heart when we simply see someone else as a purely physical body. There is no love involved.

Serious, meaningful love has a sharp edge to it. Love has built-in limits, beyond which it becomes unloving. For example, patience and tolerance are common expressions of love. If someone is struggling in life, a loving person will cut him or her as much slack as possible to allow for

learning and growth. But tolerance of intentional bad behavior is not loving at all. Putting up with bad behavior in people we truly care about is harmful to them. We enable them to remain trapped on a life path that leads to their ultimate demise. There is no fruitful love in letting someone self-destruct. By the same token, it is not loving to allow others to abuse us or disrespect us for the sake of “keeping the peace,” or not wanting to hurt someone’s feelings. There is no love to be found there - either for ourselves or for the abusers. Sometimes love hurts. Truth hurts. Love is not meant to hurt, but sometimes it unavoidably does.

Love, according to Scripture, will endure into eternity. When times ends and heaven begins, there will be no more need for faith or hope. In heaven, all truth will be abundantly clear and we will possess everything we hoped for . . . and more. Yet, love will remain. Such a thought should tell us more about what love should be for us now. It seems we might think of love as living more deeply in the truth as each moment passes. Considering that the Truth is Jesus Christ, it makes perfect sense that love would be endless. The infinite goodness of God in the Trinity is inexhaustible. We will plunge deeper and deeper into God’s being forever. God is perfect beauty, unity, power, happiness, and peace. Together, we will know God better each day. What a lovely thought!

In Love,

Fr. Bob



February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

Jer 17:5-8 | 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 | Lk 6:17, 20-26

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

"It is so good to be poor, to have nothing, to await all from God!" These sentiments of the humble French religious sister St. Jeanne Jugan sum up the spirit of Jesus' words in today's Gospel. Jesus praises poverty, hunger, sadness, and rejection, but certainly not as ends in themselves; God does not take pleasure in our suffering! He does use our suffering, however, to awaken us to our need for him. Poverty can spur us to pursue *heavenly* goods, and thus Jesus assures the poor, "the kingdom of God is yours." Hunger can cause us to seek God who alone can truly satiate our desires, and thus Jesus says to the hungry, "you will be satisfied." Those who weep will laugh, Jesus says – so long as their sadness inspires them to seek happiness in the service of God and the joys of eternal life. For all of us, no matter our means or our circumstances, today's Gospel is a reminder to allow everything – including our difficulties, disappointments, and unfulfilled desires – to turn our hearts to God and rely on his loving care.

**GO EVANGELIZE****PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

It can be difficult to practice the spirit of the Beatitudes (as the "blessings" in today's Gospel are called) in the moment. Suffering, distress, and confusion easily divert our attention from God as we attempt to "make the problem go away." Sometimes we are even tempted to give up, to turn aside from God, and to seek consolation in other things. This is exactly the opposite of what he wants for us, and for good reason! God knows that it is best for us to always rely on him. This is why, as today's first reading explains, the man who trusts in the Lord is secure – "like a tree planted beside the waters ... it fears not the heat when it comes" – and fruitful – "its leaves stay green." For those who trust in the Lord, help comes from the all-powerful, infinitely loving Creator of the universe. When we entrust ourselves to him, we have nothing to fear.

**ACCOMPANY**

Is there someone in your life who is struggling with fear, loneliness, anxiety, or sadness? Take time to pray with that person and, together, try to discover God's invitation to a deeper reliance on him in the midst of the distress. These moments of suffering are never occasions for us to get "preachy." Instead, accompany your friend and be a reminder of the hope we have in God.





## THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 23 C

### Reading One – 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

In those days, Saul went down to the desert of Ziph with three thousand picked men of Israel, to search for David in the desert of Ziph. So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the LORD's anointed and remain unpunished?" So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the LORD had put them into a deep slumber.

Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hilltop at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops. He said: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The LORD will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed."

### Responsorial Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

As far as the east is from the west so far has he put our transgressions from us. As a father has

compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

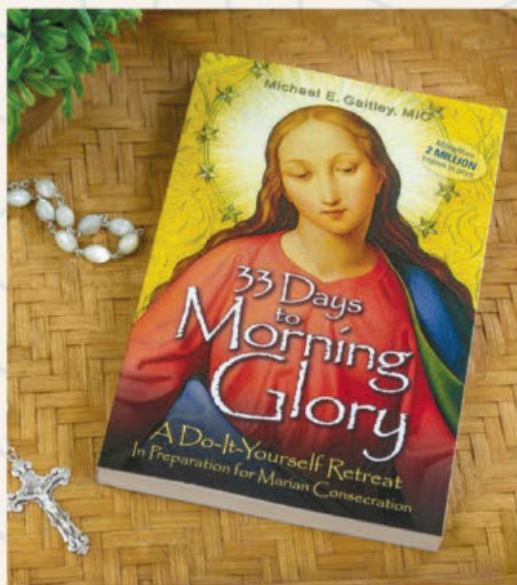
**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

### Reading Two – 1 Cor 15:45-49

Brothers and sisters: It is written, *The first man, Adam, became a living being*, the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

### Gospel – Lk 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."



**STUDY AND  
PRAYER MINISTRY**  
Thursdays from 2-3:30  
Feb 13-March 20

**Join our Hearts Afire  
Ministry as they embark the  
33 Days to Morning Glory  
personal retreat.**

If you've been thinking about entrusting yourself to Mary for the first time or if you're simply looking to deepen and renew your devotion to the Blessed Mother, 33 Days to Morning Glory is the right book and retreat for you.

Join with our Hearts Afire group in this 33-day preparation for Consecration to Jesus Through Mary. The group will meet weekly until March 20th, starting with an introductory meeting on February 13.

Consecration will take place on the Feast of the Annunciation (Tuesday, March 25th). The cost of the book is \$17. Scholarships are available.

Contact Susan Hughes at  
313-410-9504 or Sandy Walters at  
586-241-8677 with questions.  
Sign up and pay at [sjascs.org/hearts-afire](http://sjascs.org/hearts-afire)



## Pope Francis Appoints Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger as the New Archbishop of Detroit



- Pope Francis appointed Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger, previously the Bishop of Tucson, Arizona, as the sixth Archbishop of Detroit on February 11, 2025. This followed the resignation of Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron, who served since 2009.
- Archbishop-elect Weisenburger's installation Mass is scheduled for March 18, 2025, at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit.
- Upon his installation, Archbishop-elect Weisenburger will lead Michigan's largest Catholic diocese, which includes over 900,000 Catholics, 213 parishes, and 81 Catholic schools.

Archbishop-elect Edward J. Weisenburger is a man deeply rooted in faith, service, and leadership. Born on December 23, 1960, in Alton, Illinois, he was raised in a military family, spending his formative years in Lawton, Oklahoma. From an early age, he felt a calling to the priesthood, which led him to pursue studies at Conception Seminary College in Missouri, graduating with honors in 1983. He continued his theological education at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium, where he earned advanced degrees in theology and moral and religious sciences, preparing him for a life of dedicated ministry.

Ordained as a priest for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in 1987, Weisenburger quickly became known for his pastoral care and commitment to justice. His roles were varied and impactful, ranging from serving as a parish priest to providing on-site chaplaincy to first responders in the aftermath of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. He later served as vicar general and was honored by Pope Benedict XVI as a Prelate of Honor in 2009.

Weisenburger's episcopal leadership began in 2012 when Pope Benedict appointed him as Bishop of Salina, Kansas. Five years later, Pope Francis recognized his dedication by naming him Bishop of Tucson, Arizona. There, he worked tirelessly on social justice issues, advocating for immigrant communities and strengthening outreach and evangelization efforts.

On February 11, 2025, Pope Francis appointed him as the sixth Archbishop of Detroit, a role in which he will shepherd over 900,000 Catholics, 213 parishes, and 81 schools. Anticipating his installation on March 18, 2025, at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Archbishop-elect Weisenburger has expressed a strong vision for revitalizing faith and fostering growth within the Archdiocese. He is committed to addressing challenges such as declining church attendance and to inspiring a renewed sense of mission among Detroit's diverse Catholic community.

With humility and enthusiasm, Archbishop-elect Weisenburger embraces this new chapter, striving to unite the faithful and lead them with a gospel-centered focus on service, evangelization, and hope. His leadership, shaped by decades of experience and a profound love for the Church, marks a promising era for Detroit's Catholic community.

# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** Jesus was radical in his teaching that the “stuff” in life wasn’t all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. Are we ready to be radical, too?

### In the End, Does it Matter?

I love today’s Gospel passage, and not just because I love a When I was a teenager, the priest I would go to for confession used to tell me, over and over: “In the end, we all get the same dirty hole in the ground.”

What he meant was, it doesn’t matter how rich or smart or well-liked we are. We’re all heading to the same place. This life comes to an end for every man. All the money he earns, all the stuff, all the worldly esteem, will at some point be of no further use. We all get the same dirty hole in the ground.

It was an important message for me to hear, because at the time, it all seemed so important: my after-school job and my FAFSA application and my grades. The admiration of my friends and teachers. I was so consumed with what I was going to become that I wasn’t spending a lot of time thinking about who I was going to become. But the who is the only thing that lasts until the next life.

And to be honest, it’s all still too important to me. Avoiding sadness and disappointment. Saving money and being liked. Focusing on “the five-year plan” when it comes to career, house plans, and a whole bunch of other things I can’t take to my dirty hole in the ground.

Jesus was radical in his teaching that the “stuff” in life wasn’t all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success — wealth, popularity, pleasure — did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. It was radical in the ancient world, and it’s radical today.

Are we ready to be radical, too?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Catholic Life Explained Question:

Carnivale and Mardi Gras celebrations are linked to Ash Wednesday, Lent, fast and abstinence. Can you tell us more about the connections between these events?

## Answer:

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the forty days known as Lent. Every year, Christians highlight this penitential season as a time of self-examination, reformation of one’s life, and continued development of a deeper spiritual life. The recommended practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving become the focus of Lenten activity and ritual. Each of these spiritual practices is aimed at personal discipline as well as continued concern for the other, especially the poor or alienated.

Forty days is a symbolic biblical period of time, during which personal transformation occurs and out of which people surface as more spiritual, ready to carry out God’s mission. Relying on God’s providence and care, no matter how difficult life becomes, is crucial to Lenten spirituality. Fasting was initially stricter, permitting only one simple meal a day without meat, fish, or other delicacies. Such things were not even allowed in the house.

In order to prepare for this in an age of no refrigeration, people gathered to consume whatever was not allowed during Lent. This led to parties or celebrations originally referred to as Carnivale, literally meaning “goodbye to meat,” or Mardi Gras, literally meaning “Fat Tuesday.” The eating and celebrating ended on the Tuesday just before Ash Wednesday. Today we focus more on moderation in all things, as well as a strong concern for the poor. What are you doing for the poor this Lent?

### Weekly Calendar of Events

#### **Monday, February 17th**

NO SCHOOL

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 AM: Walking with Purpose

7:00 PM: Walking with Purpose

#### **Tuesday, February 18th**

NO SCHOOL

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Wednesday, February 19th**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

5:00 PM: Reconciliation

6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Thursday, February 20th**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

2:00 PM: Hearts a Fire - EH.

7:00 PM: Holy Hour - Live Streamed

#### **Friday, February 21st**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Saturday, February 22nd**

10:00 AM: Funeral for Margaret Ouellette

11:00 AM: Reconciliation

12:30 PM: Baptism of Cecilia G. Tiney

1:30 PM: Baptism of Jackson K. Just

4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Sunday, February 23rd**

8:00 AM: Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 AM: Family Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 PM: Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

### Words on the Word

#### ***February 16, 2025 – Arguments Rage On***

It doesn't take much these days to set off a debate.

Even what are seemingly the most simple, innocuous issues can and usually do turn into contentious shouting matches in the media and, especially, on social media, where people seemingly have forgotten how to agree to disagree; to engage in respectful debate.

So, when it comes to the really divisive stuff ... well, it's Katie Bar the Door.

Two of the most polarizing issues of our times have been in the news even more than usual lately due to a host of events and circumstances.

Abortion always has been near the top of that list, and the annual March for Life a few weeks ago gave rise to increased conversation.

And immigration, illegal or otherwise, which has been debated for much of our nation's history, also has become more of a hot-button issue over the last few years, as well.

In both cases, as people of goodwill have expressed thoughtful and well-reasoned opinions on the topics, they come under immediate virtual attack.

And when it's church leadership that speaks, or really anyone speaking from a religious point of view, the verbal assaults are often even more heated and personal.

The good news is, Jesus knows the environment we face, as he faced the rage, hostility, hatred, jealousy, anger, lying, violence, and betrayal of the world in the most pointed way possible ... to the death.

And he assures us, as we try to stand for what is right, that he's got our back.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man," he says in today's gospel passage from St. Luke. "Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold your reward will be great in heaven."

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## Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

### Mass Intentions

**Monday February 17, 2025 Weekday; Seven Holy Members of the Servite Order (Green/White)**

7:00 am Special Intentions for the Members of St. Vincent DePaul Society

**Tuesday February 18, 2025 Weekday (Green)**

7:00 am Special Intention for Christine Bugarin

**Wednesday February 19, 2025 Weekday (Green)**

7:00 am Donald Kowalewski

6:00 pm Tina Calisi

**Thursday February 20, 2025 Weekday (Green)**

7:00 am Concetta (Tina) Calisi

**Friday February 21, 2025 Weekday; Saint Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (Green/White)**

7:00 am Hugo Calisi

**Saturday February 22, 2025 Vigil for the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)**

4:00 pm Michael Pore, Bonnie Batche, George Rupinski, Tracy Kowalewski, George J. Bugarin, Doreen Saur, Terri Smigels, Paula Nagel, Michael Forrester, Melvin Liedel, David Damm, Marguerite Lippincott, a Special Intentions for the living and deceased members of the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family and Joan Kowalewski

6:00 pm Concetta (Tina) Calisi

**Sunday February 23, 2025 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)**

8:00 am The Intentions of SJA Parishioners

10:00 am Joseph Paluzzi Jr.

12:00 pm Deceased members of the Benedis Family, Jerry LePoutre, Arthur Brooks, Paula Nagel, Mr. & Mrs. Ruda, Marie Szykowski Beattie, and a Special Intention for Gary Charrette

### Daily Readings

**Monday, February 17**

Genesis 4:21-25  
Mark 8:11-13

**Tuesday, February 18**

Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-10  
Mark 8:14-21

**Wednesday, February 19**

Genesis 8:6-22  
Mark 8:22-26

**Thursday, February 20**

Genesis 9:1-13  
Mark 8:27-33

**Friday, February 14**

Genesis 11:1-9  
Mark 8:34-9:1

**Saturday, February 22**

1 Peter 5:1-4  
Matthew 16:13-19

**Sunday, February 23**

Psalms 103:1-13  
1 Corinthians 15:45-49  
Luke 6:27-38



### 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.

Lynn David Sigurdson  
Josef Herzig  
Margaret Ouellette  
Eleanor Ann Bohlinger  
Charles Debinski  
Jasper Sciuto

“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](mailto:aginvestigations@michigan.gov).  
5 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.

# SJA High School Youth Group

## February Events



😊 Pictured: the actual St. Valentine 😊

- Feb. 12th - Pal-entines/  
Valentines Party
- Feb. 19th - Service Day,  
Blessing bag making
- Feb. 26th - Pre-Lent Bible  
study

Wednesdays at 7 pm  
Sr. Carol Center



@sjascsyouth



# Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

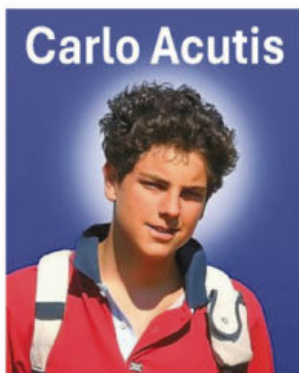
At Our Lady Queen of Apostles | 3851 Prescott Street  
Hamtramck, MI 48212

**What is a Eucharistic Miracle?** Eucharistic Miracles are extraordinary events or phenomena which manifest the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the consecrated bread and wine in a way we can discern with our ordinary senses. This manifestation of Jesus Christ may be in a consecrated Host becoming visible as human flesh or the consecrated wine becoming visible as human blood, in the healing of an individual after receiving Jesus in Holy Communion, in the power of Christ in the consecrated Host stopping a natural disaster (for example: flood, fire), or in a saint living solely on the Eucharist for many years, as well as, other types of miracles.

**The Exhibition is compiled by Carlo Acutis**, who was beatified in October 2020, as the final step before canonization as a saint of the Church, Carlo wanted to do something for Jesus, and at the age of eleven started to compile the Church approved Eucharistic Miracles for the internet in the form of an Exhibit. Carlo was a typical youth who had many friends but placed God in the first place in his life. Carlo not only loved Jesus in the Holy Eucharist but also loved Jesus in the poor as he regularly ministered to the poor on the streets.

An inspiring model not only for youth but for believers of every age,  
Carlo died of acute leukemia at the age of fifteen.

There is no charge for the  
exhibition or the presentation.  
**No food or drink allowed!**



Fr. Ted Blaszczyk Activities Ctr.

**Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

Noon — 7:00 PM

Presentation at 3:00 PM

**Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 AM — 1:00 PM

## Prayers Needed

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

John Antone	Frank Faiss	Carolyn Kunz	Tracy Rauch	Bernadette Thompson
Geri Beaugrand	Taylor Fisher	Concetta Leone	Fe Reyes	James Thompson
James Belloli	Jeanne Fleming	Rosalie Lewakowski	Sr. Alice Riegel	Jeff Trudell
Kristen Benedict	Linda Frank	Mila Lictawa	Paulette Russia	Linda Vitale
Edna Burton	Larry Gehrke	David Lott	Jenna Rose	Eileen Wallace
Maryann Carlin	Larry Graham	Dominik Mackowski	Marilyn Rose	Elaine Walters
Ed Cole	Peter Grantz	Sam Manalo	Victoria Rydholm	Tom Ward
Toni Glaeser-Collins	Chris Gretchen	Ilene Manning	Lily Saith	Larry Weber
Joan Combellack	Pam Haisenleder	Joan Mannino	Barbara R. Scharneck	Adrienne Weidenbach
Maura Corrigan	Judith Hasten	Cathy Morasso	Dianne Schelosky	Joan Weitz, O.P.
John Crawford	Ilona Higgins	Sandy McCabe	Josh Schultz	Robert Werthman
Olivia Crimando	Ted Hinz	Cyndy McMahon	Kathleen Smith	Joseph Whalen
Jerry Dedene	Chris Janutol	Heather A. Miller	Cathy Spindler	Geraldine White
Joan DeDene	Lorraine Jonas	Mark Moffitt	Frances Stafford	Marilyn Wicker
Anita Dembeck	Rosemary Jonas	Nina Mondalek	Darlene Stanisky	Joyce Wiekrykas
Debra Dembeck	Kim Jones	Jennie Mooney	Wendy Stevens	Loretta Williams
Grace Dickerson	Lorraine Kilroy	Marco Julian Moro	Patty Stevenson	Joan Wright
George Dickerson	Catherine Konen	Robert Peters	Palma Strussione	
Ray Dinser	Delaney Kraemer	Connor Pieper	Cathy Sullens	
Liana Doe	Shirley Kraemer	Vicky Pranger	Mary Surmont	
Jean Edwards	Laurie Krim	Carol S. Provencal	Terri Szolach	

**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@sjasc.org](mailto:info@sjasc.org).

### PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

#### COMMANDER IN CHIEF

President Donald J. Trump



#### AIR FORCE

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Charles Bartlett  
James A. Brannigan  
Robert C. Carden  
Kevin Conley  
Kelli Lynch  
Maria Marable  
Jacob Milatz  
Martin Rodriguez  
Dave Russell

Joseph R. Kozlinski  
Michelle Kuznia, DDS  
Greg Lietz  
Chris Listilla  
Daniel Meagher  
Kyle Richardson  
Christopher Scholz  
William F. Sottrel  
Mekhi Terry  
John C. Tramazzo  
Dan Travis  
Joseph VanDusen  
David Weise  
Samantha Williams  
Timothy L. Wilt III

John DuBay Jr.  
David J. Kennedy  
Daniel Klein  
Paul Koss  
Matthew Krugler  
Jeffrey LaTour  
John Lewins  
Justin Lienemann  
Nick Lienemann  
Michael Light  
David Light  
Lee Michael  
Thomas Reichling  
Frank Schuster  
Daniel Sparkman  
Tom Stevenson

Joseph Goeddeke  
Frankie Kocis  
Joseph Marable  
Tom Miller, Jr  
Anthony M. Morgan  
Leonardo Pastoria  
Luciano Pastoria  
John Patterson  
Andrew Seator

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Tom Barrett  
Samuel Baur  
Richard Brown  
James Patrick Carrier  
Nathan Dickerson  
Greg DeMoss  
Brian C. Ellis  
Thaddeus Kapuscinski

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Daniel Allen  
Arthur J. Barron  
David Chute  
Kyle Cichowski

#### NAVY

Gary J. Annis  
Brad Converse  
Jason Gaidis

#### COAST GUARD

Michael Franklin  
Christopher Rogers

#### NATIONAL GUARD

Robert Douglas III  
William DuBay



# Bringing Home the Word

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)  
February 16, 2025

## What Is Your Choice?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

So much of who we are is beyond our choice: our parents, our ethnic identity, our time in history, even some of our personality traits. We may not have chosen many of these basic building blocks, but we do have a lot to say about what we fashion them into. We certainly are influenced by social groups, such as family and neighborhood, church community and civic organizations, political party and national citizenship. However, we still retain the power of choice in many of them. It is on these kinds of choices that today's readings focus.

Jeremiah places two sources of

guidance before the people: namely, human ingenuity and divine law. Today's first reading is a classic example of wisdom teaching. With all the possibilities available to us, to whom do we listen? Whose direction will we follow? Both Jeremiah and the psalm response answer these questions by describing the good fortune of a particular choice: blessed is the one who delights in the law of the Lord. The outcome of choosing this way is a meaningful and fruitful life. The consequence of the opposite decision is emptiness and barrenness. What is your choice?

At the heart of Jesus' ministry was an invitation to join and spread the reign of God. Acceptance of this invitation could at times exact a dear price. Using metaphoric language, he sketched the blessings and the woes that would follow acceptance or rejection of that invitation. Again, the decision is ours. What is your choice? †



***With all the possibilities  
available to us,  
to whom do we listen?***

## A Word from Pope Francis

[W]ith the logic of the beatitudes, setting aside the hardships and difficulties, do I feel the joy of following Jesus? This is the decisive trait of the disciple: the joy of the heart.... This is the touchstone for knowing if a person is a disciple: does he or she have joy in their heart?

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 13, 2022



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS



- Who or what are my primary "influencers"?
- How do I follow or resist Jesus' influence in my life?

## Sunday Readings

### Jeremiah 17:5-8

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD; / the LORD will be their trust.

### 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

### Luke 6:17, 20-26

And raising his eyes toward his disciples [Jesus] said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours."

## Servant of God Thea Bowman

Maurice J. Nutt, CSsR

Born Bertha Bowman in 1937, Thea was the only child of Theon and Mary Esther Bowman. Undoubtedly, Thea's call to service and ministry was ignited by the example of her parents. Her father had a promising future as a physician in New York, but an aunt told him that doctors were needed in the African American community in Mississippi because many were being denied medical care in the segregated South. Thea's mother was a teacher who instilled in Thea a love of learning and an appreciation for culture and the arts.

While prejudiced attitudes and actions were commonplace, her mother admonished her, "Returning insults makes you small like they are." Thea would later realize that she was called to be a bridge of understanding and a peacemaker among the various cultures.

When the Franciscan Sisters of



Perpetual Adoration established a Catholic school for African Americans in Canton, Mississippi, the Bowmans enrolled Thea in the school. At age nine, Thea decided to become a Catholic. She admitted that it was not the theology or doctrine that drew her to the Catholic Church, but the example of how Catholics seemed to love and care for one another, most especially the poor and needy.

In 1953, at the age of fifteen, she told her family and friends she wanted to join the Franciscan sisters. The year 1984 brought many challenges for Thea Bowman. Both her parents died, and she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Thea did not let her wheelchair or the deterioration of her body keep her from one notable and unprecedented event—an opportunity to address the US Catholic bishops at their annual June meeting held in 1989 at Seton Hall University in East Orange, New Jersey. Thea spoke to the bishops as a sister having a "heart-to-heart" conversation with her brothers. When she was through, she urged the bishops to move together, cross arms, and sing with her "We Shall Overcome." She seemingly touched the hearts of the bishops, as evidenced by their thunderous applause and flowing tears. †

From the introduction to *Thea Bowman: In My Own Words*, compiled and edited by Maurice J. Nutt, CSsR, Liguori Publications (826238). Visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) for other books in the series.

### Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From "Black, Catholic, and Holy: On the Path to Sainthood"

Imagine you are a young child at Mass in church, listening to the liturgy, the gospel, the homily, and the songs. At the same time, you gaze around and observe the statues and stained-glass windows—images of holy people you are being called to imitate. And you notice that not one of the people in these works—not a single one—looks like you. Such is the case for many Catholic children of color. Happily, six Americans—black, Catholic, and holy—all are on the path to being canonized: Augustus Tolton, Julia Greeley, Thea Bowman, Pierre Toussaint, Henriette Delille, and Mary Elizabeth Lange.

*Catholic Update*—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church tradition and teaching on contemporary topics. [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) • 800-325-9521.



Loving God, help us to quiet ourselves and listen for your voice amidst all the voices in our world. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

### WEEKDAY READINGS

February 17–22

**Monday, Weekday:**

Gn 4:1–15, 25 / Mk 8:11–13

**Tuesday, Weekday:**

Gn 6:5–8; 7:1–5, 10 / Mk 8:14–21

**Wednesday, Weekday:**

Gn 8:6–13, 20–22 / Mk 8:22–26

**Thursday, Weekday:**


Gn 9:1–13 / Mk 8:27–33

**Friday, Weekday:**

Gn 11:1–9 / Mk 8:34–9:1

**Saturday, Chair of St. Peter the Apostle:**

1 Pt 5:1–4 / Mt 16:13–19

Bringing Home  
the Word 

February 16, 2025

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