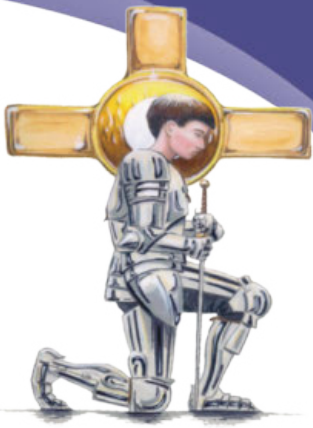




SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

The members of St. Joan of Arc Parish are disciples of Jesus Christ, who recognize God's love for the world & are empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel to all people through joyful worship, life-long education, compassionate service, responsible stewardship, & active community living.

~ Mission Statement - Pentecost 1998 ~

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22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." - Lk 14:13-14

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
Website: www.sjascs.org

SCHOOL
22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-775-8370
Email: Info@stjoan.net
Website: www.stjoan.net

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

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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

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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 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



When a Good Idea Becomes TOO Good: As we all know too well, my DIY ideas sometimes backfire. Well, they USUALLY backfire.

As we also know, I have this long list of to-do items, and the staff and my family hear all the time that something is on “THE LIST.” It’s a good thing when something lands on THE LIST, but the problem is that landing on THE LIST could also mean the kiss of death, meaning it may take forever to accomplish. One of the items on THE LIST was tidying up and making some changes to our video table in the Choir Loft for all our streaming needs.

One of the changes I’ve been talking about for eons (okay, maybe two years) has been to remove the 8-foot folding table we’ve been using since COVID and utilize the custom table that Chris Wisnieski from RMW Productions built for us. That beautiful table was set aside because, well, it landed on THE LIST, and I just never found the time to make the necessary changes to put it into use.

The day finally came a few months ago when the table got moved into its rightful place, and all the equipment was properly installed. It was great. However, as with most of my projects, I inadvertently created another problem. The chairs we use at the video table became too small; only Steve Hysick and I were able to see over everything. My customary look up to the video table before Mass also became very challenging because I couldn’t see anyone sitting in the chairs except Steve. The table was a few inches taller than the 8-foot table we had been using. So, I went on the hunt for new chairs.

After doing a ton of research, I narrowed my options to one chair that I was convinced would work. It was more of a drafting chair for a taller desk. So, I ordered two from Amazon. Then I had this brainy idea to order new casters that were more like rubber wheels. While the average listener might not notice, I could hear the chairs rolling around up in the loft while listening to our livestreams, and it drove me crazy. I wanted something quieter and smoother, so I ordered a bunch of these highly polished rubber casters.

Everything arrived the next day. Vern, Casey, and Pete put everything together. Kristine was the first to use the new chairs. She was rather polite in telling me that they were... well, different. They easily rolled away from her when she got up. She said they were the perfect height, but it would take some getting used to having the chair roll away about a foot each time you got off it. Plus, the seat seemed narrow. I just rolled my eyes and thought, “Can’t at least ONE of my brainy ideas ever work the first time?”

I was up in the loft the following day, and this was my text back to Kristine: “I officially don’t like these chairs. UGH. The casters are nice but TOO nice... I can see how they roll away. Then the seat slants forward a bit. You can almost slide off these. I’m worried they could be dangerous for some. UGH!” I sat in the new chair for the hour I was up in the loft, and I really despised it.

Then Dina had her chance to “evaluate” the chair. This was her text to me: “Hilarious. Of course, I tried one. Holy cow, those casters make it like a runaway train. The weird seat jets you forward so you don’t just roll... you sail. I almost went to the steps in one misguided spin.”

So, as it usually happens for me, it’s back to the drawing board for both new chairs and casters. And this is WHY anything granted status on THE LIST takes forever to accomplish! It’s never just CHECK and DONE for me!!

The Consequences of Living a Busy, Hurried Life (Part 6): Last week, I offered some ideas on intentionally establishing places to pray. I mentioned places like our Parish Center Chapel, coming early for Mass, or staying after Mass. I also noted that the chapels at Henry Ford St. John or Corewell Grosse Pointe Hospitals are great places to pray. One of our parishioners wrote to me with another great idea. Marlise shared: “Sometimes I like to say my morning rosary while walking the neighborhood. I like it because it takes me out of the house where I can get distracted. Also, other walkers notice the dangling rosary, and it sparks conversations.”

This week, I want to focus on how busyness affects our families and relationships.

There is an awesome couple of lines in St. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians (5:15-17),

where he tells the Ephesians, “Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord.”

When we fill our schedules to the brim, we often sacrifice the most important relationships in our lives, namely our relationship with God and our family. Marriages suffer when couples are too preoccupied with work, sports, errands, or even well-intentioned commitments, like volunteering. Children can feel neglected when their parents may be physically present but emotionally unavailable. This type of distance erodes trust and connection, ultimately leaving families fragmented. A fragmented family is not what God wills!

When we examine our activities, we must ask ourselves if what we are doing could even be considered God’s will. Another way of asking the question is to ask whether what we are doing will bring us, our family, and others closer to Christ, the Kingdom of God, or one another. If the answer is no, then don’t embark on that activity or journey.

God wants us to grow closer to Him and to nurture the relationships He has entrusted to us.

So, what are some things you can do to help make all of this happen? First and foremost, you have to set some boundaries. To the best of your ability, establish clear work hours and protect family time from unnecessary interruptions. Those boundaries also have to be clear that NOTHING should ever interfere with your obligation to participate in the Sunday celebration of Mass. Second, schedule family time; yes, put regular family time on your calendar, where phones and all electronic devices are off. Third, engage in shared activities, like praying, cooking, playing games, and family outings. And finally, say NO to overcommitment for yourselves and for your children. Evaluate your commitments and let go of activities that don’t draw you closer to Christ, His Kingdom, or one another.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org



This Week on Formed

Week of August 31, 2025



Mother Teresa: No Greater Love

Mother Teresa: No Greater Love is a soaring tribute to a spiritual icon, a powerful witness of authentic Christian charity, and a guidepost for all who seek hope in our turbulent times: Mother Teresa of Calcutta. This film reveals not just who Mother Teresa was, but how her singular vision to serve Christ in the poor continues to be realized through the Missionaries of Charity today.



Pope Saint Gregory the Great | Catholic Saints

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



Mother Teresa

See Mother Teresa in the slums of Calcutta as she mingled closely with her people, dispensing help, joy, and smiles to everyone in this moving film.

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

The Old Testament book of Wisdom begins with these words: "Love righteousness, you who judge the earth; think of the LORD in goodness, and seek him in integrity of heart; because he is found by those who do not test him, and manifests himself to those who do not disbelieve him." These words of Solomon call for a relationship with the Lord that is difficult for many of us to imagine. We are called to "think of the Lord in goodness" and to do it with sincere, honest, open hearts so that we may draw near to him. In other words, we are told to always have a *positive* attitude about God. This is a tall order for many of us who see God as a stern dictator. Many folks are simply scared of God and dread the thought of him bringing the hammer down upon us. We are inclined to resist God and regularly give him a hard time, always doubting our faith. When this is the case, our experience of the Lord is sorely lacking. Sadly, it seems that pushing against God, rather than pulling for him, is the more common human tendency.

Our resistance to God makes sense in light of our general inclination to be skeptics. Some of our skepticism serves a good purpose, but a good deal of it comes from plain old selfishness and stubbornness. 'Good' skepticism keeps us from being taken for fools by smooth-talking con men and scam artists. The old adages: "Don't believe everything you hear" and "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is" are prudent rules to live by. But at the same time, we should not give ourselves to disbelieve *everything* we hear, nor should we dismiss even the possibility of being surprised by someone's extraordinary goodness.

There are many truly pleasant surprises to be had in the world. God's generous love for us is just such a surprise. To be surprised, we must be "surprisable" (if there could be such a word). We need to be open to something new. We must be willing to stretch. We have to be adventurous and able to be fascinated. Maybe this is why Jesus says that we must become

like little children to inherit the Kingdom of God. Little kids are fascinated by the simplest things. They are often able to notice delightful details in life that fly right past an adult's awareness. As we age, we tend to miss much because we "have been there; done that; got the t-shirt." We get stale – and we like it. It's easy to be stale because it takes less energy than being vibrant. A stuffy, go-nowhere life may be boring, but it is predictable and "comfortable."

God is not interested in us being comfortable. God wants us to be **happy**. Happiness (beatitude) does not necessarily ensure comfort. In fact, attaining happiness may involve some sincere *discomfort*. Full-strength happiness is to attain eternal life with God in heaven. However, getting to heaven, as we heard from Jesus last weekend, demands that we "strive to enter through the narrow gate." Maybe not so comfortable? So, we resist God's instructions. We test him. And we refuse to believe him.

Interestingly, though, we are not shy about learning *some* new tricks, no matter how old a dog we might be. In our ever more complicated world, we are pushed to learn all kinds of new tricks in order simply to survive. Making a simple banking transaction, typing a paper for a college class, getting an appliance repaired, figuring out how to view a sporting event on electronic media, trying to talk with someone at a government agency, and a multitude of other daily events, all require us to master complex procedures that are new to us. Yet, unless we learn new procedures and follow confusing directives, we won't get what we want. So, we give in.

Even more interestingly, once we give in, we get comfortable with what we have learned. We eventually become somewhat proficient using the computer program we were cussing out. We learn the route to the doctor's office in three counties over. We figure out how to talk with our family members without getting into a fist fight. We manage to adjust our diet so

we can finally get some sleep at night. We finally find a medical insurance plan that covers *everyone* in the family. We keep going along to get along. And, once we get what we want, we can even find ourselves comfortable being part of "the system." But when it comes to learning more about the Lord, we're too pooped to participate.

Learning about God doesn't seem to pay rewards like our worldly efforts do. We don't get quick visual or audible responses to our prayers. So, it's easy to lose interest in our spiritual side. Our bodies, on the other hand, give us ready feedback when we make physical efforts. We are able to see what we want to see, hear what we want to hear, and feel what we want to feel. We are able to be entertained as we wish. We are able to get the results from our work that we feel we deserve. In short, we get satisfaction in reasonably short order with our bodies. Spiritual things take too long! *But our spirituality matters more than our physical being.*

Earthly things will all fade into insignificance. Even as we live today, it should be obvious that we are not going to get out of this world alive – and all the stuff we have accumulated will be left behind. This is why it is so important to think about the Lord with bountiful goodness and with a heart that seeks to be united with His. We are on an eternal journey – *hopefully toward him*. Yet, God will not force himself upon us. To do so would be contrary to his nature. God is Love. And love is not pushy. The Lord leaves it to us to desire him so that he can show himself to us. We see God the Father through Jesus, in union with the Holy Spirit. The Lord wants us to invite him into our lives.

Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with the elect" (Wisdom 3:9).

Peace in Christ,
Fr. Bob

“
THE ONE WHO
HUMBLES
HIMSELF WILL
BE EXALTED.”
(LK 14:11)



August 31, 2025

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 | Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a | Lk 14:1, 7-14

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

There's a well-known story about an actor who was asked by an elderly priest to recite Psalm 23. The actor agreed only if the priest also recited the psalm. While the actor's delivery was met with esteem and applause, the priest's was met with raw emotion, stunned silence, and tears. The actor, smiling, said, "I may know the psalm, but the priest, he knows the Shepherd." I can't help but be reminded of this story when reading today's Gospel. Like the Pharisees, the actor represents the one who was the "center of attention" who was humbled whereas the priest, in his humble service to God, found himself exalted. That is where true humility lies, when our actions and our everyday lives are rooted in God first and not ourselves.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As Jesus reminds us today, "Every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Beyond telling us this truth, Jesus lived it. Scripture tells us that Jesus – the second Person of the Holy Trinity – "emptied himself, taking the form of a slave..." (Phil 2:7), and that he came not "to be served but to serve" (Mk 10:45). Each of us is invited to consider the ways we can imitate the same humble servant-leadership which Jesus showed throughout his life. What does servant leadership look like, practically speaking? Some simple examples: At work, it might look like signing up to do those less desirable tasks that others would prefer to avoid. In our homes, it could look mean letting your children or spouse choose what's for dinner rather than asserting your own preferences over meal planning. In our relationships, it might mean allowing a friend to talk through their struggles without offering advice or sharing how you might have handled things differently. With the eyes of faith, each of us can see countless opportunities to practice the virtue of humility in daily life.

WITNESS

Like the priest in the story above who revealed God to the crowd in his recitation of Psalm 23, you have the opportunity to let God shine through in your life to others. Be a servant leader, seeking to glorify God rather than yourself. When you are humble you "will be exalted" and "repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."



THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 7 C

Reading One – Wis 9:13-18b

Who can know God's counsel, or who can conceive what the LORD intends? For the deliberations of mortals are timid, and unsure are our plans. For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns. And scarce do we guess the things on earth, and what is within our grasp we find with difficulty; but when things are in heaven, who can search them out? Or who ever knew your counsel, except you had given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus were the paths of those on earth made straight.

Responsorial – Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
You turn man back to dust, saying, "Return, O children of men." For a thousand years in your sight are as yesterday, now that it is past, or as a watch of the night.

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
You make an end of them in their sleep; the next morning they are like the changing grass, which at dawn springs up anew, but by evening wilts and fades.

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart. Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days. And may the gracious care of the LORD our God be ours; prosper the work of our hands for us! Prosper the work of our hands!

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Reading Two – Philemon 9:10, 12-17

I, Paul, an old man, and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus, urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment; I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I should have liked to retain him for myself, so that he might serve me on your behalf in my imprisonment for the gospel, but I

did not want to do anything without your consent, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother, beloved that the good you do might not be forced but voluntary. Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while, especially to me, but even more so to you, as a man and in the Lord. So if you regard me as a partner, welcome him as you would me.

Alleluia – Ps 119:135

Alleluia, alleluia.

Let your face shine upon your servant; and teach me your laws.

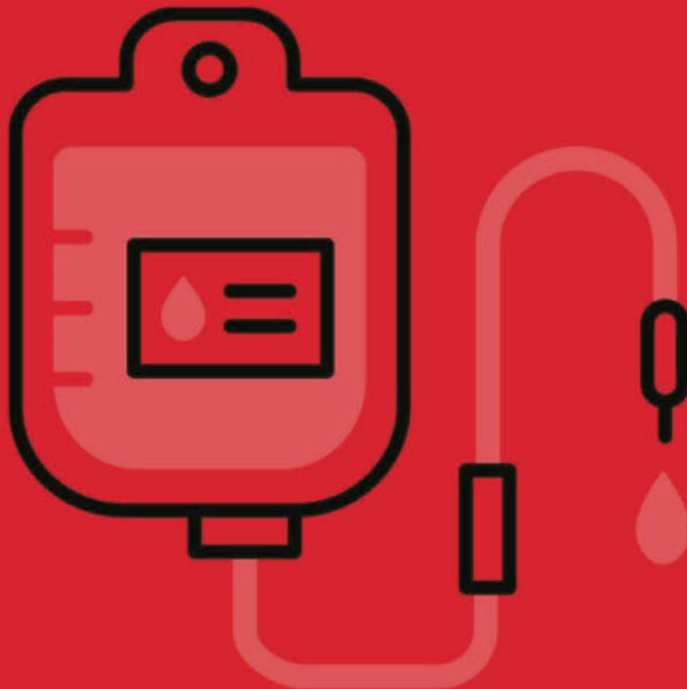
Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Lk 14:25-33

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."



American Red Cross Blood Drive



If you are a regular donor, we thank you and hope to see you there. If you've never given before, it takes a little over an hour to donate and can save many lives.

You must have an appointment. There are no walk-ins. To make an appointment, log onto RedCrossBlood.org (sponsor code: stjoanblooddrive) or call John Staperfenne at 248-789-8274.



Sunday

September

7th

2025

8 am – 2 pm

In the Sr. Carol Center

 **St. Joan^{of} Arc**

LEARN HOW TO
RESPOND TO GOD IN

Psalms

AN 11-PART BIBLE STUDY FEATURING
JEFF CAVINS, SARAH CHRISTMYER,
AND TIM GRAY



WEDNESDAYS FROM 2-3:30

in the Sr. Carol Center beginning September 24

Learn more and register at sjascs.org/psalm-study

St. Vincent de Paul

CLOTHING *Drive*

This drive supports the SVDP Thrift Stores that help neighbors and families in need. For more information, call 586-774-3598.

Sat, Oct 11 from 10 am-6 pm

Sun, Oct 12 from 9 am-2 pm

You can drop off donations at the truck in the St. Joan of Arc Greater Mack Parking Lot. (Please do not leave donations prior to or after the scheduled truck.)



Needed: Gently used clothing for men, women, and children and **small household items.** (No furniture or large items, please.)

Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Studies

Morning and evening groups are starting in September

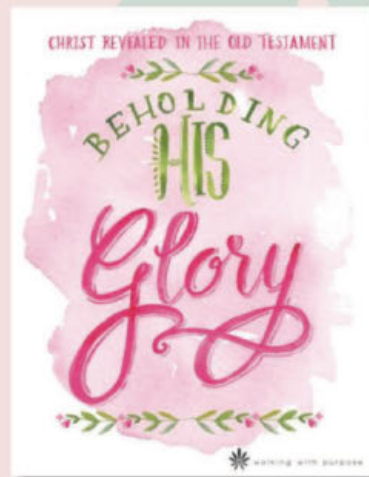
7-9 pm: *Beholding His Glory*

BEGINNING SEPT 15

As we study the people and events of the Old Testament, we'll encounter problems that only Christ will solve, needs that only He will satisfy, and promises that only He can deliver.

Beholding His Glory shows us how all Scripture points us to our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. We'll learn to recognize and appreciate God's plan for our own lives, His awe-inspiring majesty, and His desire for personal intimacy with each one of us.

- Learn how our Savior was first revealed in Genesis and how He is the answer to the issues of shame and fear.
- Understand important parallels between the lives of Moses and Jesus, and how they both led their people to freedom.
- Accompany Joseph of the Old Testament on his life journey. The God who proved faithful to Joseph will not disappoint us!



10 am-noon : *Beholding Your King*

BEGINNING SEPT 22

We live in a self-centered culture that all too often leaves us feeling empty and dissatisfied. A fuller view of God and His glory is the perfect antidote, which you will experience in *Beholding Your King*.

We'll study King David, select psalms, the temple, and many Old Testament prophets and see the ways in which they all point to the coming King of kings, Jesus Christ. This Bible study is the second part of a two-part series and is ideally completed after *Beholding His Glory*. What we'll discuss:

- Prophecies about Jesus in the Old Testament and their effect on people past and present.
- Psalm 23, the most familiar of all the Psalms which has comforted people throughout the centuries.
- God's steady purpose in both the Old and New Covenants and the promises He kept to all of us.



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

Join us! **SJA Knitting & Crocheting Ministry**

The St. Joan of Arc Knitting and Crocheting Ministry has crafted hundreds of afghans, hats, scarves, and baby items for veterans, seniors, hospitals, soup kitchens, and shelters. We'd love for you to join us! Whether you're experienced or just learning, we meet Wednesdays in Emmaus Fellowship Hall, 1-3 p.m., and provide yarn.

For more information,
contact Jo Gielniak
at 586-777-3359

... and keep in mind the
words of the Lord Jesus
who himself said, "it is
more blessed to give
than to receive."
Acts 20:35



Registration is now open for

Faith Formation

**JOIN US FOR A MONTHLY FAITH
ADVENTURE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.**

Visit sjascs.org/Faith-Formation
for all the details including dates,
sacrament preparation information
and materials fees.

**Register by Aug 10 for early registration savings.
Online registration ends Sept. 5.**

**Our monthly Sunday school is designed for all
parish families with children in grades K-6.**

**Please visit our website to view the full schedule
and for information on our Monday night classes for
students enrolled in our two-year Confirmation
formation program. (Grade 7 and older.)**

Questions?

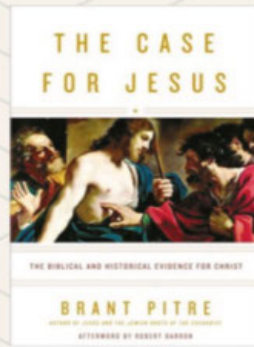
Contact Kristine Hass
at khass@sjascs.org
or 586-772-1282



Light of the Spirit Prayer Group

Meets on the 1st and 3rd
Wednesday of each month
at St. Joan of Arc from
6:30-8:30 pm in the
Sr. Carol Center.

Join us!



Hearts Afire
**STUDY AND
PRAYER MINISTRY**
**Join us for 10-week
journey into
The Case for Jesus.**

**Thursdays from 2-3:30
Sept. 18-Nov. 20
in the Emmaus Fellowship Hall
in the Sr. Carol Center**

Discover the historical and biblical evidence for Christ with Dr. Brant Pitre, author of *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*. Together, we'll explore the ancient Jewish context of the Gospels, refute the idea that they were anonymous, and uncover the divine claims of Jesus of Nazareth.

Come deepen your faith and strengthen your understanding of who Jesus is — and why it matters today. There is no cost for this study. Book purchase is optional.

Contact Susan Hughes at
313-410-9504 or Sandy Walters
at 586-241-8677 with questions.



sign up at sjascs.org/hearts-afire

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, September 1st

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

Tuesday, September 2nd

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, September 3rd

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM: Funeral for Marion Yezbick
1:00 PM: Knitting & Crocheting Ministry – #3
5:00 PM: Reconciliation
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:30 PM: Light of the Spirit Prayer Group

Thursday, September 4th

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

Friday, September 5th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 6th

11:00 AM: Reconciliation
12:30 PM: Baptism of Luna R. Hachey
1:30 PM: Baptism of Benjamin J. Turk
2:30 PM: Baptism of Luke Jeffrey Demers
4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, September 7th

8:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
8:00 AM: American Red Cross Blood Drive
10:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
12:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

August 31, 2025 – Sorry Not Sorry!

A popular movie several decades ago popularized the notion that “love means never having to say you’re sorry.”

Misguided though that may be, whether the context is love or simply day-to-day living, the idea certainly seems to have taken hold.

Is anyone ever sorry for anything anymore?

In public, when we cut someone off or do something offensive, do we take the time to apologize? In business, depending on the circumstances, admitting one is sorry carries with it potential admission of guilt, and therefore litigation. In politics ... well, no politician is ever wrong, at least by their estimation.

And yet, people of goodwill know that sometimes we do have to say we’re sorry. We do have to admit when we’ve done something wrong. It’s true in our interactions with strangers or associates, and it’s especially true with those we love.

Because to admit one is wrong is to recognize and practice humility.

And practicing humility is one of many keys to a prosperous spiritual life.

“My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts,” we hear in today’s first reading from Sirach. “Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God.”

Jesus picks up the theme in today’s gospel passage from St. Luke, in which he tells the parable of the wedding feast at which people attempt to position themselves at places of honor at the table. How much better, he says, to choose a lower spot and be invited to move up, than to choose the higher spot and be instructed to move down.

How much does that save face?

More to it, how much more loving is that?

“For every one who exalts himself will be humbled,” Jesus says, “but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

© 2025, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday September 1, 2025 Weekday; Labor Day (Green)

7:00 am Beverly Ohlrich

Tuesday September 2, 2025 Weekday (Green)

7:00 am Elaine Hernwick

Wednesday September 3, 2025 Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church (White)

7:00 am Joseph & Florence Semany

6:00 pm Special Intentions for Christine Bugarin and Jennie Moonie on her 100th Birthday

Thursday September 4, 2025 Weekday (Green)

7:00 am Michelina Macioce

Friday September 5, 2025 Weekday (Green)

7:00 am Elizabeth DeLeon Sunga

Saturday September 6, 2025 Vigil for the Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

4:00 pm George J. Bugarin, Bonnie Batche, Violet Pare, Rosemary Fallieres, Richard & Joyce Keller, Victoria Marineau, Mary Blind, Special Intentions for the family of Tina Calisi, for the living and deceased members of the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, For Deacon Tom and Josie Strasz, for Sam Manalo and Sam Baur

6:00 pm Stephen & Nancy Fattore

Sunday September 7, 2025 Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

8:00 am The Intentions of SJA Parishioners

10:00 am Janet Ternes

12:00 pm Sam Promesso, Angelo Joseph Giampetroni and Special Intentions for Laurie Ruda and Sam Baur

Daily Readings

Monday, September 1

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Luke 4:16-30

Friday, September 5

Colossians 1:15-20
Luke 5:33-39

Tuesday, September 2

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Luke 4:3-37

Saturday, September 6

Colossians 1:21-23
Luke 6:1-5

Wednesday, September 3

Colossians 1:1-8
Luke 4:38-44

Sunday, September 7

Wisdom 9:13-18b
Philomen 9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

Thursday, September 4

Colossians 1:9-14
Luke 5:1-11



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.

**LaRuth Alway
Lucienne Parker
Mary Lucy LeFevre
Mario Yezbick**

“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.

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

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



Silently Suffering?

join us for

**NATIONAL DAY
OF REMEMBRANCE**

for Aborted Children

Saturday, September 13th



11:00 am



Assumption Grotto Cemetery
13770 Gratiot
Detroit, MI 48205



light refreshments
immediately following program



If you or someone you know is silently suffering from the pain of losing a child to abortion, we invite you to take the first step toward hope and healing by honoring the memory of all children lost to abortion.

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." -Psalm 147:3

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

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

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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

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

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David Chute
Kyle Cichowski
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Paul Koss
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John Lewins
Justin Lienemann
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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

August 31, 2025

I'm Nobody! Who Are You?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

This is the title of one of Emily Dickinson's most beloved poems. Did she really think she was nobody? Probably not. But neither was she eager to get bogged down by the approval of others. She seems to have been satisfied with who she was and how she lived her life.

Unlike Dickinson, many of us live for the approval of others. In fact, we almost glorify celebrities—and not simply for their accomplishments. Their taste becomes our choice in buying clothes; their opinions shape our thinking; their social lives become our entertainment.

This is a strange turnaround, for the only reason they are famous is that we have given them our approval. We made them celebrities.

We all know people who, in the eyes of the broader society, might be considered “nobodies” but who really are the “somebodies.” They are like Dickinson. They know who they are and do not pretend to be someone or something else. They do not put on airs; they do not expect to be treated better than others. They simply are who they are. These are the people described in today's readings. They have lived as Sirach counsels: “Humble yourself” (Sirach 3:18). This does not mean humiliate yourself or put yourself down. It means be who you are: the you that God made. Don't try to be someone else. The gospel story shows what might happen if you think you are more than you really are. The proud man was literally put in his place.

So, who are you? †



**Be who you are:
the you that God made.
Don't try to be
someone else.**

A Word from Pope Leo XIV

My own story is that of a citizen, the descendant of immigrants, who in turn chose to emigrate. All of us, in the course of our lives, can find ourselves healthy or sick, employed or unemployed, living in our native land or in a foreign country, yet our dignity always remains unchanged: it is the dignity of a creature willed and loved by God.

ADDRESS TO MEMBERS OF
THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS,
ROME, MAY 16, 2025



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What do I do to gain others' admiration?
- Am I living an honest life, true to who God made me?

Sunday Readings

Sirach 3:17–18, 20, 28–29

My son, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts.

Hebrews 12:18–19, 22–24a

[Y]ou have approached...the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem...and Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant.

Luke 14:1, 7–14

[Jesus said,] “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”



Why They Migrate: Violence

Bishop Joe S. Vásquez

What are parents to do when they live in a community stricken by instability, violence, and crime? For years, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras have had the unfortunate distinction of experiencing some of the highest homicide rates of any countries in the world. Impunity for criminal behavior is common. Crimes against women are a particularly acute problem in these countries, as is widespread violence perpetrated by international criminal syndicates and local gangs.

Gangs often turn to extortion and other forms of criminal behavior to fund their illegal enterprises. Some forcibly recruit women and children into sexual slavery. Others force teenage boys to join gangs and engage in illicit behavior. If the boys fail to comply, more harassment, persecution, and violence often ensue. Government agencies responsible for protecting citizens against these violent perpetrators are often corrupt, inept, or otherwise unwilling or unable to do so.

Families must often fend for themselves and thus are left with the difficult choice to either stay in an unsafe and unstable community or try to escape to a place where they are often unwelcomed, rejected, and marginalized. Given the existential dangers at home, is it surprising that many mothers, fathers, and children decide to flee in search of safety in another land? Given similar circumstances, what would you do?

Our Lady, protectress of immigrants and refugees.... As you and your family fled from Herod in the face of threats of violence and persecution and became refugees in a foreign land, you know the fear of mothers and fathers who flee with their own children in search of a place of safety. For all those who are afflicted by violence in their homes or in their neighborhoods, please intercede on their behalf and lead them to a safe haven. Grant us the wisdom to respond effectively to the sufferings of those who flee violence. May we work to build a world of peace that shuns violence. Amen. †

From *Novena for Migrants to Our Lady of Guadalupe* by Bishop Joe S. Vásquez with Todd Scribner, PhD, Liguori Publications (828324). To order, call 800-325-9521 or visit Liguori.org.

Grant us the wisdom to respond effectively to the sufferings of those who flee violence.

Wisdom from Catholic Update

From "Devotion to the Sacred Heart: Rekindling Hope in a Troubled World"

In *Dilexit Nos* (He Loved Us), Pope Francis' encyclical, we find the integration of modern issues with the traditional devotion to the Sacred Heart, presenting Christ's heart as a central unifying force in today's fragmented world, a world Francis describes as having lost heart. He encourages us to ask ourselves important questions: "Who am I, really?... [For] what purpose am I in this world?" (DN 8).

Loving Jesus, as your heart speaks to mine, may it speak to the world the message that everyone is loved, everyone is valued, everyone is embraced in the arms of God the Creator. Jesus, receive my heart today. Soften it where it is hard, open it to whom it is closed, and so that I may be kind, loving, faithful, and strong, please make my heart like yours. Amen.

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



Holy and compassionate God, teach us the freedom of humility, the gratification of surrender, the true joy of compassion for others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 1–6

Monday, Weekday:

1 Thes 4:13–18 / Lk 4:16–30

Tuesday, Weekday:

1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11 / Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday, St. Gregory the Great:

Col 1:1–8 / Lk 4:38–44

Thursday, Weekday:

Col 1:9–14 / Lk 5:1–11

Friday, Weekday:

Col 1:15–20 / Lk 5:33–39

Saturday, Weekday:

Col 1:21–23 / Lk 6:1–5

Bringing Home
the Word

August 31, 2025



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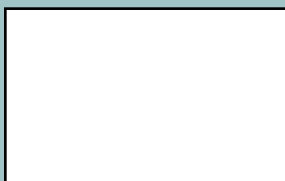
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