



SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

Our mission is to be a **faith-filled, joyful, and charitable** parish, rooted in Christ. Guided by **transformative opportunities, radical hospitality, and bold discipleship**, we strive to welcome all, live our values, and share the Gospel with courage and compassion.

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25th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth?" - Lk 16:11

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

CLPI

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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
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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

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Fax: 586-775-8374

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(Moderator)
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Fr. Eric Fedewa
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Exceptional Children

Michelle Russo

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am
Wednesday: 6:00 pm

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 pm

Holy Day Masses

Vigil Mass: (evening prior) 7:00 pm
7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Wednesdays: 5:00 pm
Saturdays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
in the Sister Carol Center

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7am Mass

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center is open:
Monday - Thursday: 8:30am - 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



“My Baby:”
When I was first assigned to St. Joan of Arc Parish, Monsignor Bass told the staff to get ready. He warned them they were going from

one of the least technologically advanced priests to one of the more advanced ones. I remember vividly, during one of my pre-meetings with the staff and Monsignor Bass, discovering that while the school had “somewhat” of a network, the Parish Center was still relying on a dial-up modem! I was floored. Even before I officially arrived, I was already ordering equipment to bring “real” internet to the Parish Center.

Over the years, we’ve expanded the network significantly, from new switches to upgraded wireless access points. The network has become “my baby,” and I’m very protective of it.

Eventually, we installed our first set of fiber cables, connecting all seven buildings underground. That was a fun project, but those fiber cables, while cutting-edge at the time, could only handle 1 GB of traffic. With increasing bandwidth demands, especially in recent years, it became clear we needed to start planning for a whole new network design. Last year, in preparation for this upgrade, we installed 10 Gb fiber throughout the campus. With that infrastructure in place, we were ready to implement a new network design whenever the time came.

In 2017 and 2019, I installed a bunch of Cisco wireless units and their firewall/appliance. It worked well, but the licensing fees were outrageous—\$7,000 per year! In August 2022, we paid \$21,000 to cover us through August 2025. As this August approached, I started receiving multiple emails about renewing the license. I didn’t want to invest more money in our aging system. What I didn’t realize at the time was that if the renewal fee wasn’t paid, Cisco had the right to “brick” the entire system, that is, rendering it completely inoperable, even though we owned the (now outdated) equipment.

As we all know, items on “The List” take time, even when it’s something I’m passionate about. That’s just how “The List” works! But when I found out our entire campus network would go dark on September 25, this project shot straight to

the top of the list. With some panicked calls to my friends at RMW Productions, Rob and his sons Chris and Justin Wisnieski, we quickly hatched a design and plan. Truth be told, Justin is the wiz kid of the group when it comes to networking.

When all the new Ubiquiti equipment arrived, we scrambled to finalize the installation plan. The only problem? Time was ticking. Cisco grants a 30-day grace period, and that was it. Our options were to pay for another year, risk the network shutting down at the end of the grace period, or invest in new equipment to meet our growing needs.

Justin created a mock SJA network at his office, programmed everything, and assured me it would be a smooth transition. He kept trying to reassure me not to worry, but I have to admit I was skeptical. This was a major technology project at SJA, and we all know how projects go at SJA!

“D-Day” was this past Monday, September 15, when we planned to swap out the core piece of equipment. We strategically chose this date because the school would be at Lake St. Clair Metropark (a.k.a. Metro Beach) for their summer reading reward outing. That morning, I ran into Mary Pat Brennan in the Parish Center kitchen, and we chatted about the network swap. I jokingly told her, “I’m going to be in a bad mood most of the day.”

Justin had everything ready to go. Rob, knowing how on edge I was, brought Chris, Jacob, and himself along just in case. All hands were on deck because of the Monsignor! They knew I’d be watching like a hawk and trying to “help,” so Rob wanted to be prepared. We started at 9:30 a.m. With my pulse racing, we unplugged the network cables from the core Cisco firewall, and I sent out a message to the staff letting them know the network would be up and down for several hours. By 12:00 p.m., Justin had the new core equipment up and running, and the network was humming along with only minor hiccups. I let out a HUGE sigh of relief; I hadn’t expected it to go THAT smoothly.

When all was said and done, and we were monitoring the stats on the new Ubiquiti dashboard, I turned to Justin, Chris, and Jacob and admitted, “I was REALLY, REALLY nervous about all of this.” Justin grinned and replied, “REALLY? We couldn’t tell at all,

Monsignor.” What can I say? We were dealing with “my baby!”

An Update: Many of you have noticed that work on the first “White House” has been in full swing. As some of you might remember, when Father Andrew left and Father Adam arrived, Father Adam had to live in a nearby apartment because the First White House (as opposed to my White House, which we call the Second White House on Overlake) was filled with mold. Over time, and with extensive dehumidification, the mold levels in the house were significantly reduced. It was recently decided that, with some additional work, Father Bob could move onto campus. He’s currently been living in the parish condo on Doremus Street.

To prepare the house, we’ve had to remove all the “soft goods,” like carpeting and cloth furniture, that had been affected by mold. We’re also working on a foundation project to not only waterproof the basement but also reinforce the crumbling walls. At one point, we considered tearing down the house, but the cost turned out to be about the same as restoring it. Last weekend, if you were here on Saturday, you might have noticed that the house got a fresh coat of paint on the exterior, with all the trim and shutters painted black. It looks fantastic!

Father Bob and our team have been instrumental in getting the house back in order. The ever-eager Father Bob has spent many evenings and weekends doing a lot of the work himself! He’s even been spotted wielding a chainsaw, cutting down trees and shrubs. One day, a “spy” (possibly my mom, who was out for a walk while recovering from surgery) snapped a picture of Father Bob cutting down the dead front tree. She sent the photo to Dina, who quickly texted him, “WHAT are you doing all by yourself?” Father Bob was baffled at how Dina found out so quickly. He knew she kept a close eye on the cameras, but he didn’t think he was on anyone’s radar THAT day!

You’ll continue to see work being done on the house for the next couple of months, with the hope of getting Father Bob moved in by Thanksgiving!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

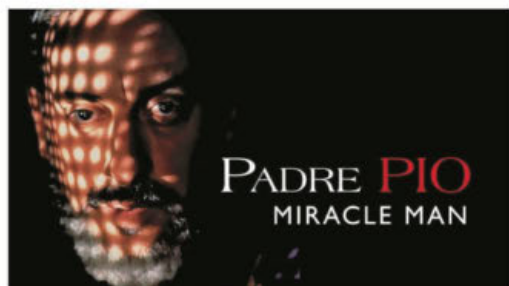
In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org



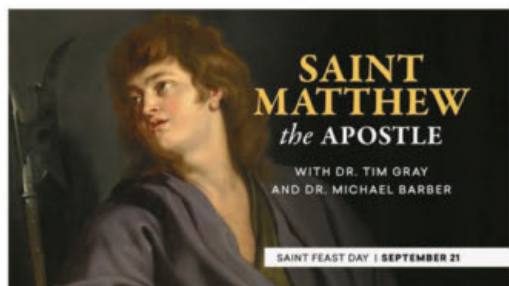
This Week on Formed

Week of September 21, 2025



Padre Pio: Miracle Man

This movie captures the Capuchin friar's intense faith, devotion, and deep spiritual concern for others, as well as his great compassion for the sick and suffering. It reveals the amazing details and events in Padre Pio's life as a boy and throughout his fifty years as a friar, dramatizing the frequent attacks from the devil, as well as the persecution he suffered at the hands of people, including those in the Church.



Saint Matthew | Catholic Saints

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. We are all familiar with the four Gospels, but what makes them stand out from the rest? Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Michael Barber as they discuss St. Matthew, the great Apostle and evangelist.



Padre Pio: Between Heaven and Earth

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. Blessed with incredible spiritual gifts, including healing, bi-location, reading of souls, and the stigmatic wounds, Padre Pio was a powerful witness for Christ, and a great spiritual guide to countless souls for over fifty years.

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

For those of us who find the current state of our world to be less than ideal, it might be worth considering how God is personally involved in our lives. How responsible is God for making things happen or not happen in our day-to-day? We can be assured that God is not one who brings sin and evil into our lives. He cannot be the author of that. God is all good and only produces good. We understand God to be someone who loves us and wants good for us. He will protect us and provide us with the things that we need.

But there are instances in Scripture where people of the Old Testament feel abandoned by God. One place we read of this abandonment is in Psalm 44. The people feel abandoned by God even though they believe that they had not violated his covenant – that they had not turned away from the instruction he had provided so they could live good and fruitful lives. They question God's faithfulness to them. It is a good question. If we are doing what God asks of us, why would he not provide for us the gifts that He says He will give us? Yet, it seems that this question might call for a better analysis of the way that we hold up our end of our faith relationship. Particularly so, in this time that we find ourselves, where the world is chaotic in so many ways. Violence is measurably on the increase. Visible hateful violence continues to rear its head all over the globe. Where is God in all this? And if he loves us, if he's a loving God, why would he allow this to go on?

God can love us in two different ways. He certainly loves us by giving us life – by creating us – and giving us the spiritual and material gifts that we have. He enables us to have life and to have it to the full. He also gives us freedom. Like any parent, he seeks to have us, his children, grow, and ultimately be able to live successfully on our own. God gives us more and more freedom to let us spread our wings, test our growing adult theories, to engage in a lot of trial and error activity, and to hopefully learn the right way to live and to be successful. Our Father enables us in this way to provide the necessities for us, his kids, to grow. This is very loving.

There is another form of parental love given to a child who is going down the wrong path in life. Direct punishment can

be an expression of love as a response to bad behavior in an effort to limit damage done. But such punishment is generally most effective combatting ignorance and immaturity. As we grow into adulthood, a loving parent may find the best chastisement to let a wayward child fall flat on his face. Sometimes, “the hard way” is the only way a lesson will be learned. Letting a child learn the hard way, without totally abandoning her, can also be a very loving act.

It would be worth our while to consider how God might be loving us now – personally. A truly candid evaluation of our personal behavior, in light of what we know in our hearts that God expects of us, might be revealing. Might we be giving ourselves too much credit for being “good,” when in fact our behavior is more like “so-so?” If we rank our moral lives as an ‘8’ or a ‘9’, when the truth is more like ‘5’ or ‘6’, is it possible that God might be trying to get us to up our game by letting our world fall in on us to get our attention? God does not bring the violence and despair upon us. He does not deal in anything but the good. Yet he can certainly stand back and let us stew in our own juices, if he sees positive value in doing so.

God, when he is reprimanding, correcting, and trying to bring us to the truth, can allow us to fall on our faces when we refuse to open our eyes to the truth that he tries to show us in a more gentle fashion. Is that what's going on now? Particularly in our world today we see a lot of persecution of Christians, Catholics. We have to wonder why God allows this to happen. We should think of the way that we live our Catholic lives. Certainly, we can acknowledge the good things we bring to the world. But are we really, genuinely living the life that we know we should live? Even among those of us who are “good people” or “devoted Catholics,” does the whole of our life reflect our commitment to living the Catholic faith? Maybe . . . maybe not. The reality is, our witness to Christ may not be that great. There may be things that we find ourselves doing that are actually harmful to our own well-being or the well-being of those around us. Those things need to be corrected. Because to whatever extent we are affected by the violence and destruction of life that is going on around us, maybe we're being spared in a great way from

harm that could just as easily be foisted upon us for failings that we have allowed.

As a whole, the body of Christ is responsible for the way that the world is. If, as the body of Christ, we're not holding up our end of the deal, the world is going to fall down. It would behoove us to once again look at our lives and examine those places that need to be shined up a bit. Particularly, those of us who regularly strive to be as faithful to Christ as possible, need to be bold about bringing Jesus' truth into the world. When we are together with people who are bellyaching about how awful things are, how the world is going to hell in a handbasket, we need to open our mouths and say, “It's because God has been thrown out. It's because we have walked away from the guidelines that the Lord himself has given us to live happy lives.”

Shying away from our Faith contributes to our social, moral decline. We have been given so much. And “from those to whom much has been given, much is expected.” If we are not giving back to God in response to what he has given us, we will be held accountable. Although we may not be violent evildoers who destroy others, we still have a responsibility to make our world into what God intends it to be. And we need to keep our world from becoming what it should not. We cannot enable evil by standing on the sidelines. We must not remain silent when injustice is done. We should pray to be courageous in truth rather than worry about making waves. Maybe the upheaval going on right now in our world is allowed by the Lord as a means of correction. Are we paying attention?

There are modern-day saints among us who sacrificially give everything they've got to the Lord. Other people viciously fight God at every turn. Many more of us are stuck in the wishy-washy middle. We're okay, but not great. It's worth thinking about. Is there room for at least a little improvement?

Peace in Jesus,
Fr. Bob



André Miron, Parable of the Unjust Steward, CC BY-SA 4.0

September 21, 2025

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 8:4-7 | 1 Tim 2:1-8 | Lk 16:1-13

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

As Catholics we understand that none of our actions are truly isolated. Every virtue we practice or sin we commit affects others because we are all members of the body of Christ. Today's readings from the Old and New Testaments highlight our interconnectedness and offer guidance for how to order the life of the community according to God's will. The key to tranquil communal life is to consider the needs of others as important as our own. In the first reading, the prophet Amos decries those who exploit the poor for personal gain, putting profit over the common good. In the second reading, St. Paul begs the community to pray not only for themselves and for their close relatives, but to offer prayer and supplication for *everyone*. It's tempting to buy into the perspective that we need only focus on *our own* life. But the Lord invites us into authentic community where we intercede, sacrifice for and build up the kingdom *together*.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I like to think of myself as a trustworthy person, and I'd expect most of us would consider ourselves the same. But as the Lord convicts my heart with today's Gospel reading about those who are trustworthy or untrustworthy in big and small matters, I hear the Holy Spirit inviting me to ponder deeper questions: Perhaps I don't intentionally deceive people and I aim to keep my word, but when someone's name or reputation comes up in conversation, can I be trusted to build them up? Do I fall prey to petty gossip, or simply sit idly by as others fall? I am true to scheduled commitments I make, but am I trustworthy with how I spend all my time? Do I use the gift of time for God's greater glory, or do I squander it with excessive scrolling or mindless TV shows? The Spirit doesn't want us to be scrupulous, and everything must be understood through God's merciful gaze. But the Lord does intend to purify us so that we can live more fully in communion with him.

REFLECT

Today, consider how you are invited to live in community and contribute to the building of a Christ-like culture. How are you called to more trustworthy stewardship of the gifts and time God has given you so that you can use them for building up the body of Christ?



THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 28 C

Reading One – Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Thus says the LORD the God of hosts: Woe to the complacent in Zion! Lying upon beds of ivory, stretched comfortably on their couches, they eat lambs taken from the flock, and calves from the stall! Improvising to the music of the harp, like David, they devise their own accompaniment. They drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the best oils; yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph! Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.

Responsorial – Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

Blessed he who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets captives free.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The LORD gives sight to the blind; the LORD raises up those who were bowed down. The LORD loves the just; the LORD protects strangers.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

Reading Two – 1 Tm 6:11-16

But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

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 16:19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Jesus' parable of the untrustworthy steward sums up all our anxieties surrounding material wealth and the delicate balance we have to strike of caring for our physical needs while prioritizing our spiritual ones.

God and Mammon

Dealing with money is unpleasant.

You might be good at dealing with money (I am not). You might even do it for a living (I do not). You might be careful to use as much of your money as you can for good purposes (I try to, but man, these skyrocketing grocery prices are killing me).

But ultimately, money does not bring out the best in us. We waste it. We manipulate it. We hoard it. We become obsessed by it. We let pursuit of it define our decisions. Money is something akin to — it corrupts by touch, it seems. But unlike witchcraft, you can't avoid money altogether. It's necessary. These dollars and cents keep us alive in this world, for a time. We need them for food, for warmth, for health.

Jesus' parable of the untrustworthy steward sums up all our anxieties surrounding material wealth and the delicate balance we have to strike of caring for our physical needs while prioritizing our spiritual ones. But the parable reminds us that we can't escape money, just like we can't escape the world and all the barriers forged by this world between man and the happiness his Creator intends for him. We could retreat to the highest, remotest mountaintop, but the human condition would follow us there.

We would still feel doubt. We would still feel pain. We would still feel fear. We would still sin.

And we would still be hungry and cold. We would still need money.

Money will never be something that is easy to handle virtuously. But guess what? Nothing in this world is. And it's probably best that we remember that.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do Catholics eat fish on Friday?

Answer:

For centuries, meatless Fridays were the norm for Catholics throughout the world. Friday was chosen because that was the day on which Jesus died, and Christians wanted to find a way to honor that day with special prayers and acts of penance and self-denial. The practice of abstaining from meat on Fridays — under pain of sin — grew out of that desire, and it became an official part of Church teaching until the time of the Second Vatican Council.

In the 1960s, there was a shift in the Church's thinking, in large part because there was a recognition that differences in cultures and economic realities meant that eating or not eating meat had different meanings for different peoples. For example, in cultures that were largely dependent on seafood or a vegetarian diet, abstaining from meat was no sacrifice at all. While in other places, eating fish and other kinds of seafood was actually something rare and special and not a sacrifice. This was all part of a basic reflection on "why we do what we do" among the Church's pastors.

Today, Catholics throughout the world are still instructed to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent. The bishops of some countries, such as in England and Wales, ask Catholics to abstain from meat every Friday, continuing the older tradition. The Bishops of the United States have taken a slightly different approach, encouraging Catholics to honor Friday as a special day by abstaining from meat every Friday or by taking on some other work of penance or charity for the sake of others.

Regardless of what we choose to do, the real value in all of this is to see a reflection of Good Friday in each Friday, to remember the self-giving love of Jesus, and to honor that love through some sort of sacrifice or act of mercy.

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.

TUESDAY NIGHTS 7-8:30 PM
IN PERSON AND ONLINE
BEGINNING OCT. 7

sjascs.org/the-way-the-truth



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

MEN'S *Fellowship*



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

New Study beginning Oct. 13

LEARN HOW TO
RESPOND TO GOD IN

Psalms

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



sjascs.org/sja-mens-fellowship



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 22nd

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM: Funeral for Bonnie Wozniak
7:00 PM: Walking with Purpose

Tuesday, September 23rd

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, September 24th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
1:00 PM: Knitting & Crocheting Ministry – #3
2:00 PM: Psalms Bible Study
5:00 PM: Reconciliation
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:30 PM : Light of the Spirit Prayer Group

Thursday, September 25th

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

Friday, September 26th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 27th

10:00 AM: Funeral for Lorraine Stypinski
11:00 AM: Reconciliation
1:00 PM: Jamie Shaller ~ Brendan Wille
Wedding
4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, September 28th

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

Words on the Word

Sept. 21, 2025 – God Before Money

Odd, isn't it, how something can sometimes seem like it happened a lifetime ago, and, at other times, it seems like it was just yesterday.

The Covid-19 pandemic, in many ways, fits that description.

Nevertheless, whether it seems like it was long ago or just part of recent memory, there are a few realities that came out of that pandemic. One is that, even though there was suffering and huge uncertainty, many people rose to the challenge and were their best selves. Medical professionals come to mind, as do those who found new and creative ways to reach out and minister to the suffering and lonely.

The other reality: some bad actors used the suffering and the uncertainty to lie, cheat, and take advantage of others and of the system.

The Detroit News reported a few weeks ago on three residents of Macomb County who recently pleaded guilty to an attempt “to scam more than \$3 million in federal Covid-19 relief funds.” According to the story, the group fraudulently applied to the U.S. Small Business Administration to collect Paycheck Protection Program loans intended to help businesses through the worst of the pandemic.

The story went on to describe how, as part of the effort, the trio supported the applications with “fictitious payroll, health insurance, bank and tax records.”

These weren't the only people caught, the story explained, just the most recent.

The lesson for people of goodwill is a reminder of what Jesus explains in today's gospel passage from St. Luke. Namely, choosing money over God is the wrong path.

“No servant can serve to masters,” Jesus says. “He will either have one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon.”

© 2025, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday	September 22, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	Thomas Sloan
Tuesday	September 23, 2025 Saint Pius of Pietrelcina (White)
7:00 am	Mary and Frank Fleming
Wednesday	September 24, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	Felice DiBerardino
6:00 pm	Gerard Rogier
Thursday	September 25, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	The deceased member of the Farley Family
Friday	September 26, 2025 Weekday; Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs (Green/Red)
7:00 am	Pierre Zaraneek
Saturday	September 27, 2025 Vigil for the Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
4:00 pm	Catherine Graebert, Bonnie Batche, the deceased members of the Batche Family, Rosa & Francesco Maggi, Earl Pare, Leonard Mastay, Colleen Hemmen, Joe Twomey, Mike Ciaramitaro, Lee R. Fallieres, Nancy Barkley, Victoria Marineau, Carolyn Casper, Robert F. Palonis, Richard & Joyce Keller, Mary Lou LeFevre, and Special Intentions for Pepe Sandoval, for the living and deceased members of the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, for Sam Manolo, and Sam Baur
6:00 pm	Marie Margaret Stanley
Sunday	September 28, 2025 Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
8:00 am	The Intentions of SJA Parishioners
10:00 am	Special Intention for Pauline Lackey & Charles William David
12:00 pm	Hugo Calisi, Carolyn Casper, Sam Ciaramitaro, Michael Ciaramitaro, Carl Francis, Josephine Alberti and special intentions for Laurie Ruda and Sam Baur

Daily Readings

Monday, September 22	Friday, September 26
Ezra 1:1-6 Luke 8:16-18	Haggai 2:1-9 Luke 9:18-22
Tuesday, September 23	Saturday, September 27
Ezra 6:7-8, 12-20 Luke 8:19-21	Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a Luke 9:43b-45
Wednesday, 24	Sunday, September 28
Ezra 9:5-9 Luke 9:1-6	Amos 6:1a, 4-7 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Luke 16:19-31
Thursday, September 25	
Haggai 1:1-8 Luke 9:7-9	

I Am The Resurrection & The Life

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

**Kurt Hiltz
Bonnie Wozniak
Joan Sahadi
Lorraine Stypinski**

“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.

There is forgiveness, hope, and healing after abortion.

Entering Canaan: A Day of Prayer & Healing for Women

Saturday, October 4 | 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

This **confidential** retreat includes a testimony, video, lunch, adoration, confession, and Mass. Location and details will be provided upon registration through Project Rachel at projectrachel@aod.org or 888-722-4355, or by contacting Mary Lockwood at ecbrightonmi@gmail.com or 734-395-0677 (call or text). Please include your preferred phone, text, or email so we may share the details with you.

Peace starts here

There is a \$25 cost for the event. Payment options can be discussed with the Project Rachel contact person, or mail a check to the Archdiocese of Detroit at Mail to: AOD Project Rachel Ministry, 12 State Street, Detroit MI 48226. (Reference "Project Rachel Ministry" on memo line or in notation.)



FOR MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.aod.org/events/entering-canaan-a-day-of-prayer-and-healing-for-women>

Calling Volunteers!

The Senior Outreach Food Pantry at St. Lucy's needs your help!

Join Catholic Charities at the Senior Outreach Program and help bring compassion and dignity to our neighbors in need. You will play a vital role in supporting seniors and families as food is packed for delivery to those who struggle with transportation. This is a meaningful opportunity to live out the love and mercy of Jesus Christ in service to others. Must be 18 or older.

Time Commitment: 3hrs/week, with some options to work every other week

Available Shifts: Mon: 9AM - 12 PM | Tues: 10AM - 1PM | Thurs: 9AM-12PM

Key Responsibilities Include:

- Packing bags and boxes for delivery
- Sorting produce into single client amounts
- Sorting donated food
- Opening boxes and stocking shelves to maintain pantry
- Helping receive donations and food



For more information, contact:

Jessica Zettner,

zettnerj@ccsem.org

or by phone: at 248-469-0028

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Fred Barth	Geri Ellis	Matt Krolkowski	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	Larry Weber
Joan Combellack	Judith Hasten	Ilene Manning	Sr. Alice Riegel	Adrienne Weidenbach
Maura Corrigan	Pat Haver	Joan Mannino	Paulette Russia	Robert Werthman
John Crawford	Norman Heinrich	Marivic Massand	Jenna Rose	Joseph Whalen
Olivia Crimando	Ilona Higgins	Sandy McCabe	Marilyn Rose	Geraldine White
Jerry Dedene	Gracie Hinz	Darina McCarty	Victoria Rydholm	Marilyn Wicker
Anita Dembeck	Ted Hinz	Cyndy McMahon	Estelle Saelen	Joyce Wiekrykas
Debra Dembeck	Chris Janutol	Kevin McFarlane	Lily Saith	Loretta Williams
Grace Dickerson	Lorraine Jonas	Heather A. Miller	Barbara R. Scharneck	Jenny Wojcik
George Dickerson	Rosemary Jonas	Mark Moffitt	Dianne Schelosky	Joan Wright
Ray Dinser	Lorraine Kilroy	Nina Mondalek	Josh Schultz	
Liana Doe	Catherine Konen	Jennie Mooney	Rosa Silva	
John Donovan	Delaney Kraemer	John Morrison	Kathleen Smith	
Michael Dowd	Shirley Kraemer	Rebecca Nehra	Cathy Spindler	
Jean Edwards	Laurie Krim	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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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
September 21, 2025

God or Mammon?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Jesus tells a story that might sound confusing to us because it reflects economic practices of his time, not ours. His original audience likely recognized the situation as one that was familiar to them. In the story, an employee fails to oversee and enhance the material holdings of his employer. However, when it came to getting what he could for himself from the employer's assets, he shows remarkable ability. One might say, "Good for him!" Even the employer thought the employee's actions showed resourcefulness.

Jesus does not applaud the specifics of the man's behavior, acceptable or not, as the case may have been. Rather, he notes that the man used whatever was available to him to ensure his own comfort in the future. Jesus then states that the ingenuity of such a man is more noteworthy than that of children of light. What a condemnation!

Jesus goes on to condemn mammon. Just what is that? It is too easy to say that mammon is money, though money is part of it. A good definition is "the greedy pursuit of gain." This could be any kind of gain over others when we make that gain the primary value in our lives. The story shows that the employee was amazingly industrious in his pursuit. In comparison, the children of light (you and me?) too often fail to demonstrate comparable industry in pursuing the true wealth of which Jesus spoke. Once again, a choice is placed before us: God or mammon? †



Are we guilty of choosing mammon: "the greedy pursuit of gain"?

A Word from Pope Leo XIV

I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a haven for a reconciled world. [We see] too much discord, too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, the fear of difference, and an economic paradigm that exploits the Earth's resources and marginalizes the poorest.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What is the driving pursuit of my life?
- Is it worthy of me?

Sunday Readings

Amos 8:4-7

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Never will I forget a thing they have done!

1 Timothy 2:1-8

I ask that...prayers...be offered for everyone, for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life.

Luke 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones.



One in the One Christ

Sr. Gemma Morató Sendra, OP

In a striking contrast to the ceremonial grandeur often associated with a new papacy, Leo XIV's first public appearance was disarming in its simplicity. There were no grand declarations, no theatrical gestures. Instead, there was a quiet reverence, a humble gaze, and a message that was deeply intentional. "Peace be with you," he said—echoing the first words of the risen Christ. And with those words, a tone was set for his entire pontificate: one of peace, humility, fraternity, and mission.

Pope Leo XIV does not see the Church as a fortress to be defended but as a bridge to be built. His Augustinian roots have instilled in him a spirituality that is both contemplative and missionary—a restless search for God that is fulfilled only in community and service. He brings to the papacy a wealth of lived experience: as a missionary in the poor regions of Peru, as a seminary formator, as the superior general of his Order, and as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops. These roles have not distanced him from the people but have deepened his commitment to walk with them—to listen, to heal, to accompany. This is a pope who believes that holiness is not reserved for the few but is the vocation of all. That the Church must be missionary not only in word but also in action. That synodality is not an option but is a path to rediscovering the face of Christ in one another. That Mary walks with us. And that evil will not have the final word.

In Leo XIV, the Church has not just found a pope—it has found a fellow pilgrim. One who reminds us, gently but firmly, that the journey of faith is not one we walk alone, but together. In the one Christ, we are one. †

From *10 Things Pope Leo XIV Wants You to Know* by Sr. Gemma Morató Sendra, OP, Liguori Publications (828980).
To order, call 800-325-9521 or visit Liguori.org.

"Peace be with you," he said—echoing the first words of the risen Christ.

Wisdom from Catholic Update

From "A Tour of a Catholic Church"

From wherever we stand in the church, our attention is drawn to the sanctuary... and to the three pieces of furniture we find there: the presider's chair, the lectern, and the altar. In the front of the assembly area, we find a special seat for the one presiding and leading the assembly. In the principal church of a diocese, this chair, the *cathedra* (from the Greek word for "chair"), gives name to the entire building, "cathedral." Each church will have a **presider's chair** or bench and seating for the other ministers. [There is also a] reading stand, a **lectern**, or *ambo*, from which we proclaim the word of God and upon which is placed the **Lectionary**, the book of readings from sacred Scripture. The **altar**...functions as both altar of sacrifice and banquet table for the Eucharist.

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



Faithful God, as you keep your promises to us, please give us the grace to keep our promises to you and to others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 22–27

Monday, Weekday: Ezr 1:1–6 / Lk 8:16–18

Tuesday, St. Pius of Pietrelcina: Ezr 6:7–8, 12b, 14–20 / Lk 8:19–21

Wednesday, Weekday: Ezr 9:5–9 / Lk 9:1–6

Thursday, Weekday: Hg 1:1–8 / Lk 9:7–9

Friday, Weekday: Hg 2:1–9 / Lk 9:18–22

Saturday, St. Vincent de Paul: Zec 2:5–9, 14–15a / Lk 9:43b–45

Bringing Home
the Word 
September 21, 2025

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