



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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THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man." For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:13, 17

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

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Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-777-3670
Email: Info@sjascs.org
Website: www.sjascs.org

SCHOOL
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FAITH AND FAMILY
FORMATION OFFICE
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Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

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

School

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

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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



Driving Ms. Daisy: As most of you know, I've written many columns about driving Ms. Daisy, a.k.a., my mom. Usually, I'm chauffeuring her in her much-

needed Grech RV van, which we affectionately call "Daisy Loo." But this story is about driving Ms. Daisy in my own car a few days ago. It brought plenty of laughs to my mom and our family!

The story began shortly before we left the condo to head out to St. Lawrence Parish in Utica for their annual Apple Fest a week ago this past Friday. This little adventure has been a family tradition every year on the weekend after Labor Day. It's one of the last big parish festivals in Southeast Michigan. Even when my dad was still alive, it was an annual trek for a few of us. We'd always arrive early to grab some of their outstanding food, wander through the big food tent filled with auction items and other curiosities, and cap the evening off in the bingo hall. The highlight of the night was always the best and funniest bingo caller I've ever heard. Playing bingo is fun, but it's even better when the caller is animated, witty, and has a joke for just about every number he calls. This year, we even tried to coax the earlier bingo caller into sharing some of his jokes, but she wasn't about to steal his thunder.

So, my mom and I were getting ready to make the journey to St. Lawrence. The question of the day was whether she would wear her soft neck brace or the harder one for the ride. As many of you know, she had a double neck fusion just a month ago and was starting to wean herself off both braces. Her surgeon had given her the green light to use whichever brace she preferred, with the goal of gradually phasing them out over the next few weeks. Even though she felt safer in the hard brace, I convinced her to switch to the soft one; I promised to take it easy on the drive out to St. Lawrence. We had considered taking Daisy Loo, but since it was a short trip and parking the RV would be tricky, we decided my car was the better option. Reluctantly, she suited up in her soft neck brace, and we boarded the bus my car ... and off we went.

Now, I don't get nervous driving very often, but I was definitely on edge this time. Truth be told, I was hyper-aware of every move I made because I didn't want

to do anything that might hurt her neck or cause her any discomfort. This was her first major outing since the surgery and one of her first car rides with just the soft brace. So, I had every reason to be nervous.

We made it down the street, took our usual left turn, and waited to turn onto Hayes Road. When the traffic cleared, I wasn't paying close attention and accidentally gunned it. UGH! I saw her bounce a bit in her seat, and she quickly reminded me that I had promised to take it easy since she was in the soft brace. We weren't even two minutes into the ride, and I'd already messed up. From that point on, I was super cautious. I accelerated and braked as gently as possible, leaving a ton of space between us and the cars ahead. My blood pressure and pulse must have been through the roof. And we still had 25 minutes to go.

We eventually approached the intersection of 24 and Old Van Dyke. We had a green light, but there were cars coming from the opposite direction. The light turned yellow, and out of an abundance of caution, I decided to stay put. That's when my mom piped up and said, "You know, Mike, you could have EASILY made that light."

With a look of exasperation, I turned to my mom and said, "MOM, I JUST got in trouble for gunning it back at the condo, and now you want me to GUN it again? Fat chance! No way! I'm not getting in trouble AGAIN!"

The Consequences of Living a Busy, Hurried Life (Part 8): Last week, I wrote about the empty promises of busyness. As we know, our world tends to glorify absolute busyness, but my call was for us to reconsider the relentless pursuit of productivity that often leaves us empty and restless.

This week, I want to focus on the call we have to rest and to keep the Sabbath.

I understand, it's hard to stop a speeding train, especially the speeding train of our relentless activity. At first, it can feel scary and nerve-wracking. We might even feel like we're doing something wrong when we pause or slow down. But Scripture provides us with plenty of passages, from both the Old and New Testaments, to remind us of the importance of rest, keeping the Sabbath, and trusting the Lord to help set our priorities.

Let's start with the Ten Commandments. They are commandments, my friends, not suggestions. The third commandment is this: "Remember the sabbath day - keep it holy. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God. You shall not do any work, either you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your work animal, or the resident alien within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day, he rested. That is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy (Exodus 20:8-11)."

As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) recalls in no. 2172, God's action serves as a model for human action: "If God 'rested and was refreshed' on the seventh day, man too ought to 'rest' and should let others, especially the poor, 'be refreshed.' The sabbath brings everyday work to a halt and provides a respite. It is a day of protest against the servitude of work and the worship of money."

In CCC 2184, there is a beautiful line that should form the basis for our reflections on how we spend our Sundays: "Just as God 'rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done,' human life has a rhythm of work and rest. The institution of the Lord's Day helps everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives."

I want to emphasize that final line, namely, that we are encouraged to use our Sundays to cultivate our familial, cultural, social, and religious lives. It starts with worship and honoring our commitment to participate in the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. From there, we should strive to get the adequate rest and leisure we need to nurture these other aspects of our lives. If we don't take the time to carve out even a small portion of the day that the Lord has given us as a gift to accomplish these goals, it will never happen!

The question then for us to consider is this: How then do we and our family keep holy the Sabbath? What changes can we make to keep this sacred day holy?

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
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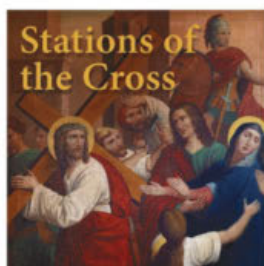
This Week on Formed

Week of September 14, 2025



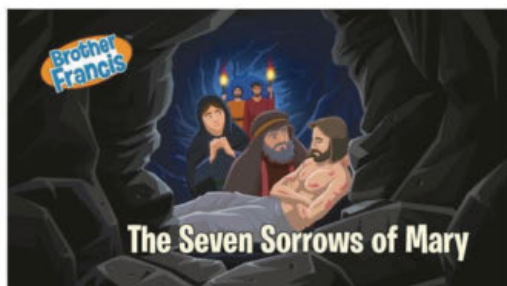
The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Seven Sorrows of Mary is a traditional Catholic devotion featuring meditations on sorrowful episodes in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Join us in prayer as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.



Stations of the Cross by Saint Alphonsus Liguori

The Augustine Institute presents a beautiful meditation on the Stations of the Cross by Saint Alphonsus Liguori, narrated by Dr. Christopher Blum. This prayerful reflection is accompanied by the Schola Cantorum, chanting the traditional Catholic hymn Stabat Mater to aid your prayer.



The Seven Sorrows of Mary | Brother Francis

Join Brother Francis as he prays and explores the Seven Sorrows of Mary Devotion!

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

The current population of the world is about 8.2 billion – and counting. That's a lot of people. We humans are scattered around our big ball of water and dirt that is about 8,000 miles in diameter. The earth spins about 1,000 miles per hour at the equator. And the whole earth circles the sun at about 67,000 miles per hour. The great magnitude of these few aspects of human existence is mind-boggling. Astonishing realities of our world are demonstrated in littleness, too. The smallest universally recognized living organism is 0.00001 inch in size.

Then again, there are things called *quarks* which are fundamental material particles considered to have 'zero' size, because they are small enough to be considered abstract 'points' in space. What is utterly amazing about the visible and invisible things in our universe, both gigantic and miniscule, is that God has an intimate and thorough understanding and awareness of **all** of them at every moment. We human beings, on the other hand, struggle to grasp what a million of anything would look like – much less fathoming 8.2 billion people on earth.

Amid a world that demonstrates both overwhelming immensity and vanishing smallness, we humans can tend to feel insignificant. One person among 8,200,000,000 does not normally stand out much. Then again, even though we might be huge in comparison to an ant on the ground, our relationship with ants doesn't matter much. What ultimately matters is how we relate to the other people on our planet and with God who created us all. Curiously, how we behave at any particular moment in our relationships is based on a simple question: "Who's watching?"

Whether or not someone has eyes on us has a big bearing on how we will or will not act. When we are alone, we are far less inhibited. We will do things that would embarrass us quickly if we knew someone was nearby. These embarrassing things

might not be bad, but just personal. Yet, there might also be a tendency, when we are by ourselves, to act in a way that is morally wrong. We might take something that belongs to someone else. We might surf harmful websites on the internet or malign someone on social media. We may throw litter out the car window or be wasteful. We might cheat on a test. We may abuse our own bodies. We might abandon our thoughts to unhealthy fantasies.

Yet, even when we are around other people, we can have enough anonymity to feel comfortable doing wrong things. In fact, we can use the massive crowds of people around us as cover for bad behavior. We can drive like maniacs and endanger other people. We can objectify others, or be prejudicial and uncharitable with just a glance. We could be a slouch at work and overload fellow workers by our neglect. We are most inclined to do such bad stuff when we are isolated in some way from others. We hide in the shadows and darkness. But what about God's perspective on such poor performance?

From God's standpoint, we are *never* alone, never isolated. If we believe God truly is who we Catholics say he is, he has his eyes on us all the time. We Catholics believe that God is omniscient and omnipresent. We believe that God knows everything there is to know and is constantly attentive to every created thing. Although we humans might be more inclined to accept God's ability to *know* all things rather than to *be everywhere* at once, this is what the Catholic Church teaches us. The concept may even seem creepy to us. "There's no place to hide!" Even in this age of no privacy, it is still unsettling to think of the eye of Big Brother on us all the time. Only, in this case, is it not Big Brother, but Abba Father. God sees all, but he cares lovingly about what he sees.

In contrast, it is safe to say that we don't have the attentiveness of God. It

is a rare person who is *constantly* aware of God's attention to us. So, we get slack and weak. We feel free to dabble with sin when no one is watching. Except, he *is* watching. Why we fake ourselves into thinking God is not watching, so that we can be free to sin, is silly. We are only kidding ourselves. It doesn't make logical sense to encourage our dark side by denying that God is always there for us. It is childish (and dangerous) to cover our eyes with our hands like a little kid and yell to everyone else, "You can't see me!" So, what's the point here? Well, *we would be far better off learning to live honestly.*

Consistent, honest living is incredibly liberating but challenging to maintain. Approaching each day convinced that God in the trenches with us does not come readily. But if we work to develop an ease of friendship with the Lord, his ongoing presence will develop into constant comfort rather than a fearful guilt trip. Honest interaction with our Lord, who is there watching over us regardless of our wishes, is the most peaceful route in life to travel. The old adage, "Honesty is the best policy," makes a lot of sense – especially when applied to our relationship with God. He already knows what our deal is anyway. It is just plain smart to cooperate with God's desire to love us rather than try to hide among a planet-full of people so that we can "do our own thing." Then, if we could manage to let honesty with God wash over into honest relationships with neighbors and family, we will be still happier. We will be more like the persons God created us to be. We won't have to worry about constantly looking over our shoulders to keep from being caught living a lie.

In Christ,
Fr. Bob



September 14, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Num 21:4b-9 | Phil 2:6-11 | Jn 3:13-17

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

Although God had freed our ancestors in faith from their slavery in Egypt, today we find them grumbling against the Lord as they wander in the desert. Even after we've glimpsed so much of God's goodness, we, too, can begin to grumble in challenging moments of our lives. It's precisely then that we need to cling to faith. After serpents appeared and began to bite those who had grumbled against God, those who had been bitten only had to look at the serpent mounted on a pole and put their faith in God once again to be healed. Similarly, when we find ourselves in the trials of life, we need only look at the cross of Jesus with faith. "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." Amid the storms of our lives, we are called to put our trust in his cross, for through it we are saved and set free.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Paul tells us that God the Father "greatly exalted" Jesus for his humility in embracing the cross, and that ultimately, all creation will join the Father in glorifying Christ. We who know the gift of what Jesus did for us on the cross are called to praise him with our voices and our lives. We praise and glorify Christ first through our example. How might our day-to-day interactions give others a glimpse of the humble and self-emptying love of Jesus? Finally, think of the ways that knowing Christ's love has made a difference in your life. Has it made you more patient? Has it made you more hopeful? Think of ways that you could share this in conversation. Telling others about what God has done for you or the difference that he has made in your life is one way of exalting Christ.

PRAISE

Today, spend some time thanking and praising God for the gift of the cross and our salvation in Christ. You might wish to use this traditional prayer frequently used during the stations of the cross in Lent: "We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world."



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 21 C

Reading One – Am 8:4-7

Hear this, you who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor of the land! "When will the new moon be over," you ask, "that we may sell our grain, and the sabbath, that we may display the wheat? We will diminish the ephah, add to the shekel, and fix our scales for cheating! We will buy the lowly for silver, and the poor for a pair of sandals; even the refuse of the wheat we will sell!" The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Never will I forget a thing they have done!

Responsorial – Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Praise, you servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. Blessed be the name of the LORD both now and forever.

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

High above all nations is the LORD; above the heavens is his glory. Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

He raises up the lowly from the dust; from the dunghill he lifts up the poor to seat them with princes, with the princes of his own people.

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Reading Two – 1 Tm 2:1-8

Beloved: First of all, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone, for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all devotion and dignity. This is good and pleasing to God our savior, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth. For there is one God. There is also one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as ransom for all. This was the testimony at the proper time. For this I was appointed preacher and apostle — I am speaking the truth, I am not lying — teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. It is my wish, then, that in every place the men should pray, lifting up holy hands, without anger or argument.

Alleluia – Cf. 2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia.

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Lk 16:1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another the steward said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' The steward said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. "For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon."

CHILDREN'S CHOIR STARTS MONDAY SEPT. 15

**Join our children's liturgical
choir *Grace Notes* for
students from our parish
and school in grades 1-8**

Weekly practices begin Monday,
September 15, from 4-4:45 pm in the
Church Music Room (off the parking lot
between the church and school).

**For details and to register, go
to sjascs.org/childrens-choir**



Contact Mrs. Catherine Trudell with
questions at ctrudell@sjascs.org or
call the Parish Center at 586-777-3670.





THANK YOU!

Because of YOUR generosity, we surpassed our 2025 CSA goal in a matter of a few months! Thank you for your support!

SJA's GOAL:
\$ 205,013

**Paid & Pledged
as of 9/9/2025:**
\$ 221,243

Total Paid to date:
\$ 177,585

478 Givers



CSA 2025

**Do you
love me?**
**Feed
my sheep.**

Jn 21:15-17,19



JESUS

THE WAY, THE TRUTH,
AND THE LIFE

Presented by MARCELLINO D'AMBROSIO,
JEFF CAVINS, and EDWARD SRI

THE DEFINITIVE STUDY OF JESUS CHRIST

The marvelous treasures of the Catholic Faith—the Eucharist, Mary, the saints, and the Creed—are all centered on a single figure: Jesus Christ. Jesus is more than a historical or theological figure. He is our savior, our redeemer, our Lord, and our God. While many of us know a lot about him already, how well can we say that we really know him?

JESUS: THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE is a new and fresh look at Jesus—who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, and what he did for our salvation. This encounter with Christ will inspire and empower you to center your entire life around him as you come to know and love him in an ever deeper and more intimate way.



THIS 10-WEEK
STUDY BEGINS
TUESDAY
NIGHTS FROM
7-8:30 PM
IN PERSON IN
THE SR. CAROL
CENTER AND
ONLINE
BEGINNING
OCT. 7



sjascs.org/the-way-the-truth

 St. Joan of Arc

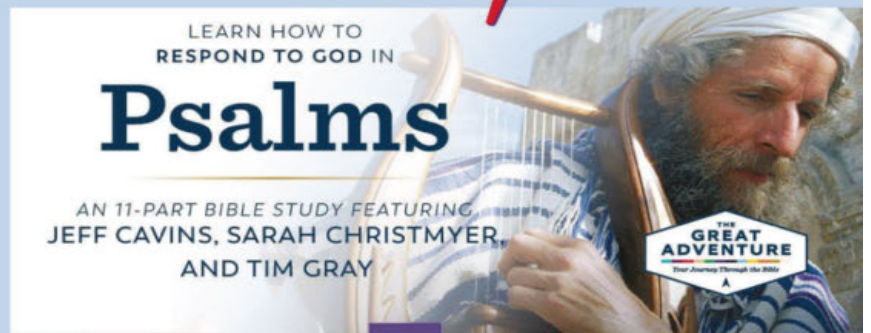
MEN'S Fellowship

The group meets at 7 pm
on the 2nd and 4th
Monday each month in
the St. Mary Conference
Room in the Sr. Carol
Center.

LEARN HOW TO
RESPOND TO GOD IN

Psalms

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



Consider joining for this new Study beginning Oct. 13



sjascs.org/sja-mens-fellowship

Contact Pat Adamcik at 313-477-3697 or
Larry Krzesowski at 313-434-3848.

We Need Your help!

For over 25 years, our parish has helped serve meals at **Crossroads of Michigan**. Rather than asking for food donations, we are requesting cash donations so that all the food that is needed can be purchased.

If you are able to donating for this important outreach, please visit sjascs.org/crossroads (or use the QR code). You can also make a donation at the Parish Center or by placing an envelope in the Sunday collection box in the Gathering Place. Please make checks payable to St. Joan of Arc. If donating by cash or check, please be sure to indicate that the donation is for the Crossroads Soup Kitchen.



We will be cooking and serving food at Crossroads on September 21 and truly appreciate your donations and your prayers!

Crossroads  of Michigan

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.)

Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, September 15th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
7:00 PM: Walking with Purpose

Tuesday, September 16th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, September 17th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
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 18th

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

Friday, September 19th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 20th

11:00 AM: Reconciliation
12:30 PM: Baptism of Oliver Rhett Gilstad
1:30 PM: Baptism of Cyril Vitally Latorella
4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, September 21st

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

Words on the Word

Sept. 14, 2025 – Search for Truth

It's pretty well understood that, when it comes to the technology titans of Silicon Valley, Christianity is not widely embraced.

Why that is, and why it has been that way for several decades, is a complex topic.

But it's possible, just possible, that things may be changing.

A recent story in a UK-based publication reported that “existential questions arising from the race to develop ‘God-like’ artificial intelligence are driving a revival of interest in Christianity in Silicon Valley.”

Maybe that's a good thing. Maybe not. It's hard to say, since the motives of those doing the investigating may or may not have more to do with business interests than with a heartfelt search for spiritual truth.

Indeed, the article suggests as much.

That being said, perhaps this is one of those developments for which we should be thankful, stop worrying, and simply step aside and let God do his work. Because we know that God has wired us, all of us, to be hungry in our search for him. And that he uses whatever means and levers of everyday life he can in order to draw us to him.

So, if tech execs are, perhaps, dipping their toes into the waters of Christianity for some sort of economic advantage, maybe they'll discover the real benefit of knowing Jesus, and find truth in the answers.

After all, as we hear in today's second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians, all roads lead to Christ.

“Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,” St. Paul writes, “that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

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Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday	September 15, 2025 Our Lady of Sorrows (White)
7:00 am	Marie Champine
Tuesday	September 16, 2025 Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs (Red)
7:00 am	Audrey Benedis
Wednesday	September 17, 2025 Weekday; Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin & doctor of the Church (Green/White/White)
7:00 am	Ralph Mastay
6:00 pm	Michael Timmreck
Thursday	September 18, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	Marie Stahl
Friday	September 19, 2025 Weekday; Most Holy Name of Mary (Green/White)
7:00 am	Rose Fracassa
Saturday	September 20, 2025 Vigil for the Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
4:00 pm	Ramira Arrizola, Bonnie Batche, Doreen Saur, Edward, Helen & Henry Blind, Terri Smigels, Joan Webber, Dr. Lori Karol, Anita Hale, Ron Dichtel, Victoria Marineau, Richard & Joyce Keller, Joyce Doyle, Mary Susan Russell, Mary Ellen Kutschke, and Special Intentions for Nancy Dichtel, for the living and deceased members of the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, for Sam Manolo, for Sam Baur
6:00 pm	Angeline Calus
Sunday	September 21, 2025 Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
8:00 am	The Intentions of SJA Parishioners
10:00 am	Allan Ullery
12:00 pm	Herbert Thelen, Sam Promesso, Alfred Sandoval, and Special Intentions for Laurie Ruda and Sam Baur

Daily Readings

Monday, September 15	Friday, September 19
1 Timothy 2:1-8 John 19:25-27	1 Timothy 6:2c-12 Luke 8:1-3
Tuesday, September 16	Saturday, September 20
1 Timothy 3:1-13 Luke 7:11-17	1 Timothy 6:13-16 Luke 8:4-15
Wednesday, September 17	Sunday, September 21
1 timothy 3:14-16 Luke 7:31-35	Amos 8:4-7 1 Timothy 2:1-8 Luke 16:1-13
Thursday, September 18	
1 Timothy 4:12-16 Luke 7:36-50	

I Am The Resurrection & The Life

“Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families.

Bishop Bernard J. Harrington
Angelo Cristo
Joan Nettle
Baby Shai Cato
Alexus Sherill

“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 protect.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.

St. Veronica News



Email: stveronicaeast@comcast.net

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9:00 am or 11:00am Mass

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Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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Robert Douglas III
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Bringing Home the Word

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 14, 2025

Embrace the Cross

Paige Byrne Shortal

One of my most privileged moments in the Church year is when I witness the embrace of the cross on Good Friday. Old and young, vigorous and lame, all come forward—young parents with their babies, elders, the successful, and the beaten down. And they kneel or genuflect or kiss or touch or bow to the cross presented to them.

Everyone suffers. Everyone dies. Everyone lives with loss and fear of loss. What makes suffering Christian? What makes it redemptive? What makes the

cross we embrace the cross of Jesus? There were three crosses on Calvary that dark day. There were crosses everywhere in the Roman Empire. It was how the state executed those who posed a threat.

I think the answer has something to do with “embrace.” When we finally say “yes” to our suffering—to the loss, no matter how great—there is room for God to heal and mend and bring back to life.

Our cross becomes one with the cross of Jesus when we can say with him, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). To join our cross with the cross of Jesus, we must forgive whoever it is we blame for our suffering—even if that blame is heaped upon ourselves or on God.

Such forgiveness doesn’t come easily. Perhaps that is why Jesus followed the Spirit out into the desert: to be ready—not for the ordeal of the cross, but for the ordeal of forgiveness. †



When we finally say “yes” to our suffering, there is room for God to heal and mend and bring back to life.

A Word from Pope Leo XIV

I chose to take the name Leo XIV... mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical *Rerum Novarum* addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution. In our own day, the Church offers...the treasury of her social teaching in response to...challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor.

ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS, ROME, MAY 10, 2025



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- What cross am I bearing today?
- Can I pray for the grace to accept my cross and offer my suffering as prayer?

Sunday Readings

Numbers 21:4b–9

The LORD said to Moses: Make a seraph and mount it on a pole, and everyone who has been bitten will look at it and recover.

Philippians 2:6–11

[Christ Jesus] humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

John 3:13–17

“So must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”



Mary Magdalene: The Shout of Faith

Sergio Stevan

Finally, the dawn of Sunday came. Mary, dragged down by the events of Friday, aimlessly wanders to the tomb. She is a woman walking ever so slowly. Depressed, she goes toward the dullness of the day with death in her heart and wrapped in a profound sadness. Mary cannot help but go. She cannot do anything less. Love pushes her to the tomb. She goes to repay the Lord for what she has received—liberation from seven demons. She goes looking for a dead

body to give it a fitting gesture of attention and to honor her teacher and her Lord. For Mary Magdalene, who loves Jesus more than any other, it is still night. Night! It is the test of faith. In the Gospel of John, we read that when Judas left the room of the Last Supper, it was still night. (See John 13:30.) Mary goes to the tomb while it is still night, not knowing she is heading toward the light of dawn. Having arrived at the tomb, she sees with horror that the stone blocking the tomb has been rolled away, and the body of Jesus is gone. Mary feels faint. She sits on a rock and cries.

The angels ask her, “Why are you crying?” And Jesus asks, “Who are you seeking?” Jesus wants what really is in the heart of this woman to emerge. Jesus invites her to escape from the slavery of her past, and he calls her by name: “Mary!” She feels again recognized and loved. Mary’s joy is full. An unforeseen peace, after so much suffering, descends into her soul. The weight that oppressed her heart rolls away like the stone of the tomb. The man who has called her by name approaches her. She, at first not believing her own ears, suddenly falls to her knees and, sobbing with joy, shouts, “Rabbouni!” †

The weight that oppressed her heart rolls away like the stone of the tomb.

From *Jesus and the Women of Faith, Hope, and Love* by Sergio Stevan, Liguori Publications (820274). To order, call 800-325-9521 or visit Liguori.org.

Wisdom from Catholic Update

From “The Way of the Cross” by Jack Wintz, OFM

We come to walk with you, Jesus, confident that you will lead us into the presence of God. We choose you as the model for our life journey. Your journey to the cross dramatizes what your whole life has been: an offering of praise to God and of loving service to humanity. This is what we want for our lives, too. Like the rest of your life, your passion and death were acts of praise—a response to God’s infinite love for you. We, too, want to praise God in sharing your cross.... Christ Jesus, open our hearts to your amazing love. As we walk with you on this way of the cross, help us respond with praise and grieve over our failure to return your love.

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



Merciful God, give us the grace to carry our crosses and unite them with the cross of your Son, Jesus, so that we may offer our suffering as prayer for the world. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 15–20

Monday, Our Lady of Sorrows:

1 Tm 2:1–8 / Jn 19:25–27 or Lk 2:33–35

Tuesday, Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian:

1 Tm 3:1–13 / Lk 7:11–17

Wednesday, Weekday: 1 Tm 3:14–16 / Lk 7:31–35

Thursday, Weekday: 1 Tm 4:12–16 / Lk 7:36–50

Friday, Weekday:

1 Tm 6:2c–12 / Lk 8:1–3

Saturday, Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang and Companions:

1 Tm 6:13–16 / Lk 8:4–15

Bringing Home
the Word

September 14, 2025

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