



# 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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## 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" - Lk 12:49

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

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**PARISH CENTER**  
**22412 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-777-3670  
Email: [Info@sjascs.org](mailto:Info@sjascs.org)  
Website: [www.sjascs.org](http://www.sjascs.org)

**SCHOOL**  
**22415 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-775-8370  
Email: [Info@stjoan.net](mailto:Info@stjoan.net)  
Website: [www.stjoan.net](http://www.stjoan.net)

**FAITH AND FAMILY**  
**FORMATION OFFICE**  
**22415 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-772-1282  
Email: [REPinfo@sjascs.org](mailto:REPinfo@sjascs.org)

## Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

### ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

#### Parish Center

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

#### School

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

#### Faith Formation

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

#### In-Solidum Priest Team:

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

Fr. Robert Voiland  
rvoiland@sjascs.org

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

Fr. Jim Commyn  
parish@stlucychurch.com

Fr. Eric Fedewa  
frericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla  
stveronicaeast@comcast.net

#### Non-Resident Priest Support

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

#### Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz  
tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore  
dpastore@sjascs.org

#### Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone  
dciaffone@sjascs.org

#### Music Director

Catherine Trudell  
ctrudell@sjascs.org

#### Principal

Amy Pattie  
apattie@stjoan.net

#### Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser  
ckaiser@stjoan.net

#### Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass  
khass@sjascs.org

#### Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

#### 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 - 4:00pm**  
**Friday: Closed During the Summer**

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**



## The Pet Peeves of Doing Laundry:

I'm one of those odd people who likes doing laundry. I know, call me crazy. I hate ironing, but I don't mind doing

laundry. When a load of laundry is done, it seems like a great accomplishment in the midst of a busy day. If I don't get anything significant done in a day, I can say that I at least got a load of laundry done! And I'm always amazed at how fast it piles up.

But there are several aspects of laundry, besides the ironing part, that drive me crazy. In fact, they are pet peeves of mine! I know there are some solutions to these problems, but I've never really taken the time to explore them.

The first pet peeve has to do with sheets. I know there are all kinds of solutions to this one, but it drives me nuts when sheets get tangled up in the washing machine or dryer. I find it really maddening when it happens in the dryer because you go to your dryer thinking everything is all nice and dry, and then you find this huge wad of sheets all tangled together that are still damp when the rest of the clothes are dry. Yes, I've heard about the tennis ball or dryer ball trick, or the other gizmo that you connect the ends of the sheets together, but I've never tried those solutions.

The second pet peeve is when I forget that I left a load of clothes in the washing machine. You cannot imagine how many times I've started a load only to remember several days later that I never put the load in the dryer. Then, I do the smell test with the wet clothes. If they smell, they get to go for another cycle. I think the greatest number of times a load had to be washed was three times. The easy solution would be to set a reminder on my phone for the end of the day. But that has never happened either.

My third biggest pet peeve about doing laundry, and one that seems to be rather universal, has to do with socks. I laugh at how many stories are out there about how to deal with socks in the laundry. Socks seem to have this great ability to play a disappearing act. And sometimes the disappearing act happens well before the socks even hit the washing machine. Earlier this week, I was grumbling because a sock went unaccounted for once I got to my washing machine, and I wasn't going

to start the load until I found that missing sock. In the end, it had slipped out of my pile as I was dragging my clothes down from the second floor.

The following story happened while I was still in the early recovery period from my foot surgery. For those first several months, I couldn't do much of anything other than roam around the second floor of my house ... and that second floor is pretty small. So, I was dependent on my family, staff, and friends to help with all kinds of things. That included everything from meals to helping me get up and down the stairs for appointments, driving, and even doing my laundry.

My sister Jackie got the short end of the stick for having to do the bulk of my laundry while I was recovering. But there was one incident where she was pretty annoyed after doing a load. When she returned after doing this particular load of laundry, you could tell by her face and her tone that she was pretty irritated. I didn't pursue it at first, but after she folded the clothes, she joined my mom and me in the little sitting room we created on the second floor of my house. Jackie then shared the reason for her frustration. She lost a sock, and it was driving her crazy that she couldn't find it in the laundry she had just done. After she finished her tale of frustration, I smiled and said, "Jackie, remember I'm only wearing one sock at a time right now. That's why you can't find the other one. The other one never made it to the laundry because it's sitting in my sock drawer." She let out a sigh and rolled her eyes. She had forgotten I was still in a cast, and one sock of each pair of socks would be unemployed for some time!

**The Consequences of Living a Busy, Hurried Life (Part 4):** In Part 3 of *The Consequences of Living a Busy, Hurried Life*, I shared how we need to be intentional in making time for prayer and others. I recalled the story of Martha and Mary and how Jesus was straightforward in His challenge to Martha when He said, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her (Luke 10:41-42)." The "one thing" necessary is prioritizing time with God over life's distractions. Whenever we prioritize tasks over connectedness, whether with others or with God, we risk losing sight of the "one thing necessary." *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC 2697) quotes a great line from Saint Gregory of Nazianzus that is worth

reflecting upon: "We must remember God more often than we draw breath."

Many people ask for suggestions on how to make prayer possible in the midst of extremely busy lives. There are several suggestions I would like to offer.

The first suggestion is to set a reminder on your phone or calendar to pray. Don't make it a recurring time every day because the ebb and flow of our days can make it impossible to keep the exact prayer time each day. A better solution would be to look at your day first thing in the morning, find pockets of time that might work for you THAT day, and then schedule it. Don't think it has to be long, drawn-out periods. Your time with God today might only be a half hour, while other days might allow for an hour of reflection or prayer. Further, I'm a big proponent of the idea that the quality of time is more important than the quantity of time. Sure, you could spend an hour praying, but if you're distracted the whole time, you may not accomplish much other than sitting for an hour. God wants your full attention, not just a part of it.

The second suggestion is to remember that your prayer will be different from someone else's prayer. This doesn't mean that one person's prayer is better than another's. It simply means that each of us prays differently, and that's okay. Some enjoy praying the Rosary or the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Others prefer the Liturgy of the Hours. Some reflect on Sacred Scripture, while others might use traditional or contemporary music as a form of prayer. Some sit in silence. Some may even use a combination of all these methods. That's okay. What matters most is that you dwell in the presence of God in ways that allow you to grow closer to Him.

The third suggestion is to establish places of prayer. One of the most obvious places of prayer is in a church or chapel. Another place of prayer could be your bedroom or a quiet corner in your home. I believe it is essential to establish several places of prayer that become automatic go-to spaces depending on what your heart is drawn to at the moment. If you establish these places of prayer and remain mindful of them, you are more likely to seek one of them out when your heart feels the need.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb  
gmb@sjascs.org



# This Week on Formed

## Week of August 17, 2025



### Saint Bernard of Clairvaux | Catholic Saints

Who was St. Bernard of Clairvaux? In this FORMED Now episode, Dr. Ben Akers is joined by Dr. John Sehorn to discuss this great saint and Doctor of the Church.



### The Queen Mother | Lectio: Mary | Episode 4

Mary serves as our Queen Mother. What does that mean? Join Dr. Brant Pitre as he explores the scriptural roots of this title.



### Mary, Queen of Heaven | Brother Francis

Based on the historical records and the personal testimony of his fellow friars, this is the amazing true story of the life of the famous stigmatic monk, St. Padre Pio, a contemporary saint who died in 1968.

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

### Are you an effective Christian witness?

You may not think so, but there is no reason for you not to be. Every one of us who is baptized in Christ Jesus is expected by him to be his visible representative in the world. We are sent on mission to preach the Good News, the Gospel – to evangelize. What is encouraging about the mission on which we are sent is that it is not as complicated to excel at as we might think.

When we think about being a Christian witness and announcing the Gospel of Christ, we might naturally recoil at the thought of sticking ourselves “out there” in the public sphere. Most people are uncomfortable making waves in a social setting. Many of us don’t even want to make a peep in public. So, to engage others on something like religion or politics – especially to talk about JESUS! – is the *last* thing we find ourselves inclined to do. It would feel like standing out on a busy city street corner holding a big sign and a megaphone, telling people with grumpy looks on their faces to ‘get some religion!’ “Not me, man!”

Fortunately, street-corner preaching is only one way to spread the Word – and it is not necessarily the most effective. Surely, it has its place. But evangelization, in which every one of us can regularly participate, has its place, too. It is an evangelization of *being* more than it is *preaching*. Yes, speaking about Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is certainly part of our existence as Catholics, but talking is not the totality of our Catholic being. *Living* our Catholicity is something that we should be doing *all* the time. It's not like we get up in the morning, put on our ‘Catholic hat,’ say a few prayers, and greet the family. Then, we pull that hat off, put on our worldly ‘work hat,’ and head out the door to get swept up in the rat race. Next, we come home, go back into ‘Catholic mode’ for grace before supper. Finally, we shift into ‘destroy-the-other-team-mode’ as we leave for the kids’ football game in the evening. We alternate between living in the City of God and the City of the World constantly throughout the day. This endless vacillating is not healthy moral conditioning for us, and it makes for lousy Christian witness to others. We need a consistent Catholic mindset.

Where our Catholic witness is incredibly powerful, and sorely needed, is among those closest to us. Our family and friends

need solid support in practicing their faith. It is amazing how many Catholics feel alone in their faith. They may be part of a family where they are the only person in the household who has stayed connected to the Church. Sometimes, this isolation can branch out to extended family. A person may come from a long-established family line of Catholics who have all managed to abandon the Faith, except for this one solitary soul. Finding oneself all alone in the practice of a once widely cherished religious life is hard. We need support from like-minded people for the things we do – especially living the Christian life, which is now so culturally denigrated.

In such a world, where true Catholic believers are scant, our honest living of our faith is incredibly important for other believers to see. When someone sees us confidently living our Catholic faith – especially in a hostile environment, be it among family or otherwise – it is bold witness! This is hard-core evangelization that has nothing to do with standing out on a street corner with a sign. But, being there for a lone family member, or neighbor, or coworker, or fellow parishioner, and being seen as someone who won’t give up on Jesus and his Church just because everyone else has, greatly strengthens the faithful. Such witness is a major unity builder among Jesus’ sisters and brothers. It may be easy for us to dismiss *our* Christian witness as being insignificant, but it is not true. “What difference can my measly practice of the Faith possibly make?” How about: a HUGE difference? In some cases, ALL the difference.

Our support for someone who is struggling with their faith may be the only support available to them. The world is big. With the number of genuine Catholics shrinking, we are not exactly swimming in a sea of solid witness to Christian principles. God may put a particular person specifically in our life to save that individual from abandoning the Faith. To do so is a bigtime witness to Christ. And it doesn’t involve hitting the streets and doing a lot of Bible thumping. It is simply a matter of being a steady, real, believable presence of Jesus Christ in someone else’s life who needs our example to help them stay in the game. There is no need to introduce them to Jesus. They already know him. What they need is the encouragement we all need: to

know that they are not alone in the fight – to know someone else is with them on their Christian faith journey.

There is also unique value in our witness to Catholics *as other Catholics*. While all Christians face opposition to living out religious principles in a culture that largely rejects Christ, Catholics face internal opposition, too. We all know that, among people who call themselves “Catholic,” there are those who make up some personal moral rules as they go. These personal rules may be in opposition to legitimate Catholic teaching. Freelancing within Catholicism causes problems, just as in any other organization that depends upon prescribed guidelines to keep order. Where confusion results from the disorder of personal innovations, witnessing to the truth, again, is a great gift we can give others.

Our supportive witness to some often-hated Catholic teachings can help those who feel lost amidst opposing beliefs held by some Catholics. For example, the Church teaches that abortion is always wrong, that we are not to use artificial birth control methods, and that we are obligated to attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation. To many Catholics, “them’s fightin’ words!” They simply reject these rules to their own detriment. But for Catholics who abide by the Church’s teaching on these topics, such dissent leaves them feeling quite alone at times. Again, our witness of obedient faith is a powerful support for others who may feel isolated – even among fellow Catholics. Sad that such division persists, but it does. (This must be heart-breaking for Jesus, who so desires our unity as members of his Body.) Our forthright living of our Faith will ultimately break through with God’s wisdom. May the Lord strengthen us all to let his Light shine in our world.

In Christ Jesus,  
Fr. Bob

August 17, 2025

## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 | Heb 12:1-4 | Lk 12:49-53

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Today's readings acknowledge the real challenges of living our faith. Following Christ will sometimes put us at odds with others – an uncomfortable reality that many will face in our broken and divided world. Yet we can find strength knowing that Jesus understands the constant opposition (both inward and outward) that we face. The second reading says, "Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners." Jesus knows what it's like to face opposition, but he endured it "for the sake of the joy that lay before him." That is our calling too. We are made to know the joy that awaits us beyond our crosses. We find the strength to persevere through our trials by "keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus." Keeping Christ as our focus, we will be able to overcome any obstacle we may face and run toward the goal of heaven.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today's Gospel, Jesus said, "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing." Jesus' desire is that the whole world be set aflame with his love, and yet, he knows that this will not come easily. The good news is that Jesus is with us in the midst of the struggle. He too knows the deep longing and even anguish (the Gospel today uses that word!) that we experience as we work so that others may come to know God's love. We can take comfort in the fact that as much as we want to see others come to faith, God desires it even more than we do, and he is also pouring out his grace continually upon us. In the midst of any discouragement we may feel about those who seem opposed to God and to faith, may we remember the burning love that Christ has and his immense desire to draw all people to himself.

### PRAY

Pray for those whom you may know who seem closed to the Gospel, or who are away from the Church. Invite the Holy Spirit to touch your heart with a particular love and zeal to pray for them, that those who may seem the most opposed to faith might come, one day, to embrace it.



Brooklyn Museum / Address to Saint Philip (Abstraction & Saint Philip) - James Tissot, Public Domain

# Readings for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



## THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 24 C

### Reading One – Is 66:18-21

Thus says the LORD: I know their works and their thoughts, and I come to gather nations of every language; they shall come and see my glory. I will set a sign among them; from them I will send fugitives to the nations: to Tarshish, Put and Lud, Mosoch, Tubal and Javan, to the distant coastlands that have never heard of my fame, or seen my glory; and they shall proclaim my glory among the nations. They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots, in carts, upon mules and dromedaries, to Jerusalem, my holy mountain, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their offering to the house of the LORD in clean vessels. Some of these I will take as priests and Levites, says the LORD.

### Responsorial – Ps 117:1, 2

**R. Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**  
Praise the LORD, all you nations; glorify him, all you peoples!

**R. Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**  
For steadfast is his kindness toward us, and the fidelity of the LORD endures forever.

**R. Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**

### Reading Two – Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

Brothers and sisters, You have forgotten the exhortation addressed to you as children: "My son, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord or lose heart when reproved by him; for whom the Lord loves, he disciplines; he scourges every son he acknowledges." Endure your trials as "discipline"; God treats you as sons. For what "son" is there whom his father does not discipline? At the time, all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it.

So strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees. Make straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed.

### Alleluia – Jn 14:6

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel – Lk 13:22-30

Jesus passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" He answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough. After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door, then will you stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' He will say to you in reply, 'I do not know where you are from. And you will say 'We ate and drank in your company, and you taught in our streets.' Then he will say to you, 'I do not know where you are from. Depart from me, all you evildoers!' And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves cast out. And people will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

# 2025 GREEKFEST

**AUGUST 15, 16, 17**

**FRIDAY 12 PM - 11 PM**

**GRAND OPENING AT NOON**

**GUEST MC - CHARLIE LANGTON FOX TV2 ANCHOR**

**SATURDAY 11 AM-11 PM**

**SUNDAY 11 AM-7 PM**



**GREEK FOOD**

**MUSIC**

**TAVERNA**

**KIDS ACTIVITIES**

**GRAND RAFFLE!**

**1ST PRIZE \$10,000**

**2ND PRIZE AHEE .75 DIAMOND SOLITAIRE PENDANT  
DONATED BY AHEE JEWELERS - VALUED AT \$3,000**

**3RD PRIZE \$500**

**4TH, 5TH & 6TH PRIZES \$200**

**Drawing, August 17, 6 PM Tickets \$10 each**

**DRIVE THROUGH CARRY OUT**

**CALL: 586-596-6326 OR 586-779-8071**

[assumptionfestival.com](http://assumptionfestival.com)

21800 Marter Road St. Clair Shores/Grosse Pointe Woods  
586-779-6111

Proceeds benefit Assumption community programs  
Cops for Kids, Focus Detroit, Cass Community Social Services

# St. Joan<sup>of</sup> Arc YOUTH GROUP

MORE FUN FOR  
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

# HEY!

**WED, AUGUST 20TH @ 7 PM-8:30 PM**  
**WELCOME BACK PARTY!!**



SCENES FROM OUR  
SUMMER  
GATHERINGS.



STAY UPDATED AND INSPIRED  
FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM  
**@SJASCSYOUTH**



# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** If we let Christ set fire to our lives, what would that fire burn away? What dead and festering undergrowth in our souls would be consumed by the flames? What promise of future holiness would sprout from beneath the ashes?

### The Fire

This past week I have been reading a biography of St. Francis of Assisi. I admit I didn't know much about Francis going into the book, but I always had this image of him as a hippie — an easygoing nature-lover who sang about peace and let animals climb on him.

I'm not sure where that caricature of Francis came from, but since I've been reading this book I've come to see that it's not true at all. He was a lover of nature, yes. A poet who sang of God's peace, yes. And I'm sure he let a few animals climb on him from time to time (he did live in a hut in the woods).

But St. Francis of Assisi wasn't the lost fourth member of Peter, Paul and Mary. He was a man on fire. He was a man burning.

Francis walked around barefoot and slept on the ground. He abandoned a life of wealth to embrace the material poverty that Christ experienced. He embarrassed his family and they disowned him. When his father would encounter Francis in the streets of Assisi, he would curse him.

Sometimes we get this idea that Christianity is a comfortable, cozy thing. We give our lives to Christ, and we expect to feel instantly satisfied, happy, safe and warm. But the saints knew better.

The saints knew that Christ had not come to wrap us in a warm blanket. Christ has come to set us on fire. And though fire is often seen as a sign of death and destruction, it is also the precursor of new life.

Think of a field of native plants and how it benefits so richly from a controlled burn — an action that clears away detritus and releases nutrients back into the soil.

If we let Christ set fire to our lives, what would that fire burn away? What dead and festering undergrowth in our souls would be consumed by the flames? What promise of future holiness would sprout from beneath the ashes?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that?

### Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

Why do we have a feast for the Queenship of Mary?

#### Answer:

For many of us, the language of kings and queens may seem like they belong to history or a medieval movie. Royalty have absolute authority over a kingdom and their subjects, a concept that is foreign to many of us today. While Jesus doesn't rule a political kingdom, we honor and recognize him as the King of Kings, Lord of Heaven and Earth. To God alone belongs absolute authority over all of existence.

We may think of queens as the spouse of the king, but there is another key relationship: the king's mother. In Biblical history, we see instances where the mother of the king is given due as a queen herself, complete with a throne! Mary's guiding influence over her Son is seen most notably in the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary is not Queen on her own merit. She is "full of grace" and "blessed" in "all ages" because of the reign of her Son.

# DISCOVER SCOUTING



DISCOVERSCOUTING.ORG



**TEXT DISCOVERSCOUTING TO 517-997-8039**

Cub Scout Pack 1490

September 4 & 25, 2025 Thursday 6-7pm

St Isaac Jogues Catholic Church, 21100 Madison St., St Clair Shores, MI 48081

READY FOR FUN? READY TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS? LOVE THE OUTDOORS? WANT TO LEARN NEW THINGS?  
Come join Cub Scout Pack 1490 - Open to both Boys and Girls, grades K-5. We meet all year round, camp 2x a year, field trips. Very active pack with 50+ years of tradition. Join us for a kickball game and meet the rest of the Pack.

Len Wekwert, lekwek@aol.com 586-596-6452

## Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

### Weekly Calendar of Events

#### **Monday, August 18th**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Tuesday, August 19th**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Wednesday, August 20th**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

5:00 PM: Reconciliation

6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

6:30 PM: Light of the Spirit Prayer Group

#### **Thursday, August 21st**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 PM: Holy Hour - Live Streamed

#### **Friday, August 22nd**

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Saturday, August 23rd**

11:00 AM: Reconciliation

12:30AM: Baptism of Dominic J. Walworth

4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

#### **Sunday, August 24th**

8:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

### Words on the Word

#### ***August 17, 2025 – Strength in Numbers***

Someone once observed that, as additional people are added to a group or situation, things become stronger, better and happier.

In other words, “the more the merrier!”

But let’s face it, that’s not always the case. While that may be true in the context of, say, a garden party, it’s more difficult to make the case for things being stronger, better or happier in the context of, say, a political party.

A national publication recently did a story exploring how one of the U.S. political parties is increasingly encountering infighting over a particular set of international allegiances and priorities. The story explained that what had been an automatic issue of unity for several decades is now just the opposite.

It’s not hard to expand the concept to assume that the other political party likely is facing the same types of issues, finding it harder and harder to reach common ground even on things that, perhaps, were once automatic.

Political houses are a long way from individual households, small communities or workplaces. That much is certain.

And politics, to be sure, is a long, long way from religion.

But today’s gospel makes the observation that, even in matters of religious truth, it’s quite likely there will come for many people the need to clarify – if only in their own mind – the priority that God has in our lives.

Everything else is to fall in line accordingly.

“I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing,” Jesus says in the passage from St. Luke. “There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!”

“Do you think that I have come to establish peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.”

© 2025, Words on the Word

# Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

## Mass Intentions

|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>August 18, 2025 Weekday (Green)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 7:00 am          | Rosemary Schenden                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>August 19, 2025 Weekday; Saint John Eudes, Priest (Green/White)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 7:00 am          | Special Intention for Joe Schottoefer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>August 20, 2025 Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church (White)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 7:00 am          | Doreen Saur                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6:00 pm          | Casey Zaranek                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>August 21, 2025 Saint Pius X, Pope (White)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 7:00 am          | Robert Bidigare                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>August 22, 2025 The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (White)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 7:00 am          | Nick DiCresce                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>August 23, 2025 Vigil for the Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 4:00 pm          | Antonieta Mazzella, Kurt Heythaler, Bonnie Batche, the deceased members of the Calisi Family who died in the month of August, Mr. & Mrs. Casimir Wojcik, Palma Strussione, Helen Haamen, Glenn Kucway, Special Intention for the living and deceased members of the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, for Sam Manalo and Sam Baur |
| 6:00 pm          | Ralph Mastay and Marion Malloy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>August 17, 2025 Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 8:00 am          | The Intentions of SJA Parishioners                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 10:00 am         | Thomas Gillette                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 12:00 pm         | Pio Alberti, Hans Loeber, Special Intentions for Christine Bugarin, Laurie Ruda and Sam Baur                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

## Daily Readings

### Monday, August 18

Judges 2:11-19  
Matthew 19:16-22

### Tuesday, August 19

Judges 6:11-24a  
Matthew 19:23-30

### Wednesday, August 20

Judges 9:6-15  
Matthew 20:1-16

### Thursday, August 21

Judges 11:29-39a  
Matthew 22:1-14

### Friday, August 22

Ruth 1:1-22  
Matthew 22:34-40

### Saturday, August 23

Ruth 2:1-11; 4:13-17  
Matthew 23:1-12

### Sunday, August 24

Isaiah 66:18-21  
Hebrews 12:5-13  
Luke 13:22-30



## 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.

“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).

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

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

# GARDEN OF HOPE DEDICATION

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Families of all faiths who have experienced the loss of a baby during pregnancy or childbirth are invited to RSVP and provide their child's first name for inclusion on the memorial monument. As part of the CFCS Precious Lives Mission Program, there is no cost for adding your child's name to the memorial.

To participate and/or add your child's name to the memorial monument, please scan the QR code, call our office at **248-350-1900**, email us at [outreach@aodcemeteries.org](mailto:outreach@aodcemeteries.org), or visit our website at [cfcsdetroit.org/mission-programs](http://cfcsdetroit.org/mission-programs).



## Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

Saturday, September 13, 2025

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Most Rev. Arturo Cepeda

- Prayer & Music Service
- Butterfly Release
- Donate a book in Memory of your child
- Candle Lighting & Reading of Names
- Ribbon Decorating
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See above to include your child's name.



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# Prayers Needed

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

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|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Fred Barth           | Michael Dowd    | Catherine Konen    | John Morrison        | Kathleen Smith      |
| Geri Beaugrand       | Jean Edwards    | Delaney Kraemer    | Rebecca Nehra        | Cathy Spindler      |
| Kenneth Beaupre      | Geri Ellis      | Shirley Kraemer    | Rosemary Nickson     | Wendy Stevens       |
| James Belloli        | Frank Faiss     | Laurie Krim        | Julius Ohorodnij     | Patty Stevenson     |
| Kristen Benedict     | Taylor Fisher   | Carolyn Kunz       | Joan Persichini      | Cathy Sullens       |
| Edna Burton          | Jeanne Fleming  | Rosalie Lewakowski | Art Pieper           | Bernadette Thompson |
| Sarah Catanzaro      | Larry Gehrke    | Mila Lictawa       | Connor Pieper        | James Thompson      |
| Maryann Carlin       | Anthony Genova  | Beverly Lievens    | Vicky Pranger        | Jeff Trudell        |
| Ed Cole              | Larry Graham    | David Lott         | Carol S. Provencal   | Linda Vitale        |
| Toni Glaeser-Collins | Chris Gretchen  | Randy Lyczynski    | Tracy Rauch          | Eileen Wallace      |
| Joan Combellack      | Pam Haisenleder | Ingrid Manalo      | Fe Reyes             | Elaine Walters      |
| Maura Corrigan       | Judith Hasten   | Sam Manalo         | Sr. Alice Riegel     | Tom Ward            |
| John Crawford        | Pat Haver       | Ilene Manning      | Paulette Russia      | Larry Weber         |
| Olivia Crimando      | Norman Heinrich | Joan Mannino       | Jenna Rose           | Adrienne Weidenbach |
| Jerry Dedene         | Ilona Higgins   | Sandy McCabe       | Marilyn Rose         | Robert Werthman     |
| Anita Dembeck        | Gracie Hinz     | Darina McCarty     | Victoria Rydholm     | Joseph Whalen       |
| Debra Dembeck        | Ted Hinz        | Cyndy McMahon      | Estelle Saelen       | Geraldine White     |
| Grace Dickerson      | Chris Janutol   | Kevin McFarlane    | Lily Saith           | Marilyn Wicker      |
| George Dickerson     | Barbara Jarosz  | Heather A. Miller  | Barbara R. Scharneck | Joyce Wiekrykas     |
| Ray Dinser           | Lorraine Jonas  | Mark Moffitt       | Dianne Schelosky     | Loretta Williams    |
| Liana Doe            | Rosemary Jonas  | Nina Mondalek      | Josh Schultz         |                     |
| John Donovan         | Lorraine Kilroy | Jennie Mooney      | Rosa Silva           |                     |

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

## PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

### COMMANDER IN CHIEF

President Donald J. Trump



### AIR FORCE

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

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

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

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

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Arthur J. Barron  
David Chute  
Kyle Cichowski  
John DuBay Jr.  
David J. Kennedy

### NAVY

Gary J. Annis  
Brad Converse  
Jason Gaidis  
Joseph Goeddeke  
Frankie Kocis

### COAST GUARD

Michael Franklin  
Christopher Rogers

### NATIONAL GUARD

Robert Douglas III  
William DuBay



# Bringing Home the Word

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)  
August 17, 2025

## A House Divided

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

One of the heaviest burdens people are forced to carry is the distress of “a house divided.”

When Abraham Lincoln said, “a house divided against itself cannot stand,” he was referring to the division within the country during the Civil War. We experience a similar, though not as lethal, separation when our two-party system of government engenders obstinate division—not merely political diversity. But perhaps the most heartbreaking example of division is a family in which members are alienated from each other.

There are as many reasons for family division as there are families: the betrayal of one member by another, inheritance disparity, parental favoritism, sibling rivalry, to name a few. One might think that those involved should be able to resolve such differences—after all, isn’t blood thicker than water? But how are serious family rifts to be repaired if the reason for division is one’s faith or commitment to God? That is the situation Jesus describes today.

We might wonder how faith in God can tear families apart. It often happens when someone leaves the religion of one’s family and converts to another tradition. This might be judged as a betrayal of the family’s values. This may be what many of Jesus’ Jewish followers faced when they claimed that Jesus fulfilled their religious expectations while other family members did not share their belief. That was a terrible price to have to pay for fidelity to their faith, but they paid it. †



***A heartbreaking example of division is a family in which members are alienated from each other.***

## A Word from Pope Leo XIV

The deepest purpose of the Church’s social doctrine [is] a contribution to peace and dialogue in the service of building bridges of universal fraternity.... [T]he Risen Lord always goes before us, even at times when injustice and death seem to prevail. Let us help one another...“build bridges through dialogue and encounter, joining together as one people, always at peace.”

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025



## Sunday Readings

**Jeremiah 38:4–6; 8–10**

“[Jeremiah] ought to be put to death. He is weakening the resolve of the soldiers...and of all the people, by saying such things to them.”

**Hebrews 12:1–4**

Consider how [Jesus] endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart.

**Luke 12:49–53**

[Jesus said,] “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!”

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

### ONE QUESTION REFLECTION

- Are there steps I can take to heal a rift in my family or community?
- What is stopping me?



## Stay Close to the Blessed Mother

Rev. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR

**T**he story of the wedding feast at Cana has always been one of my favorite biblical stories. Although some biblical commentators suggest it should not be taken at face value, I prefer not to get caught up in those kinds of details. I interpret it as a story that speaks of the intimacy between a mother and a son. Reading it, I see in the exchange between Jesus and the Blessed Mother an illustration of their relationship.

Our Blessed Lady knew she could call upon her Son, and he would respond.

It is not primarily the knowledge of his divinity that drove her but rather her knowledge of Jesus as a person. It was Mary who had taught him what it meant to be a human person. It was at her knee that Jesus had learned about respect, obedience, and love. Mary knew her Son was a man who understood the meaning of love, what it meant to be in need, what it meant to be potentially embarrassed. She was confident in her statement: “They have no wine” (John 2:3). She was certain Jesus would respond in a way that was both right and generous, lessening the couple’s embarrassment and refocusing the guests’ attention. Mary knew Jesus, and because of that, she was able to ask.

My mother would always end conversations with the reminder, “Remember to stay close to the Blessed Mother.” When I first heard her say this, I simply wrote it off as an expression of her strong and constant devotion to Mary. Now, however, there seems to be more to unpack.... Perhaps it was a reminder that many people, despite their best intentions, do not end up with lives reflective of their desires. Perhaps it is a reminder to be gentle, accepting, patient, and kind. I recall all of this when I hear the story of the wedding feast at Cana. †

From *A Guide for the Scrupulous: Spiritual Practices, Critical Beliefs, Helpful Prayers* by Rev. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR, Liguori Publications (828751). To order, call 800-325-9521 or visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).

**Schedule moments for reflecting, pondering, musing, and mulling it over.**

## Wisdom from Catholic Update

From “Quinceañera: A Celebration of Faith and Family”

The Hispanic tradition of the *quinceañera* is just one of many faith traditions contributed by one of the ethnic groups that is part of the mosaic of America. The word *quinceañera* (pronounced keen-seh-ahn-YEHR-ah) comes from the Spanish word *quince* (“fifteen”). It is the ceremony for a Latina girl at the age of fifteen (*quince años*) that marks her transition to adulthood. The celebration is rich in both religious and cultural elements. Its origin in our hemisphere goes back to the Indigenous people whose cultures had various rites of passage for girls passing into womanhood. The Spanish missionaries, when they began evangelizing the Indigenous peoples, borrowed regional cultural customs to help teach the faith.

*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



Saving God, when the world is frightening, when we worry about those we love, help us to remember that you love them even more. We pray always in Jesus’ name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

## WEEKDAY READINGS

August 18–23

**Monday, Weekday:**

Jgs 2:11–19 / Mt 19:16–22

**Tuesday, Weekday:**

Jgs 6:11–24a / Mt 19:23–30

**Wednesday, St. Bernard:**

Jgs 9:6–15 / Mt 20:1–16

**Thursday, St. Pius X:**

Jgs 11:29–39a / Mt 22:1–14

**Friday, Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary:**

Ru 1:1, 3–6, 14b–16, 22 / Mt 22:34–40

**Saturday, Weekday:**

Ru 2:1–3, 8–11; 4:13–17 / Mt 23:1–12

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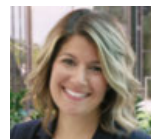
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