



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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• 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

BE MERCIFUL.

PARISH CENTER
22412 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528
Website: www.sjascs.org

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

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

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

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

School

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

Faith Formation

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

In-Solidum Priest Team:

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

Fr. 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
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Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

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Deacon Dom Pastore
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Business Manager

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Music Director

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Principal

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Assistant Principal

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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 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



The Complexities of An Outing:

As I mentioned in my video last weekend, traveling with the “BIG Baby” ...

a.k.a. me, requires a ton of

stuff and people. After all, we don’t travel lightly. I have to bring my pillows to prop up my leg, my wedge when needed, a blanket, my iWalk, as well as my knee scooter. It gets a bit unruly at times, but between my mom, my sister, Fr. Bob, Kevin and Barb Hendrick, Sharon Ozark, Deacon Tom, Charlie Kaiser, Tony Latarski, and Fr. Tim Wezner, we’ve developed a system. I hop off my knee scooter near the top of my stairs, strap on my iWalk (a story about that is coming up), and then begin descending my stairs backwards. Once I reach the bottom, I turn around and “walk” to the door until I make it outside.

Once outside and near the vehicle transporting the “BIG Baby,” someone holds the scooter while I disconnect my iWalk. At this point, I use the scooter only for support. Then, I back into the vehicle, slide into the back seat, and properly prop myself up. By the time I’m comfortable and situated, I’m ready for either a vacation or a drink! That’s how our journeys begin.

Over the past five weeks, I’ve only had a few outings, but so far—knock on wood—they’ve been successful without any MAJOR issues (another bulletin article).

The day before we “cut the umbilical cord” last week, my sister Jackie and I had a brilliant idea to take a “journey” to the condo to get things set up so Mom could move back in. After all, she hadn’t been to the condo in a month, and we wanted to make everything ready for her, including stocking up on groceries. Plus, it gave me a chance to get out of the house. It sounded easy ... or so we thought.

To make things simpler, I decided to do both a Kroger and BJ’s curbside pickup order. I ordered the groceries Mom requested, along with some much-needed (or maybe not) snacks for my house and cases of Snapple iced tea and water. But there was just one problem—I didn’t give much thought to how much space was left in the back of my sister’s car after loading my “All-Terrain Souped-Up” knee scooter and iWalk device.

After cramming in the Kroger order, I started to worry that my BJ’s order wouldn’t fit. Unfortunately, I had ordered three cases of water and two cases of Snapple. When we got to BJ’s and the staff brought out the order, Jackie had to go to the back of her car and start rearranging. Miraculously, with some creative shuffling, we got everything to fit. I’m still not sure HOW, but it worked.

Then it hit me—I forgot to call the cavalry (the other family members) to help unload at the condo. I couldn’t do much to assist, and my mom couldn’t handle all the heavy stuff. That left Jackie to unload all the cases of water, iced tea, groceries, scooter, and iWalk on her own. Ugh.

Once they got me inside, I collapsed on the couch and had to sit back, helplessly watching all the activity from afar. And to make matters worse, it had snowed that Super Bowl Sunday, so Jackie also had to shovel and lay down deicer on the driveway. I was exhausted just from watching her.

Finally, with the condo prepped and ready for Mom’s arrival on Monday, it was time to pack me up and load me into the back seat for the return trip to Saint Clair Shores.

When we got to my house, we went through all the usual steps to get me back inside: opening the car door, positioning the scooter, helping me onto it, grabbing the iWalk, strapping it on, climbing all the stairs, removing the iWalk, grabbing the upstairs scooter, helping me transfer to it, and finally, letting me plop into my chair. By the end, I was ready for another vacation.

Once everything was settled, they asked me how I felt. “Exhausted,” I replied. Then we performed the ultimate test to check my status. We pulled off my half-sock to inspect the color of my toes. If they’re any shade of blue, it means I’ve had my foot down too long and need to prop it up. Thankfully, my toes weren’t TOO blue this time, which meant it was a successful outing!

Now it was naptime for everyone ... including me who didn’t do anything but watch it all happen!

It’s exhausting being me! And, I know others will say, “It’s even exhausting taking care of you!”

The Hallow App and a Parish

Partnership: I’ve recently been approached by the good folks at Hallow to consider their parish partnership program. Hallow is a Catholic prayer and meditation app that offers guided prayers, Bible readings, meditations, and spiritual content to help deepen faith and mindfulness. It truly is a great resource!

That said, like many of these wonderful tools, there is a cost involved. After discussing this with some of our staff, we thought it would be best to gauge interest from you, our parish community, before making any decisions. We’re exploring a robust partnership plan that would allow parishioners to access Hallow’s full content for just \$1 for 12 months for the first year (after which it reverts to the free version unless you choose to subscribe). Included would be free and full access to those in the OCIA, our Faith Formation families, and our current school community. We would be able to develop some of our own content and create smaller “communities” to promote prayer groups for our various parish groups.

To help us decide whether moving forward with this Hallow partnership is the right step, we’ve created a simple survey for parishioners to share their feedback. You’ll find more details and a full-page flyer in this week’s bulletin. Your responses will help us determine whether this partnership aligns with our parish’s needs and whether it would be something you’d use and enjoy.

I see many potential benefits in offering Hallow to our community, but I want to ensure it’s something that will resonate with and support you on your faith journey. Please take a moment to participate in the survey and share your thoughts—I value your input!

See the flyer in the bulletin for further details. The survey will only be open for the next two weeks.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org



This Week on Formed

Week of February 23, 2025



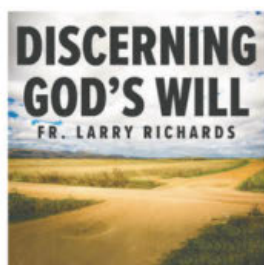
An American Blessed

In May 2020, Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Fr. Michael McGivney, paving the way for his beatification. This documentary highlights Fr. McGivney's fraternal charity, evangelization, and empowerment of the laity.



The Our Father

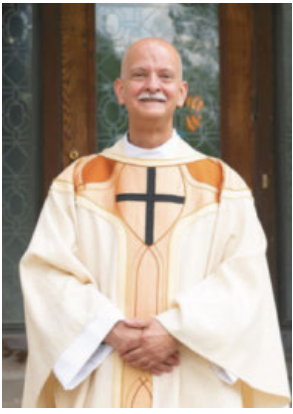
In this episode of his course on the Our Father, Dr. Ben Akers teaches us what we can learn from the perfect model and master of prayer: Jesus himself.



Discerning God's Will

Discovering the will of God can be an intimidating challenge in the spiritual life. Join Fr. Larry Richards as he guides us in this task through practical advice and personal stories! Discovering the will of God can be an intimidating challenge in the spiritual life. Join Fr. Larry Richards as he guides us in this task through practical advice and personal stories!

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



We humans are a hasty bunch. We want what we want NOW! We get an idea in our heads and expect it to happen yesterday. “What’s taking so long?!” We

live extremely hurried lives. Because of the pace we keep, we often feel we are running behind, needing to catch up. We demand of ourselves and others that things happen quickly. It seems like the earliest modern-day outgrowth of our cry for instant gratification was back when “fast food” was actually fast. The burgers and fries were all cooked up and waiting with a timestamp on them for the next customer to place an order. Nowadays, we lean more on technology to satisfy our need for speed. Fast internet connections and fast phones are supposed to solve all of our problems. But it doesn’t really work out that way. In fact, most of our technological advancements have made us *more* frantic.

For one thing, when the technology breaks down, everything comes to a screeching halt. And until some tech guru comes up with a fix, we are dead in the water . . . waiting. Blood pressures rise! Yet, even when our 21st century machines are running smoothly, we just end up pushing ourselves to do more. We treat ourselves like machines that have value only measured by how much we can produce. In our busyness, and bending to the unrealistic expectations of the world, we find ourselves trapped in a dangerously skewed perception of what it means to be a human being.

Even for those of us who may be blessed to avoid the frustrations of our common *worldly* rat race, there still lurks the danger of being ensnared in a *spiritual* kind of rat race. This battle of life usually takes place entirely inside

our heads. The same attitude that enslaves us to worldly demands can form in us a sense that we must also meet spiritual goals that are realistically beyond our reach. Then we find ourselves constantly berating ourselves for not measuring up to some particular spiritual model. We chase after a perfection that is beyond our capabilities. Then, we cuss ourselves out for falling short – for being a failure.

The problem with pursuing unrealistic spiritual perfection is that it cripples our growth in faith. When we load all the responsibility for our eternal well-being onto ourselves, exclusive of God’s faithful promise to help us through Jesus and the Holy Spirit, we will be crushed under the weight of an impossible task. We cannot save ourselves. Eternal salvation comes solely through Jesus Christ. Our role in securing our salvation is to cooperate with Jesus – to receive his love and follow his example. This calls for us to accept that we are being drawn into deeper *faith* in God as our life progresses.

A definition of faith that we find in the Letter to the Hebrews is that “faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (11: 1). This definition seems rather abstract and hard to grasp. [Reread it a few times.] How are we to buy into something we don’t fully grasp as true? How do we make that leap? Our default position regarding belief that something is true is: “Show me! Then I’ll believe it.” So, to be “assured” that something we hope for is truly in our possession – when we cannot see it in front of us – demands that we stretch . . . sometimes a lot. Strong faith comes from the experience of repeated successful leaping. We learn faith by seeing it in others and by *practicing* it ourselves. Faith is tough. It is a gift that wells up from within us. Faith is a virtue that keeps strengthening as we turn to it and stand more and more readily upon it.

We impede the growth of faith in ourselves when we live as if spiritual

perfection is all *our* doing. There is no room for faith to grow when all of our spiritual energy is directed from us *back toward ourselves*. God ends up being a bystander as we spin in a circle of self-dependence. God is pushed to the fringes, wondering why we won’t take him up on his promise to help us. Our tendency to get wrapped up in ourselves, as we seek spiritual growth, does make *some* sense. Our obstinate self-dependence comes from our culture and, in fact, from our wounded human nature. Turning into themselves for all the answers is precisely what Adam and Eve did. They bought Satan’s lie that they owned themselves – that they could be their own masters. It’s a fool’s game, but they freely chose to play. We play as well.

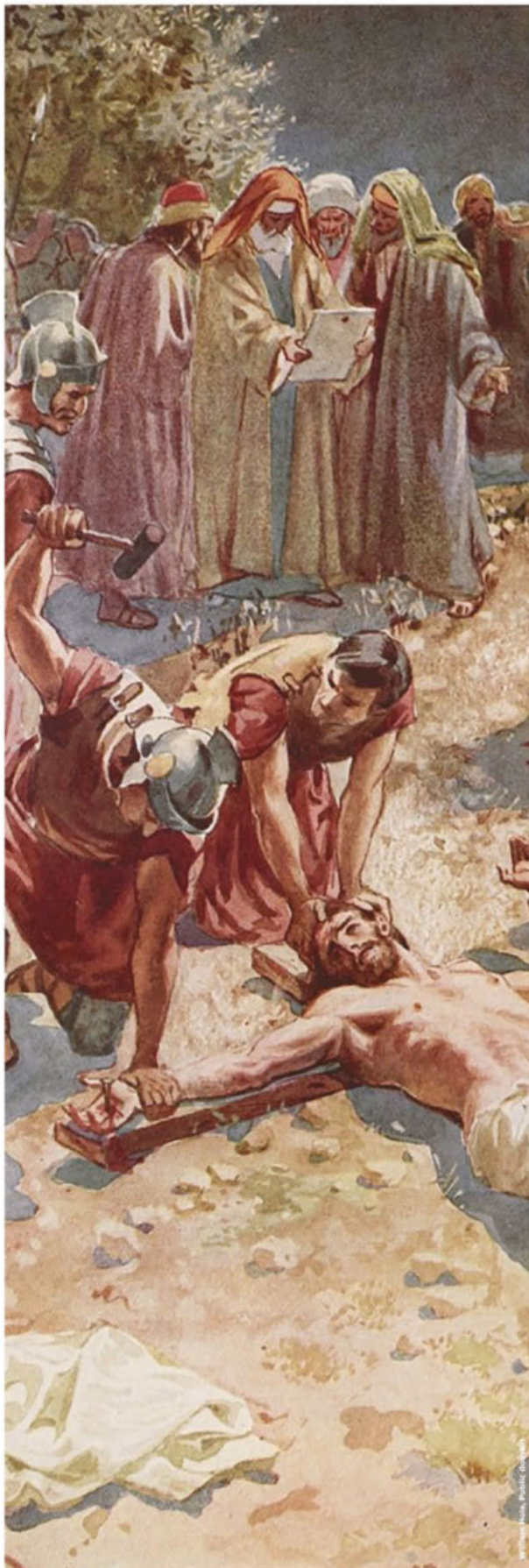
We often play the game in a worldly, materialistic sense, chasing after ‘stuff’ that never truly satisfies. But we also can get sucked into a more costly spiritual game. Certainly, the inclination to seek spiritual (moral) success is indeed more noble than being consumed with worldly success.

But damage is great if spiritual pursuits end up crushing our souls rather than helping them grow more holy. We can avoid spiritual failure by not trying to be holy in isolation. We need help – and God is waiting to provide that help. We just need to ask. Then we simply have to *keep on asking* as we plot out a steady course toward him. It’s silly to do things the hard way when God himself wants to provide the grace for success!

Blessings!

Fr. Bob





February 23, 2025

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 | 1 Cor 15:45-49 | Lk 6:27-38

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

"Love your enemies" may be one of the most oft-quoted verses of Scripture. We tend to think of it as a moral principle to guide us in our dealings with people who rub us the wrong way. But do we ever consider what it tells us about God? After all, Jesus, who is God himself, speaks it. God tells us to love our enemies because God loves his "enemies" – that is, those who freely choose to oppose his plan of life and love. On the cross, Jesus forgave and prayed for the people who sought to kill him *while they were crucifying him*. But his mercy was not confined to that time and place alone; he died for each of us who, whenever we sin, refuse to love him. If we get this into our heads and our hearts – "God loves and forgives *me*" – we can begin to rest in his embrace like children confident in the unconditional love of their father's heart.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

If, as a child, you learned a musical instrument for which regular recitals were the norm, you know how many hours of practice are required for a few short minutes of performance. You know, too, that if you are well prepared, a musical composition which appeared impossible months before comes easily and naturally on the day of the recital. For most of us, loving our enemies as Jesus commands us to do appears far beyond our reach – impossible, in fact. But this kind of heroic love is nevertheless God's call for us, and he will never deny us the grace we need to respond to his call. What's required on our part is a willingness to practice. If we practice loving in small things even when it's difficult – listening patiently to someone whose conversation bores us, for example, or taking on an extra chore without seeking recognition or thanks – we will be prepared for the day when God asks us to make an even greater act of love for his sake.

PRACTICE

This week, go out of your way to find opportunities to love even when it's difficult. Do your best to be conscious of your intentions, even in the moment, by asking God for the grace to love generously and by offering your act of love to him.

Readings for The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – MARCH 2 C

Reading One – Sir 27:4-7

When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear; so do one's faults when one speaks. As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace, so in tribulation is the test of the just. The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had; so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he speaks, for it is then that people are tested.

Responsorial Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, Most High, to proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

The just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be, declaring how just is the LORD, my rock, in whom there is no wrong.

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Reading Two – 1 Cor 15:54-58

Brothers and sisters: When this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: *Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?* The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Alleluia – Phil 2:15d, 16a

Alleluia, alleluia.

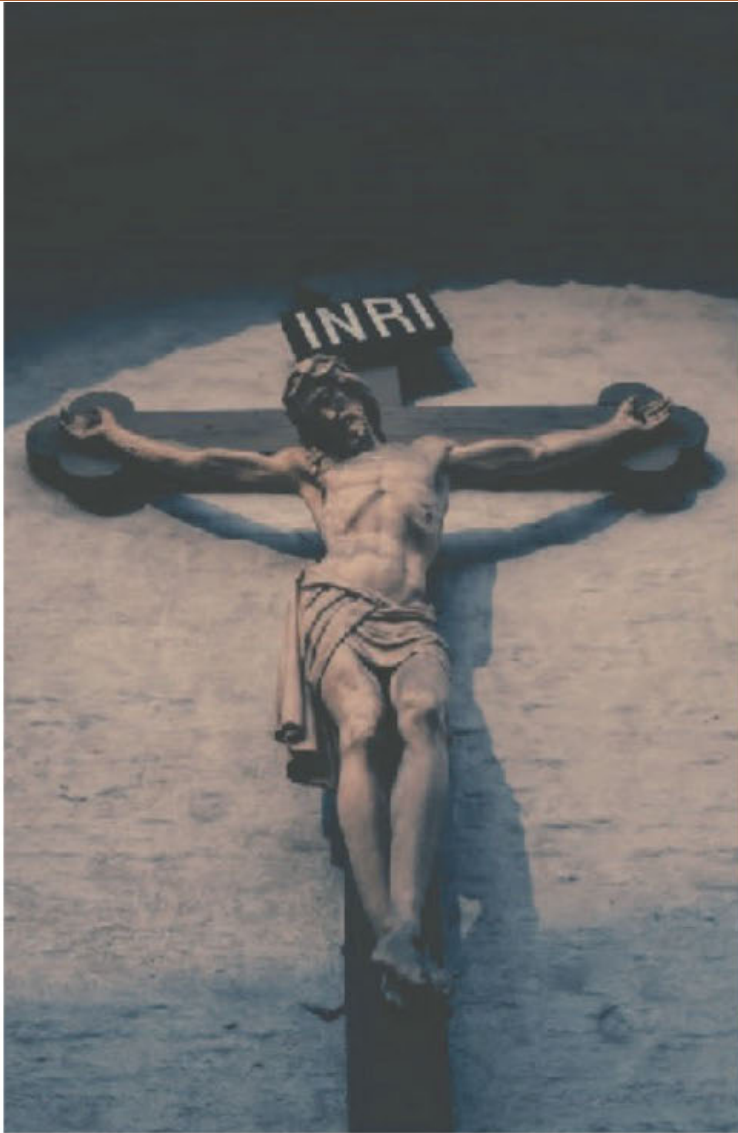
Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Lk 6:39-45

Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher. Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye.

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

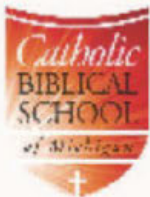


ST. BASIL LENTEN RETREAT TO THE CROSS WITH JESUS



SATURDAY
MARCH 8

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM



Join us to rediscover how Jesus, "having loved his own who were in the world... loved them to the end" (John 13:1). Instructors from the Catholic Biblical School will bring you to the cross with Jesus.

AT ST. BASIL CHURCH EASTPOINTE

22851 LEXINGTON AVE

RSVP by March 3rd

RETREAT INCLUDES

OPTIONAL
8:30 AM MASS

BREAKFAST

3 INSPIRING
TALKS

ADORATION

BRING A BIBLE

RSVP BY MARCH 3RD AT
CBSMICH.ORG/STBASIL
OR CALL/TEXT (586)438-3085

SCAN



Hallow

LIGHT THE WAY FOR HALLOW AT SJA!

TAKE A BRIEF SURVEY TO HELP
US DETERMINE IF A HALLOW
PARTNERSHIP WOULD BE
GOOD FOR SJA AND FOR YOU!



WHAT IS HALLOW?



A FAITH BASED PRAYER APP

Hallow is a Catholic prayer and meditation app designed to help users deepen their spiritual journey



HAS DIVERSE PRAYER CONTENT

The app offers a wide range of content, including daily prayers, Bible readings, rosaries, novenas and even bedtime stories



HELPS PERSONALIZED GROWTH

Set goals, track habits, and customize your journey.



BUILDS COMMUNITY

Pray with others and respond to group challenges.

TAKE THE SURVEY



SCAN THE QR CODE OR GOTO
[SJASCS.ORG/HALLOW-SURVEY](https://sjascs.org/hallow-survey)

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT HALLOW GOTO
[HALLOW.COM](https://hallow.com)

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It saddens me that Christians have somehow gained this reputation as a people who judge, who condemn. Today's Gospel is an invitation for us to consider how we engage with people who disagree with us — or maybe even actively dislike us.

Judgment and Love

"Oh, well. I'm going to hell anyway, right?"

I have a few family members and friends who are not practicing Catholics who say this to me from time to time. It's always spoken in a teasing manner, with a wink and a shoulder shrug, usually to explain away some sort of minor misbehavior they feel guilty about.

It saddens me that Christians have somehow gained this reputation as a people who judge, who condemn. I think in part it stems from a misunderstanding on the part of unchurched people (and lots of churchd ones, too) regarding what constitutes "judging." It is absolutely not "judging" someone to disagree with a personal decision, whatever that decision may be, or to decline from participating in that decision. We all have functioning consciences; we are all supposed to discern the moral goodness of any action before we take it.

But it is judging someone if we allow their decisions to impact how we treat them.

Today's Gospel is an invitation for us to consider how we engage with people who disagree with us — or maybe even actively dislike us. Much is said these days of the "culture wars." I certainly don't disagree that it can often feel like you're fighting a war when you're trying to live as the Church teaches. The forces against you often seem overwhelming and nefarious. And guess what? They are.

But we need to remember who the enemy really is. The enemy is not other children of God, even if they are children of God who are actively promoting ideas that are wrong. Perhaps these people are misguided and mistaken. Perhaps they are misled by the devil. Have we not all been misled by him at some point?

We must interact lovingly with people who think differently and live differently from us. The Christian life absolutely demands it.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

Answer:

Despite the often packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (such as the birth of Christ at Christmas) or celebrate particular people (such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a concept rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth.

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, February 24th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM: Funeral for Cecilia Fornash
7:00 PM: Walking with Purpose

Tuesday, February 25th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, February 26th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
5:00 PM: Reconciliation
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, February 27th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
2:00 PM: Hearts Afire - EH.
7:00 PM: Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, February 28th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM: Funeral for Lynn David Sigurdson

Saturday, March 1st

11:00 AM: Reconciliation
12:30 PM: Baptism of Luca John Spagnuolo
1:30 PM: Baptism of Anthony J. Imbrunnone
4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, March 2nd

8:00 AM: Sunday Mass - Live Streamed
10:00AM: Sunday Mass - Live Streamed
11:00 AM: Family Faith Formation - Gym
12:00 PM: Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

February 23, 2025 – Judge Not!

Let's face it. We are, in general, very quick to judge.

Whether it's people we know personally or people in the public eye we may think we know, give us a little bit of information and we're quick to opine. Those who recognize this tendency in themselves may be better than others at stifling the tendency to provide knee-jerk responses and judgements. Those who do not recognize it, or who don't care, probably give voice to the responses and judgements very quickly.

Local media reported a few weeks ago on a well-known business executive who had filed for divorce. The story angle pursued by most of the reports centered on if and how the divorce proceedings and settlements would impact the executive's business decisions and the health of his enterprises. Most included a request from the couple that their privacy be respected.

But, as might be expected, people weighed in quickly and often cruelly with their opinions on the causes of separation, the expected fallout, and even on matters even more personal. Predictable as the commentary was, it nevertheless was sad to see.

Jesus speaks clearly in today's gospel about how we are expected to treat others. Included is a checklist of do's and do not's, many of which resonate in this situation. And in others, as well.

"Love your enemies and do good to them," Jesus says. "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."

More to it: Keep your mouth shut!

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Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday	February 24, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	Rachel Allemon
Tuesday	February 25, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	The deceased members of the Krolikowski Family
Wednesday	February 26, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	Sr. Carol Juhasz, IHM and Carlos Mallare
6:00 pm	Karen McMahon
Thursday	February 27, 2025 Weekday; Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbott and Doctor of the Church (Green)
7:00 am	David Damm
Friday	February 28, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	George J. Bugarin
Saturday	March 1, 2025 Vigil for the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
4:00 pm	Bonnie Batche, the deceased members of the Calisi Family who died in the month of March, for the living and deceased members of the J. Champine Family, a Special Intention for the Thomas Family and Prayerful Appreciation for the work of the Priests and Staff of St. Joan of Arc
6:00 pm	Giuseppina Ciccone
Sunday	March 2, 2025 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
8:00 am	The Intentions of SJA Parishioners
10:00 am	Sue Krolikowski
12:00 pm	Robert Palonis, Jack Accardo, Jay Barker, Charles Debinski

Daily Readings

Monday, February 24	Friday, February 28
Sirach 1:1-10 Mark 9:14-29	Sirach 6:5-17 Mark 10:1-12
Tuesday, February 25	Saturday, March 1
Sirach 2:1-11 Mark 9:30-37	Sirach 17:1-15 Mark 10:13-16
Wednesday, February 26	Sunday, March 2
Sirach 4:11-19 Mark 9:38-40	Sirach 27:4-7 1Corinthians 15:54-58 Luke 6:39-45
Thursday, February 27	
Sirach 5:1-8 Mark 9:41-50	



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.

**Cecelia Forinash
Beverly Mair**

“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.
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 Upcoming Events

- **Feb. 26th - Pre-Lent Bible study**
- **Mar. 5th - Ash Wednesday Mass & after-Mass chat**
- **Mar. 12 - Pickleball in the SJA school gym**

**Every Wednesday at 7 pm
in the Sr. Carol Center**



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Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

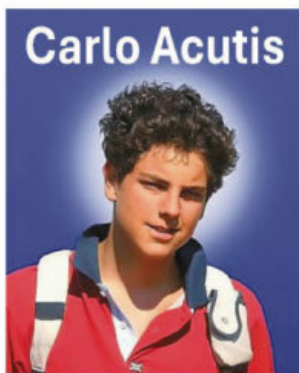
At Our Lady Queen of Apostles | 3851 Prescott Street
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What is a Eucharistic Miracle? Eucharistic Miracles are extraordinary events or phenomena which manifest the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the consecrated bread and wine in a way we can discern 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 15th

Noon — 7:00 PM

Presentation at 3:00 PM

Sunday, March 16th

8:30 AM — 1:00 PM

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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

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Bringing Home the Word

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

February 23, 2025

Love Your Enemies

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Perhaps one of the most difficult mandates that Jesus demanded of his followers is love of enemies. He was not talking about people we do not particularly like or who do not belong to our families, ethnicities, or political groups. He was very clear about this. Jesus was talking about those who actually hate us, cause us physical harm, or take from us what we need to live. This kind of love is not only difficult but seems contrary to a specific kind of justice. This justice is called *retributive justice*, and it maintains that evil deeds should be punished. This kind of justice

is often accomplished by requiring time in jail or issuing a fine.

However, another kind of justice is called *restorative justice*. It maintains that a violation of someone's rights not only harms the victim, but it also fractures society. Therefore, it is not enough for the perpetrator to be punished; society must be restored as well. This might require restoring the victim's sense of personal value or security. At times, some form of community service is required of the perpetrator.

It has been said that the best way to get rid of enemies is to make them friends. That seems to be what Jesus is advocating in today's gospel. If someone has hurt you, overwhelm that person with your kindness, just as God has overwhelmed you with kindness and mercy. †

Sunday Readings

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

The LORD repays everyone's righteousness and faithfulness.

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said,] "Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back."



The best way to get rid of enemies is to make them friends.

A Word from Pope Francis

There is nothing greater and more fruitful than love: it bestows all dignity to the person, while...hatred and vengeance decrease it, marring the beauty of the creature made in God's image. This command, to respond to insult and wrongdoing with love, has created a new culture in the world: "a culture of mercy."

ANGELUS, ROME,
FEBRUARY 24, 2019



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Who has forgiven me?
- Am I withholding forgiveness from anyone? Why?

Forgiveness Is Possible!

Father Eamon Tobin

When I listen to very painful hurts and injustices that some people have had to endure, I do understand why they would have absolutely no desire to forgive and let go of hurts and wrongs done to them. I even understand why some people may conclude that it would be wrong to forgive some hurts and grave injustices. Some people find it repulsive to even think about forgiving certain hurts. Unfortunately, the consequence of such a stance is that people are trapped in a sea of bitterness and continue to be controlled emotionally by those who have inflicted terrible hurts or injustice upon them. When we choose not to forgive, we knowingly or unknowingly choose to cheat ourselves of the joy of living. When we live life with resentment in our hearts, our resentment becomes the lens



through which we see reality and people. We see them not as they are but as how our resentment wants us to see them.

Others who have been grievously hurt feel that forgiveness is way beyond their reach. On a human level, forgiveness is beyond many people's reach. That is why we often hear the saying "To err is human, but to forgive is divine." With the

grace of God, all things are possible—even forgiving what seems like an unforgivable sin or crime.

[For example,] Father Jenco, one of the Beirut hostages, forgave those who had starved, degraded, and brutalized him. He said that only when he was able to forgive his kidnappers was he able to enjoy his freedom. Fortunately, for the vast majority of us, we never have to forgive wrongs or crimes like these. Most of the issues we deal with are relational hurts between family members, friends, neighbors, fellow parishioners, or coworkers. I realize that some such hurts can be very big, but many are not, and yet we choose to hold on to grudges about some hurts for years. Sadly, many people take their hurts to the grave. †

From *How to Forgive Yourself and Others: Steps to Reconciliation* by Father Eamon Tobin, Liguori Publications (815324). Available at Liguori.org.

Wisdom from Catholic UPDATE

From "Blessed John Paul I: A Smile on the Face of Christianity" by Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

For thirty-four days in 1978, Pope John Paul I led the Church in one of the shortest papacies in history. In this brief period, he had no time to write encyclicals, change policy, canonize saints, or implement the primary goals of his pontificate, which included a revision of canon law—a task his successor carried out in 1983. Yet, in spite of his few official actions, the humanity and holiness of John Paul I left an indelible imprint on the hearts of the faithful and helped lead to his beatification (officially, September 4, 2022).

Catholic Update—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church tradition and teaching on contemporary topics. Liguori.org • 800-325-9521.

PRAYER

Merciful God, teach us to forgive, even those who have hurt us or harmed those we love, so that we may be witnesses to your forgiveness. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 24–March 1

Monday, Weekday:
Sir 1:1–10 / Mk 9:14–29

Tuesday, Weekday:
Sir 2:1–11 / Mk 9:30–37

Wednesday, Weekday:
Sir 4:11–19 / Mk 9:38–40

Thursday, Weekday:
Sir 5:1–8 / Mk 9:41–50

Friday, Weekday:
Sir 6:5–17 / Mk 10:1–12

Saturday, Weekday:
Sir 17:1–15 / Mk 10:13–16

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