



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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2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." - Lk 9:34-35

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22412 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528
Website: www.sjascscs.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
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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
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In-Solidum Priest

Team:

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Lead for SJA

Fr. Robert Voiland
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Msgr. Gary Smetanka
(Moderator)
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Fr. Jim Commyn
parish@stlucychurch.com

Fr. Eric Fedewa
frericstbasil@comcast.net

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Permanent Deacons

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Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
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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



Another Goal ... VANISHED:

Sometimes my eager goals vanish into thin air, much like my Lenten resolutions do every year. I try, I really do, but my

failure rate can be pretty high sometimes.

Before surgery, I had this high and lofty goal that while I was just sitting around for a few months recovering, I could 1) get things done that didn't require movement (like paperwork, programming, and computer projects), and 2) lose some weight! I really thought both could be accomplished. Well, I'm now well beyond the halfway mark, and while the first goal saw some minor action, the second goal of avoiding sweets (only eating fruit and healthy options) never even saw the light of day! What was I supposed to do when a plate of chocolate chip cookies fell into my hands? Pass them along? Absolutely not.

At first, the goal crumbled when I met "Mr. Pain." Once my pain pump was removed on day five, and the nerves started waking up, something had to quell the pain! If there's one thing I've learned, it's that pain changes everything. Sure, I've had headaches and minor pains before, but I've never had sustained pain like this! I never really understood the saying, "Stay ahead of the pain," until I thought I could do it on my own, only to land in intense pain waiting for the next pill to take effect. It was a humbling life lesson.

While it was easy to blame "Mr. Pain" for my lack of willpower, once the pain subsided (about three weeks ago), I figured I could try my lofty goals again. But no. I just kept eating. And when you're wearing baggy gym pants that work around a cast and avoid stepping on the scale, you don't notice the extra pounds creeping up. One day, I tried stepping on the scale—with one foot. Before I lost my balance and nearly fell, I caught a glimpse of a number that made me scream loud enough for cars on Mack to hear.

Honestly, all I've been doing is eating. Just the other day, during a family Zoom call, someone asked about dinner. Embarrassed but honest, I had to admit I ate the rest of Debbie's Chicken Corn Chowder, the last FOUR slices of Barb's Irish Soda Bread, two of MacKenzie's Chocolate Chip Cookies, and probably the last four of the 12 Timbits Fr. Rich had

dropped off that morning. After flashing all the empty containers, I got the classic "MICHAEL!" from my mom and sister Jackie. I just shrugged and laughed.

But it must be showing. Case in point—with my downtown job, I often need to record interviews. One interview happened without me, and later I had to process it through my AI transcription service. During the interview, the speaker (we'll call him Father Tim) said, "I know. He's tall, big, and all that extra weight—that's got to be hard on his ankles." Honestly? He's not wrong. One of my doctors said every pound of weight is the equivalent of ten pounds of pressure on your feet and ankles.

Now, where did those chocolate chip cookies go? I think I saved the last one for tonight! There will be more tomorrow. I've got all summer to lose weight!

Some Advice from a Parishioner: At least once a year I publish the text from an anonymous letter I received in 2005 shortly after the First Sunday of Lent. The scripture readings each First Sunday of Lent tell the story of Jesus being led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by Satan. The letter offers timeless advice, and it warrants being reprinted frequently. Usually, I toss anonymous letters right away, but this one escaped that fatal ending. By God's grace, this letter has touched the hearts of many people at SJA and beyond (you would be amazed how many times I'm asked for a copy of it). I encourage you to keep a copy AND to pass a copy around to your family and friends. If you want a copy of the letter, I have posted a PDF copy of it on the homepage of our parish website.

"Fr. Bugarin, I was very moved by your homily on Sunday, February 13, 2005, regarding Hell, Satan, and the response of faithful people to temptation. I am the father of an adult son and daughter, and it pains me to think of the mistakes my wife and I made in raising our children. We thought we had a clever, well thought out solution to the dangers and evils of the world, but instead we were victims of our over estimation of our own perceived abilities and power. In so doing we neglected the saving power and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the intercessory power of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"Knowing the evils and temptations of our world, my wife and I sought to shield our children through endless activity. Like many other parents, we got our son

involved in hockey and our daughter in dance; our goal was to keep our children busy and thus not give them a chance to get in trouble. However, I now realize that in engaging in a futile attempt to shield our children from battle with the Devil we were instead merely failing to equip our children for their inevitable battles with Satan. We attempted a human solution to a spiritual problem, and our human limitations and inadequacies resulted in failure. We failed to fill our children with Christ, and instead left a vacuum too easily exploited by Satan.

"In focusing our children on endless activity we created selfish, self-centered children. By failing to involve them in Catholic charitable works we taught them to believe they were the centers of their own universes. We replaced rosaries, adoration and bible study with ice time, games and recitals. We missed Sunday masses for tournaments and catechism for performances, and we rationalized it by asserting that it was 'for the best.' How wrong we were.

"Today, both of our children have left the Church. Our daughter is living with a man and has had an abortion; our son has experimented with drugs and regards the Church with contempt and cynicism. Our first priority should have been to pass on the faith and to teach trust in the Lord; instead, we relied on our human intellect and put our faith in schemes of this world.

"If I could only go back in time I'd make every Sunday mass as a family, lead my family in a weekly rosary, take my children to pray in front of an abortion clinic, lead them in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and help them volunteer at a soup kitchen. For despite our best efforts and intentions there still were times my children were alone and lonely, tired and weak, hungry and desirous. I failed to anticipate and prepare my children for those inevitable times of temptation, and the Devil had been patiently waiting.

"Father, please print my letter in the church paper. If it will serve as a warning to at least one family it may help them to avoid the pain and regret my wife and I have experienced. An Anonymous St. Joan of Arc Parishioner."

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

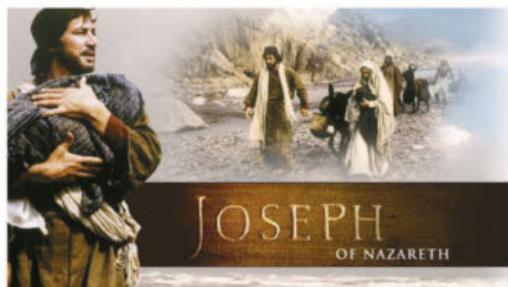
In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org



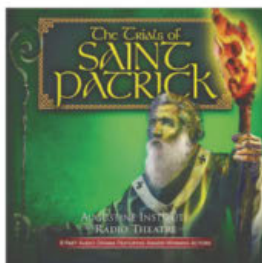
This Week on Formed

Week of March 16, 2025



Joseph of Nazareth

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.



St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father

While the Gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. St. Joseph stands out as the model par excellence of Christian virtue. Encounter St. Joseph in a new way with St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father.

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

This week, I would like to revisit my bulletin article from last week. In it, I feel that I used far too many words in an attempt to make a rather simple point. In the wordiness of that article, I think the basic message I was trying to relate may have been lost. So, I'll start here with as tight a restatement as I can, of the idea I was trying to relate in that article: *To live a truly moral life, we must strive to pay **constant** attention to doing the right thing – **without interruption**.* I know that "constantly" and "without interruption" mean the same thing. But I repeat it because constancy is critical to moral success. That was the whole point of the article: moral living is a full-time job.

What I presented in much of last week's article just expanded on my core argument for *constant* moral action. I spent much time explaining how we try to *avoid* constant moral living. I suggested that we intentionally compartmentalize our lives so that we can escape from thinking about *everything* in moral terms. For instance, if we think family life and church life (where we learn about morality) are separate categories, then we have an excuse to not mix the two together. We can put on our "religion hat" one minute, then switch it out for our "family hat" the next. As a result, we rationalize that Christ-like love, which we learn about in our Catholic religion, doesn't have to apply to strained family relationships. Furthermore, if career and church are split into different compartments in our lives, morals and business don't have to mix either. The bottom line in business will be profit and efficiency instead of honesty and justice. The internal conflict that results from splitting apart aspects of our lives is like leaving Mass on Sunday, only to cuss out the rest of our fellow parishioners as everyone exits the crowded parking lot. There is a complete disconnect between the moral life and whatever else we consider to be "life as usual."

My further point, last week, was that

we won't make serious progress in our moral life if we continually bounce back and forth between a life of virtue and a life of vice. The progress we make by living virtuously can be easily erased by a fall back into sin. A lot of goodness can be swallowed up by just a little bit of potent evil. We need to be relentless in living right. We don't want to give up *any* ground we have conquered in our spiritual battles. It takes too much of a toll when we backtrack.

Addendum: Witnessing heroic virtue should give us a much deeper appreciation of Saints, particularly young Saints, who maintained their goodness and purity from early on in life. Instead of being jealous or hostile toward people who have led consistently 'good' lives from their early years, we should be appreciative and admire them. The world often derides and makes fun of people who are simple and innocent. We should not join in with such ridicule. The book of Wisdom speaks about "the just man, though he die early . . . having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career, for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness" (7, 13-14).

It seems that this may be what happens with young people who die far too early in our estimation, but who have actually found favor with God.

A Request: Would you consider being a Eucharistic Minister to the homebound?

We will be rolling out this ministry soon. A number of our elderly St. Joan parishioners are unable to come

to church and sorely miss receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. A few generous volunteers have come forward, but we need more. There is a notice elsewhere in this bulletin explaining how to volunteer. Please pray about possibly offering your time for this important ministry.

LASTLY, a parishioner gave me this delightful image of Lent that you may find inspiring:

Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome aboard Flight LENT 2025, with a final destination of Easter Sunday!

This 40-day journey will be one of reflection, prayer, and renewal. Please fasten your faith, secure your sacrifices, and let go of all unnecessary baggage.

In-flight services will **not** include meat or dairy, but we will be serving unlimited supply of grace, mercy, and spiritual nourishment. Turbulence may occur, but trust the Captain – He knows the way.

Thank you for choosing Repentance Airlines. We wish you a blessed and transformative journey.

See you at the Resurrection Gate!

Happy Lenten Travels!

Fr. Bob





March 16, 2025

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18 | Phil 3:17—4:1 | Lk 9:28b-36

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

As humans, we are often burdened with heavy crosses. Experiences of loss, lack, failure, and betrayal can riddle our existence, leaving us fatigued and with a weary question in our hearts: What is this all for? And then, we look up. We raise our gaze and see before us the transfigured face of Christ. Having taken on our human form, Jesus stands before us in radiant glory. As we take in the scene, our senses mingling somewhere between admiration and alarm, we remember the promise he made to us. The promise that we, too, will be made new. The promise that our bodies will also be redeemed, and our burdens will be relieved. And as we remember, we respond, like the disciples, “It is good that we are here.” The life of discipleship, at times, can seem to require more than it rewards. But in these moments of intimate encounter, when we see glimpses of Jesus’ beautiful face, he reminds us why we are here on this mountain: to love, to serve, and eventually to reap our eternal reward.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We see why we are here on the mountain, but today’s readings also reveal a weighty reality: before we are transformed, we must *climb* that mountain. The whole story of Jesus’ life is this: before a promise is fulfilled, sacrifice is offered. Our human existence, without the mercy and mission given us by Christ, is empty. But taking up the cross of Christ and following him toward glory, we find our purpose. Earth is our pilgrimage, and our journey will most certainly be punctuated by peaks and valleys. But today, St. Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Philippians that we won’t be carrying around these crosses forever. Though strapped with suffering for a time, we know our eternal destination: “Our citizenship is in heaven.”

REFLECT

Lent is inherently a season of waiting for the fulfillment of a promise. In our own lives, we may be aching for transformation, perhaps for ourselves, or for another. Remember: God enters deeply into our lives, dwelling so intimately with us that he syncs his every breath with ours. Take the next week to think and pray about how the Lord may be asking you to be transformed. Pray today’s Psalm each day, and “Wait for the Lord with courage.”

Readings for The Third Sunday of Lent



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 23

Reading One – Ex 17:3-7

In those days, in their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? a little more and they will stone me!" The LORD answered Moses, "Go over there in front of the people, along with some of the elders of Israel, holding in your hand, as you go, the staff with which you struck the river. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel. The place was called Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled there and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD in our midst or not?"

Responsorial Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works."

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Reading Two – Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access

by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Verse Before the Gospel – Jn 4:42, 15

Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Gospel – Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go call your husband and come back." The woman answered and said to him, "I do

Readings Con't / Women at the Well Retreat

not have a husband." Jesus answered her, "You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is

from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one speaking with you."

At that moment his disciples returned, and were amazed that he was talking with a woman, but still no one said, "What are you looking for?"

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Women at the Well

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT

MASS TALKS COMMUNITY REFLECTION ADORATION CONFESSION

SAT. APRIL 5 8AM-4PM

ST. ISAAC JOGUES CATHOLIC CHURCH, ST. CLAIR SHORES



\$25, Scholarships Available

Hosted by the
Dominican Sisters of Mary
and the
SIJ Women's Club

SIGN UP HERE

LENT 2025

 St. Joan^{of} Arc

Reconciliation

weekly in the Sr. Carol Center

- Mondays at 1 pm
- Wednesdays at 4:30-6 pm
- Saturdays at 11 am

Vicariate Reconciliation Services

- Thursday, April 10 at 1 pm at St. Margaret of Scotland
- Monday, April 14 at 7 pm at St. Joan of Arc

Holy Hour with Music

in the church

- Thursdays from 7-8 pm

Stations of the Cross

every Friday during Lent
at 7 pm in the church

Simple Soup Supper before Stations of the Cross from
4:30-6:30 on Fridays March 21 and April 4, with chld
friendly setting of the Stations of the Cross.

Livestream Stations and Holy Hours at stjoan.church



Quarterly First Friday Evening Vigil of Reparation at St. Basil the Great in Eastpointe

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

- 7 pm- Stations of the Cross
- 7:30 pm- Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 8:30 pm- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament inside church w/hymns; additional confession time following procession if needed.
- 9 pm- Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 9:30 pm- quiet adoration and staggered 10-minute break
- 10:00 pm – Joyful mysteries
- *Luminous mysteries will be prayed time permitting
- 10:30 pm -Prayers of Reparation and prayer for the entrustment of the family
- 11pm- Sorrowful mysteries, Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Consecration to the Immaculate heart of Mary
- 11:30 pm- Procession of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima inside church w/hymns
- 11:45 pm -Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Vigil concludes with prayers for intentions of the Holy Father, one our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory be

When: April 4, 2025 from 7 pm to 12 midnight

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

We welcome you to join us any time throughout the event, even if you are unable to stay for the full five hours.

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, March 17th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM: Funeral for Dr. Ralph Paonessa
10:00 AM: Walking with Purpose
1:00 PM: Reconciliation
7:00 PM: Walking with Purpose

Tuesday, March 18th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, March 19th

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

Thursday, March 20th

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

Friday, March 21st

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
7:00 PM: Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 22nd

10:00 AM: Funeral for Frank Sosnowski
11:00 AM: Reconciliation
12:30 PM: Baptism of Amelia J. Allen
1:30 PM: Baptism of Sofia Ann Martz
4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, March 23rd

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

Words on the Word

March 16, 2025 – On the Mountain

Fame is fickle and, alas, fortune is fleeting.

Headlines were made a few weeks ago when the S&P 500, a bellwether for the overall health of the stock market, slipped from two consecutive days of record highs. The Dow Jones Industrial Average and Nasdaq composite indices also slipped.

All three drop-offs, according to reports, were triggered by a well-known national retailer forecasting lower-than-anticipated profit expectations.

Now, to be sure, the ups and downs of the stock market are normal, expected and, from a certain vantage point, quite fun to watch.

That said, seeing a proverbial mountaintop of valuations, and then retreating, also can be disappointing. Such is the world in which we live. It's against that backdrop that today's gospel passage resonates so strongly.

"Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray," St. Luke writes. "While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem."


The mountaintops of this world – be they literal, physical mountaintops, or figurative pinnacles such as fame, fortune, honor, success, and comfort – are splendid. But they always fall short. The transcendence of Jesus' victory on the cross, by contrast, never fades, never wanes, and never falls short. And it was done, we know, for each and every one of us.

"Our citizenship is in heaven," St. Paul writes to the Philippians in today's second reading. "And from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself."

2025, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday	March 17, 2025 Lenten Weekday; Saint Patrick, Bishop (Purple)
7:00 am	Aniello Mazella 
Tuesday	March 18, 2025 Lenten Weekday; Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Purple)
7:00 am	Special Intention for Peg & Jack Shaughnessy
Wednesday	March 19, 2025 Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (White)
7:00 am	Angeline Calus
6:00 pm	Concetta (Tina) Calisi
Thursday	March 20, 2025 Lenten Weekday (Purple)
7:00 am	George J. Bugarin
Friday	March 21, 2025 Lenten Weekday (Purple)
7:00 am	Special Intention for Joe Schotthoefer
Saturday	March 22, 2025 Vigil for the Third Sunday in Lent (Purple)
4:00 pm	Doreen Saur, Pierre Zaranek, Lewis & Charlotte McQuillan, Bonnie Batche, Terri Smigels, Helen Mastay, Joseph Snyder, for the living and deceased members of the J. Champine Family, Special Intention for the Thomas Family and for Nick & Ann Marie Cantrell
6:00 pm	Raymond Strussione
Sunday	March 23, 2025 Third Sunday of Lent (Purple)
8:00 am	The Intentions of SJA Parishioners
10:00 am	Frank Seleno
12:00 pm	Joseph Paluzzi Jr., George J. Bugarin, Thomas Sloan, Special Intentions for Christina McGuckin and for Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron.

Daily Readings

Monday, March 17

Daniel 9:4b-10
Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday, March 18

Isaiah 1:10-20
Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday, March 19

2 Samuel 7:4-16
Romans 4:13-22
Matthew 1:16-24a

Thursday, March 20

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Luke 16:19-31

Friday, March 21

Genesis 37:3-28a
Matthew 21:33-46

Saturday, March 22

Micah 7:14-20
Luke 15:1-32

Sunday, March 23

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15
1 Corinthians 10:1-12
Luke 13:1-9



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.

Dr. Ralph Paonessa
Mary Pore’
Sue Trupiano
Frank Sosnowski
Fr. Daniel C. Complo

“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.

Bring Holy Communion to the Homebound

We need volunteers to help take Holy Communion to homebound parishioners. Volunteers will be matched with homebound Communicants as availability and schedules allow. Schedules will be flexible to accommodate the needs of volunteers and our homebound parishioners. Volunteers need to meet the Archdiocesan requirements for those who volunteer.

Contact Fr. Bob Voiland at rvoiland@sjascs.org
or leave a message for him at 586-777-3670

SJA High School Youth Group MARCH EVENTS

- March 19th - "Why Be Catholic and not only Christian?" and small group chat
- March 26 - Monthly Service Project

**Weekly
meetings
Weds at 7 pm!**



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(St. Patrick!)



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- Project Rachel – email: projectrachel@aod.org or (888)722-4355 (no text)
- Online registration – go to: www.aod.org/project-rachel
- Mail-in registration – see form below

Mail-in registration form:

Print Name _____

Check all methods we can use to confidentially advise you of the retreat location:

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Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

Second Sunday of Lent (C)

March 16, 2025

Who Was This Man?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Peter, John, and James must have asked this question themselves. This Jesus was certainly not the man they had come to know. Here he was radiant, and his clothing was dazzling. Furthermore, he was in deep conversation with two of the greatest heroes of the religious tradition: Moses, the agent of the law; and Elijah the prophet. And then there was that voice that identified Jesus as “my chosen Son” and commanded them to “listen to him” (Luke 9:35). What were they to think? What would anyone think? Who was this man?

Jesus’ own experience was quite

different. While he prayed, he was transfigured, and in that transformed state, he engaged Moses and Elijah in conversation. They discussed his future death in Jerusalem, his exodus, his deliverance. It is important to note that they maintain that his exodus was to be his own accomplishment—not a deed done to him. Who was this man?

It was the mysterious voice from the cloud that provided an answer to that question: “This is my chosen Son.” But what did “my Son” mean? Unlike we who profess faith in the Trinity, it’s likely the disciples still had to learn what being God’s Son was all about. However, they must have realized that it meant something about Jesus’ relationship with God. Every aspect of this mystifying experience told them so. When they came to their senses, the light had disappeared, the ancient men were gone, the voice was silent. And there he was again, the man they had come to know. But who was this man? †



It was the mysterious voice from the cloud that provided an answer.

A Word from Pope Francis

After the labors of each day, it will do us good not to switch off the light in the room without placing ourselves in the light of God... Wonder at the boundless love of God, who never tires of us and has the power to transfigure our days, to give them a new meaning, a new, unexpected light.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 13, 2022



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How would I have reacted to the transfiguration of Jesus?
- How have I witnessed an inner light in people I thought were ordinary?

Sunday Readings

Genesis 15:5–12, 17–18

The Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: To your descendants I give this land.

Philippians 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 9:28b–36

While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.



Resurrection Eyes

Paige Byrne Shortal

Did you ever wonder why Jesus chose who he did to be his apostles? Peter, for instance. No disrespect intended, but he seems so ill-suited to the job.

In response to the

transfiguration of Jesus, Peter babbles on about building three little houses, one each for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. Luke's Gospel even goes so far as to say that Peter didn't know what he was talking about. I wonder if Peter didn't want to somehow put this experience in terms he could understand. After all, there's his friend Jesus, lit up like a Christmas tree and chatting with two long-dead heroes of the Bible. That had to be pretty awesome, but confusing, too. Sometimes when we can't stretch enough, we try instead to keep God as small as we are. We decide what God can forgive and what is unforgiveable, who God can save and who is beyond salvation, what is possible and what is not.

After Peter goes on about building three little houses, what

happens? A voice from the clouds says, "Peter, hush. You're missing it. This is my Son. Listen to him!" (Well, those weren't the voice's exact words, but that was the drift.) Who really changed? Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, the One who was at the beginning of time

and who will be at the end? Or was the change in Peter, John, and James? I can imagine Jesus walking along the dusty roads of Palestine, shining like the sun, maybe conversing with a long-dead prophet or two. But folks didn't notice. They only saw the carpenter's son. We see what we want to see, what we expect to see.

I figure what could have happened up on that mountain is that the eyes of the disciples were opened to the way Jesus was all the time. They were given a glimpse of the true truth, a deeper reality. For just a moment, they were given "resurrection eyes."

From *Live Lent at Home: Daily Prayers and Activities for Families* by Paige Byrne Shortal, Liguori Publications (818691). Available from Liguori Publications. To order, call 800-325-9521 or visit Liguori.org.

**We see what
we want to see,
what we expect
to see.**

Wisdom from Catholic Update

From "'Lent Day by Day: Living Our Beliefs" by John Shea

The memory of hurt festers. Though we may not swear an oath of vengeance in a public way, merely entertaining inner scenarios of reprisal about how we can get even causes real damage. They color our mental and emotional life and ready us for justifiable violence. The Sermon on the Mount is clear: The inner life is the prelude to action. It counts. So be careful of what festers in the mind.

Catholic Update—a subscription newsletter published eleven times a year—explores Church tradition and teaching on contemporary topics. For more information, call 800-325-9521, or visit Liguori.org.



Lord Jesus, so that we may look for the inner light of others and encourage their light to shine, we pray—Lord, let us be like you. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

March 17–22

Monday, Lenten Weekday: Dn 9:4b–10 / Lk 6:36–38

Tuesday, Lenten Weekday: Is 1:10, 16–20 / Mt 23:1–12

Wednesday, St. Joseph: 2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22 / Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Lk 2:41–51a

Thursday, Lenten Weekday: Jer 17:5–10 / Lk 16:19–31

Friday, Lenten Weekday: Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a / Mt 21:33–43, 45–46

Saturday, Lenten Weekday: Mi 7:14–15, 18–20 / Lk 15:1–3, 11–32

Bringing Home
the Word 

March 16, 2025

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