

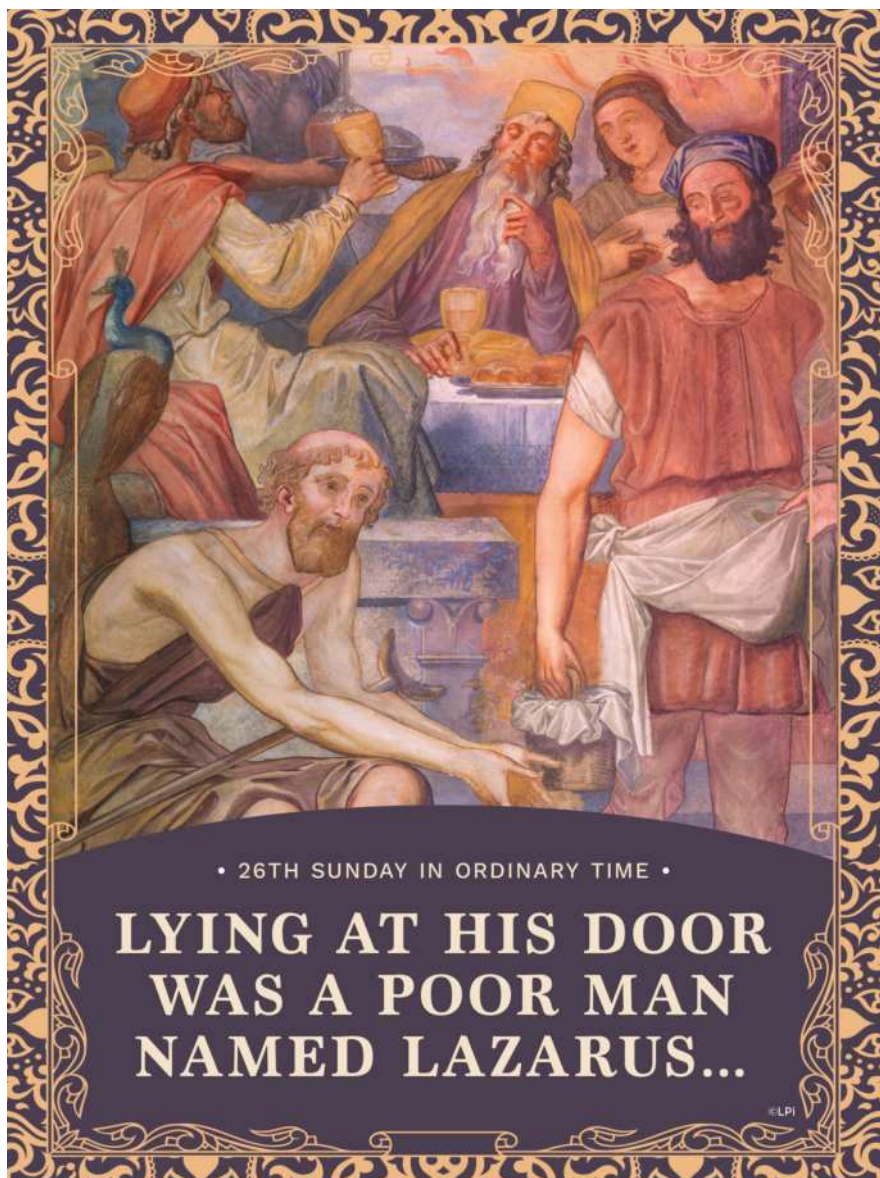


SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

Our mission is to be a **faith-filled, joyful, and charitable** parish, rooted in Jesus 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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• 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

**LYING AT HIS DOOR
WAS A POOR MAN
NAMED LAZARUS...**

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:

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

Fr. Robert Voiland
rvoiland@sjascs.org

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

Fr. Jim Commyn
parish@stlucychurch.com

Fr. Eric Fedewa
frericstbasil@comcast.net

Fr. Stan Pachla
stveronicaeast@comcast.net

Non-Resident Priest Support

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz
tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore
dpastore@sjascs.org

Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone
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Music Director

Catherine Trudell
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Principal

Amy Pattie
apattie@stjoan.net

Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser
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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: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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



The Annual Fall Pilgrimage to Frankenmuth:

For many years, a few of us in the family would make an annual “pilgrimage” to Frankenmuth.

The pattern of our

journey was usually the same: we’d start the day by eating in the cafeteria downstairs at Zehnder’s, visit the shops on that level, then work our way over to Bronner’s and then finally head over to the stores at Birch Run. Sadly, the expedition to Birch Run has faded in recent years as the number of stores there has dwindled. While my dad was always up for the journey, he usually sat outside with my brother-in-law Lonnie (when Lonnie came along) or just people-watched. He loved doing that no matter where we traveled.

This year, it was a rather impromptu journey. Originally, it was just going to be my mom and me, but I convinced Jackie and Lonnie to join us at the last minute since everyone else was at work; after all, it was a Friday in September.

We arrived in Frankenmuth at 10:00 a.m., and since it was too early for lunch, we decided to walk through the stores at the River Place Shops, located across from Zehnder’s. We hadn’t strolled through there in years, and I was glad we took the time. They had some pretty unique stores that were worth visiting.

We brought along my mom’s powered wheelchair, which turned out to be a true blessing for her. She was able to cover more ground and enjoy the entire trip without worrying about her legs hurting or getting too tired. Now, I had that thing set to its lowest speed, but dear old Mom was always yards ahead of us. We’d often have to shout, “WHOA, MOM! Slow down, you’re leaving us in the dust!” But honestly, it was great to see her zipping around and having a great time.

After the shops at the River Place, we headed back to Zehnder’s for lunch. We’ve been going to the downstairs cafeteria at Zehnder’s for over a decade and love it. It’s nice to grab exactly what we want rather than committing to the full-course meals upstairs in the main dining room. After lunch, we wandered through the bakery and shops before loading up Daisy Loo to head over to Bronner’s.

Once we got to Bronner’s, we left Lonnie at his favorite spot, the benches outside, where he immediately began holding court with the other seasoned pros who’ve mastered the fine art of not shopping. We told him we’d be out in an hour (the poor guy actually believed us).

Mom revved up her wheelchair, and off she went. We always knew where she was because the chair had a backup alarm, and we’d hear it beeping in the distance every so often. Thanks to her chair, she was able to visit both clearance sections at opposite ends of the store, our usual hotspots for hunting deals.

After almost two hours (sorry, Lonnie), we finally started the checkout process. I had stuff for myself and for the Gala. My mom had a bunch of stuff, and Jackie was the last to check out. Jackie went to return our carts and handed me her Discover card so I could check her out. When Jackie came back and saw me putting a Discover card into the machine, she nearly had a panic attack. “How am I going to tell Lonnie how much I spent?!” she gasped. Thankfully for Jackie, I was still checking out my mom’s stuff and using her Discover card, not Jackie’s.

When all was said and done, we had so much stuff that they loaded all our bags onto a small flatbed. “Wait till Lonnie sees all this,” we joked. When we walked out without any bags in hand, Lonnie looked confused at first, then relieved; he thought we’d walked out empty-handed. But when he found out we had to pick everything up at Customer Pickup, he just shook his head. Honestly, we could almost hear my dad laughing from heaven, probably shaking his head right along with Lonnie.

One of the other guys Lonnie had been chatting with started grumbling when he had to carry out two large bags for his wife. I thought, “Buddy, you’re lucky. You should see what we’ve got.”

Then out came our flatbed. The look on Lonnie’s face was priceless. We used our usual excuse, the same one we used on my dad: “Some of this is for the Gala! But come on, a lot of this stuff was on clearance!” How could you pass up a good sale ... especially at Bronner’s? After all, we won’t be there for another year!

The Consequences of Living a Busy, Hurried Life (Part 9): This week, I want to focus on living a life of eternal impact.

In St. Paul’s Letter to the Colossians (3:2), he encourages us to “Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.” The problem we face is that there are so many distractions and cultural pressures pulling our focus toward earthly things rather than heavenly ones. If only there were more commercials on TV or social media posts encouraging us to read sacred scripture or live a virtuous life, we might actually “trick” our brains into doing those things. Sadly, there’s very little out there calling us to worship or rest. That’s why we have to be more intentional. Imagine the change that would occur in our lives if we spent just a few minutes at the start of each day reviewing our schedule and thinking of creative, impactful ways to focus our hearts on heaven amidst everything going on.

I’m also a firm believer in setting more alarms on our phones as reminders to pray or take quiet time to be in God’s presence. The only way we’re going to “win” this “war” of not letting a busy, hurried life take over is by being intentional about everything we do.

It’s funny how often I hear, “Well, I just don’t have the time to do this or that!” My friends, MAKE the time. Be intentional about scheduling it. And don’t think you need to carve out hours. If you don’t have an hour, give it half an hour. If you don’t have half an hour, give it fifteen minutes. The amount of time can change each day; what matters most is that we carve out time for prayer, for listening to God’s voice, and for setting our hearts on the things of heaven.

When I was in the seminary, a religious brother named Brother Randall served as our librarian. He was fond of saying, “It’s not the quantity of time that matters, but the quality of time that matters!”

Spend some quality time with God and focus on the things of heaven. Even a small amount of time each day can make an eternal difference in your life.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjasc.org



This Week on Formed

Week of September 28, 2025



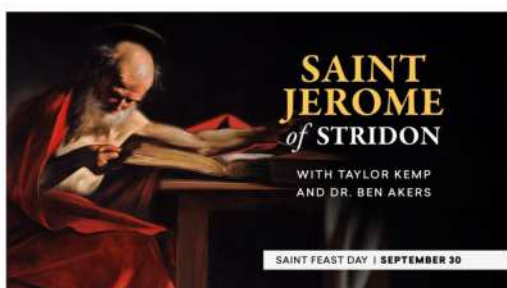
St. Therese | Littlest Saints

Which flower in Jesus's garden is the best? The most beautiful? St. Therese gives us her "little" answer to these questions.



St. Francis of Assisi: Sign of Contradiction

From 4PM Media and The Ministry of the Wild Goose comes a breathtaking film on the life of St. Francis of Assisi. A fool according to the standards of the world, St. Francis' life was a sign of contradiction, convicting others of the beauty of Christ and his Gospel.



St. Jerome | Catholic Saints

An early Church Father from the 4th century, St. Jerome translated the Bible into Latin with the desire to make Scripture more accessible. St. Jerome is the patron of biblical scholars, translators, and archivists and famously said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

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

As a follow-up to my homily from last weekend, I'd like to develop my thoughts a bit more on how we react to the evil we currently witness in our world. In brief summary, I had said that we find ourselves in an uncomfortable situation in our society with so much violence swirling about us all of the time. The recent tragedies of the murder and injury of children attending Mass at Annunciation Church in Minneapolis and the assassination of Mr. Kirk, have pushed many otherwise peaceful individuals to the brink of promoting violence themselves. These two particular incidents may have captured the attention of many of us because they cut so close to the bone. But the senseless destruction of human lives, often claiming many lives in single incidents, are becoming commonplace. We are witnessing attacks on people who are not themselves attacking anyone else. We see people living their lives boldly and honestly – not provocatively. That said, what we say and do as followers of Christ may anger others. Our moral opposition to many now-accepted social sins disturbs many people, but we attack no one personally. What is happening is what has always happened to Christians: our witness to the truth shines an uncomfortable light on those living in the darkness of sin. . . . And they don't appreciate having us blow their cover.

What cannot happen in these stressful, dark days is for us to fall into sin ourselves, out of desperation. Our natural animal instinct when we are threatened is to flee or fight. The recent steady flow of aggression seems to have put many of us into 'fight mode.' The trouble with such a reaction is that we have a Lord who says things like, "Turn the other cheek. Love your enemies. Pray for those who persecute you." These are hard words to stomach when we see people around us dancing in celebration over murderous harm done to other people.

It is important to interject, at this point, that we and our loved ones are not expected to allow ourselves to be walked on and eaten up by the enemy.

"Turning the other cheek" does not mean sacrificing ourselves or our loved ones to evil. We have a moral responsibility to maintain our personal safety and human dignity. In fact, to 'turn the other cheek' is to stand up to aggression – but in a Christlike way. We are called to take the high road and lift situations up while worldly people around us are tearing them down. We have the right and responsibility to do the moral thing and demand it from others. How we do this is the challenging part. If we ourselves, in the name of fighting evil, turn into the same evil animals who plague our society with violence, we won't succeed in ultimate victory.

Victory comes only through Christ. What is hard for us to keep in the forefront of our minds is that Jesus has already won. He has soundly defeated the source of all evil, the Devil, by the victory of his cross. The war to win heaven is essentially over. Yet, to claim victory while simultaneously experiencing the upheaval in our world, forces us into a state of confusion. If the war is already won, why are we still fighting these insane battles?

God's timetable for the world's existence is not for us to know. The time of Christ's return and the fulfillment of God's eternal plan is a secret. What is not a secret is how we are to conduct ourselves while we wait for Jesus to show up. We need to do what we seem compelled not to do. We need to strive for excellence in our spiritual lives as Catholics, rather than excellence as earthly beings. We need to live backwards, in a sense. We must bring Jesus Christ's two-thousand-year-old victory over Satan into the present, rather than keep fighting our personal battles against an already defeated opponent.

Again, our tendency is to react to what happens immediately around us. This is quite natural. When we are attacked, we attack back. But we are attacking a dead dog. We are reacting to evil that is the gasping, last breaths of the Devil (regardless of how long they persist

into the future). The glaring displays of violence which we witness are attempts to pull us away from victory we already own. We keep fighting a war that is already over. Christ is King. He doesn't need us to fight for him. He has done all of the fighting. What he wants us to do is fight for ourselves and our loved ones. He wants us to stay on the path that he has already cleared for us. He wants us to reach back to his saving cross and use it as a shield on the path to heaven.

This is why Jesus can tell us to turn cheeks and love enemies. The enemy is already as defeated as defeated can be. Christ has done that. Our only concern now should be to keep from being tricked into becoming like enemy in response to his attacks. That is the fight. To fight well, the Lord has given us the heavenly weapon which defeats evil – love. Yes, it seems insane . . . but it's not. The weapon of love is divine and beyond our full understanding. Yet, we are capable of loving by using our higher, spiritual nature.

Evil arises from base instinct. Our lower nature runs on emotions, crude passions. Unrestrained passion gets people killed. Life, on the other hand, thrives when we use our minds, guided by the Holy Spirit, to rule our behavior. Using our heads is what Jesus is asking us to do when he commands us to reject violence. Protect ourselves – surely. Defend our loved ones – absolutely. But, taking other's lives like madmen? No way. That's not who we are. We are the only hope for a world that is hellbent on destruction. Jesus bore the dirty part of the fight on the cross – and won. Our part is let him be our Lord.

Blessings in Christ,

Fr. Bob



September 28, 2025

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 6:1a, 4-7 | 1 Tim 6:11-16 | Lk 16:19-31

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Have you ever had a moment when you felt yourself to be the underdog, and wished that there were some champion who would come and defend your cause? Today, we see God described in those terms. Our psalm tells us that the Lord “raises up those who are bowed down,” that he “protects strangers,” and “the fatherless and the widow he sustains.” But God doesn’t stop there. He wants *us* to become champions for the poor. Notice that our Gospel reading depicts the poor man named Lazarus in such a way that we cannot help but feel compassion for him. Here is a man who is in dire need, covered in sores, right outside the door of a rich man who has more than enough to provide for his own needs and those of Lazarus – but does nothing to help him. In fact, the rich man’s *dog* shows more compassion toward Lazarus (by licking his sores) than the rich man! The story is meant to prick our consciences and move us to have the same kind of response that God has – of compassion – leading us to become champions for those in need.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Throughout our history, the Church has been particularly effective at spreading the faith during those times when we’ve put care for the poor and vulnerable at the center of our action. Before the advancements of modern medicine, members of the early Church risked their lives to care for those sick with contagious diseases. Their selfless example led many to faith in Christ. While our situation is much different today, we are called at the beginning of the first reading to not be complacent in our efforts to care for the poor. As we serve those most in need, our witness will likewise draw others to seek to know and follow the God of compassion whom we serve.

SERVE

One of the ways we can fight against complacency is to engage in service. Check your parish or local charitable organizations for opportunities to serve those in need in your community. No matter what kind of service you choose to engage in, do everything with “love, patience, and gentleness,” as Paul reminds us today. Then we will be models of God’s own care for the poor.



THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 5 C

Reading One – Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4

How long, O LORD? I cry for help but you do not listen! I cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not intervene. Why do you let me see ruin; why must I look at misery? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and clamorous discord. Then the LORD answered me and said: Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one can read it readily. For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late. The rash one has no integrity; but the just one, because of his faith, shall live.

Responsorial – Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

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

R. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

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

R. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

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

R. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

Reading Two – 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14

Beloved: I remind you, to stir into flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

Take as your norm the sound words that you heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard this rich trust with the help of the Holy Spirit that dwells within us.

Alleluia – 1 Pt 1:25

Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of the Lord remains forever. This is the word that has been proclaimed to you.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Lk 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded?

So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: The parable of the rich man and Lazarus highlights a reality that we often wish to ignore: at some point, we will run out of chances, and it's not because God tires of giving them to us.

Snow Days and Second Chances

Yesterday morning, my kids were playing outside in the snow, and I decided to take advantage of the quiet house to make a few important phone calls.

Fool. I forgot Murphy's Law of Parenting, which dictates that as soon as you dial a phone number, a bomb of irritation and neediness explodes within the heart of your loudest child. Sure enough, as soon as the person on the other end of the line picked up, my son was at the back door, whimpering loudly. Horror of horrors, he had snow in his boot.

I gestured to the phone. He whimpered more loudly. I mouthed and mimed threats. He threw his boot at me. I gave him The Look. He started to scream.

Well, needless to say, the phone call didn't go well, and my son's snow day was cut short. He begged for a second chance, but I explained to him that life doesn't always give you second chances. The phone call was over. Ruined. I couldn't get it back.

But that's when I remembered that moms have a superpower: creating second chances where none had existed before. So I told him that if he could be quiet while I made the rest of my calls, he could go back outside.

My son is young right now. I give him lots of second chances because second chances help him learn. Second chances are the training wheels of life.

I dread the day when the training wheels come off, and I can't save him from his bad decisions. I think every parent does.

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus highlights a reality that we often wish to ignore: at some point, we will run out of chances, and it's not because God tires of giving them to us. It's because a truly endless supply of chances would strip us of our free will. It would deny us the right of being taken at our word — and God respects us too much to do that.

My son saved his snow day. It's a good reminder: take the second (and third and fourth) chance. Don't wait for the next one.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Can a divorced Catholic receive holy Communion?

Answer:

Unfortunately, too many people today — Catholics and non-Catholics alike — mistakenly believe that divorce separates one from the Communion of the Church and that divorced persons may not receive Communion. However, as the Church has communicated in a number of places, the issue at hand is not the reality of divorce, but is more often the reality of re-marriage outside of the Church (such as in the case of a Catholic who was previously married within the Church, divorced, and remarried without receiving an annulment).

Divorced persons are called to live chastely as single people and to observe the same call to avoid sin as anyone else who desires to receive the Eucharist. Beyond this, however, Pope Francis has reminded us that the healing power of the Eucharist can be especially significant for those who have "endured separation, divorce, or abandonment ... divorced people who have not remarried, and often bear witness to marital fidelity, ought to be encouraged to find in the Eucharist the nourishment they need to sustain them in their present state of life." (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 242) Moreover, he continues, "The local community and pastors should accompany these people with solicitude, particularly when children are involved or when they are in serious financial difficulty." (*AL*, no 242)

As Pope Francis has also reminded us, the Eucharist is "not a prize for the perfect," but "a powerful medicine and nourishment" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 47). Because we all stand in need of healing and wholeness, the Church invites all who seek to live their faith in integrity and devotion to come and receive the grace offered in the Eucharist.

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



Blessing of Pets Saturday Oct 4 at 2:30 pm ■ St. Joan^{of} Arc

If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men."

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Pray for Us!



Bring your pet to the doors of the Sr. Carol Center

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.)

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, September 29th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 AM: Waking with Purpose
7:00 PM: Walking with Purpose

Tuesday, September 30th

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed
12:00 PM: Funeral for Lynne Fett

Wednesday, October 1st

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, October 2nd

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

Friday, October 3rd

7:00 AM: Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, October 4th

11:00 AM: Reconciliation
12:30 PM: Baptism of Sophia, Henry and Theodore Dickson
1:30 PM: Baptism of Audrey Kristina Beck
2:30 PM: Blessing of Pets

4:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 PM: Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, October 5th

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

September 28, 2025 – Saints for Today

Each of us, we are told, should strive to be a saint.

Not so fast, many of us instinctively think. Saints lived a long time ago. They were extraordinary people who did heroic and extraordinary things.

And so, the church, in its wisdom, helps put those notions to rest. Sure, many saints lived a long time ago. And many did, indeed, do heroic and extraordinary things. But others did just the simple, day-to-day things, albeit in an extraordinary way that was dedicated first and foremost to Jesus.

Media around the world reported a few weeks ago on the canonization of Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassatti, both much more contemporary than we're accustomed to when it comes to saints. Frassatti died in the mid-1920s at the age of 24. Acutis, many recall or have since learned, died in 2006 at only 15.

Acutis, especially, seems to have gained an almost celebrity-level status, not only because of how recently he lived, and not only because of his age, but also because of his inspirational life. A normal teenager, we're told he loved video games and making funny movies. And he loved using the internet, we are told, for the good it can do, becoming known as "God's influencer."

Acutis' mother was interviewed around her son's canonization. She told the interviewer that "her son's life ... shows that holiness is possible for everyone, and that it's 'not only for some people.'"

Which echoes St. Paul in today's second reading from 1 Timothy.

"But you ... pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience and gentleness," he writes. "Complete 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."

Great words to live by, especially if we do, indeed, wish to become saints.

© 2025, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday	September 29, 2025 Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels (White)
7:00 am	St. Vincent DePaul Volunteers
Tuesday	September 30, 2025 Saint Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church (White)
7:00 am	Giuseppina Ciccone
Wednesday	October 1, 2025 Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Virgin & Doctor of the Church (White)
7:00 am	Michelina Macioce
6:00 pm	C. Pat Walters
Thursday	October 2, 2025 The Holy Guardian Angels (White)
7:00 am	Katherine Sustrick
Friday	October 3, 2025 Weekday (Green)
7:00 am	Agnes and Jack Hubbard
Saturday	October 4, 2025 Vigil for the Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
4:00 pm	Ronald Jarvis, Mary Lou Lefevre, William Baer, June Mabarak, Robert L. Evans, Richard Francis Wheeler, Bobbie Batche, Marie Therese Belloli, Lisa Fikany Sully, Marie Stahl, Mary Blind, Ronald Jarvis, and Special Intentions for Rose Nagy, the living and deceased member of the J. Champine Family, for the Thomas Family, for Sam Manolo, for Sam Baur and Prayerful Appreciation for the work of the Priests and Staff of St. Joan of Arc
6:00 pm	Debbie Albrecht
Sunday	October 5, 2025 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)
8:00 am	The Intentions of SJA Parishioners
10:00 am	Mary A. Champine
12:00 pm	Juliette Zaranek, Terri Smigels, Paige Gallivan, Sam Promesso, Joel Rojas, Camilla Campau, Mary Ellen Kutschke and Special Intentions for Laurie Ruda and Sam Baur

Daily Readings

Monday, September 29	Friday, October 3
Daniel 7:9-14 John 1:47-51	Baruch 1:5-22 Luke 10:13-16
Tuesday, September 30	Saturday, October 4
Zechariah 8:20-23 Luke 9:51-56	Baruch 4:5-29 Luke 10:17-24
Wednesday, October 1	Sunday, October 5
Nehemiah 2:1-8 Luke 9:57-62	Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 2 Timothy 1:6-14 Luke 17:5-10
Thursday, October 2	
Nehemiah 8:1-4a Matthew 18:1-10	

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.

**Elizabeth Mary Bradley
Lynne Fett
Father Giulio Schiavi, PIME
Theller Schultz
Lawrence Weber**

“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.

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Geri Beaugrand
James Belloli
Kristen Benedict
Edna Burton
Sarah Catanzaro
Maryann Carlin
Ed Cole
Toni Glaeser-Collins
Joan Combellack
Maura Corrigan
John Crawford
Olivia Crimando
Jerry Dedene
Anita Dembeck
Debra Dembeck
Grace Dickerson
George Dickerson
Ray Dinser
Liana Doe
John Donovan
Michael Dowd
Jean Edwards

Geri Ellis
Frank Faiss
Taylor Fisher
Jeanne Fleming
Larry Gehrke
Anthony Genova
Larry Graham
Chris Gretchen
Pam Haisenleder
Judith Hasten
Pat Haver
Norman Heinrich
Ilona Higgins
Gracie Hinz
Ted Hinz
Chris Janutol
Lorraine Jonas
Rosemary Jonas
Lorraine Kilroy
Catherine Konen
Delaney Kraemer
Shirley Kraemer
Laurie Krim

Carolyn Kunz
Rosalie Lewakowski
Mila Lictawa
Beverly Lievens
David Lott
Randy Lyczynski
Ingrid Manalo
Sam Manalo
Ilene Manning
Joan Mannino
Marivic Massand
Sandy McCabe
Darina McCarty
Cyndy McMahon
Kevin McFarlane
Heather A. Miller
Mark Moffitt
Nina Mondalek
Jennie Mooney
John Morrison
Rebecca Nehra
Rosemary Nickson
Julius Ohorodnij

Alexa Peake
Joan Persichini
Art Pieper
Connor Pieper
Vicky Pranger
Carol S. Provencal
Tracy Rauch
Fe Reyes
Sr. Alice Riegel
Paulette Russia
Jenna Rose
Marilyn Rose
Victoria Rydholm
Estelle Saalen
Lily Saith
Barbara R. Scharneck
Dianne Schelosky
Josh Schultz
Rosa Silva
Kathleen Smith
Cathy Spindler
Wendy Stevens
Patty Stevenson

Cathy Sullens
Bernadette Thompson
James Thompson
Jeff Trudell
Linda Vitale
Eileen Wallace
Elaine Walters
Larry Weber
Adrienne Weidenbach
Robert Werthman
Joseph Whalen
Geraldine White
Marilyn Wicker
Joyce Wiekrykas
Loretta Williams
Jenny Wojcik
Joan Wright

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

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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

September 28, 2025

Woe to the Complacent!

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

In traditional societies, a woe is a frightening declaration. It was more than a warning. It was considered performative. This means that as soon as the words were spoken, what it described began to happen. The first verse in today's first reading states the woe; the last verse describes what will happen. And it did happen. Those with wealth and prestige were the first to be exiled from the land. It should be noted that the problem was not that they were wealthy. The Bible does not condemn wealth. The issue is how it was acquired and how it is used. The wealthy are condemned because their wealth made

them complacent, indifferent to the struggles of the poor.

A similar situation is found in the Gospel passage. It tells of two men: one quite prosperous and the other suffering overwhelming indignity. Their fates after death are reversed. One might think that they got their just deserts. But that is not the point of the story. The rich man wants the poor man to comfort him, but it is too late. Then, at least send the poor man to warn the rich man's family. And here is the point of the story: that should be unnecessary. They (and we) have the religious tradition, Moses, and the prophets, who have always taught that we must do what we can for our needy brothers and sisters. If they (or we) do not listen to our religious teachings, we probably will not listen to someone from the dead. Woe to the complacent! †

Sunday Readings

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Woe to those who are complacent in Zion.... They shall be the first to go into exile.

1 Timothy 6:11-16

You, man of God...pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness.

Luke 16:19-31

There was a rich man.... And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus.

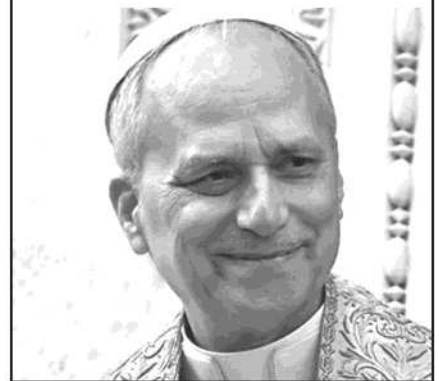


***The wealthy are
condemned because
they were complacent,
indifferent to the
struggles of the poor.***

A Word from Pope Leo XIV

In our day, there is a widespread thirst for justice, a desire for authentic fatherhood and motherhood, a profound longing for spirituality, especially among young people and the marginalized, who do not always find effective means of making their needs known. There is a growing demand for the Church's social doctrine, to which we need to respond.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 17, 2025



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE2TION2 REFLECTION

- Am I more like the wealthy man or Lazarus?
- What can I do this week to please God?



The Stress of Yes and No

Elizabeth A. Herzing-Gebhart

At the heart of most stress-filled experiences is a half-baked “yes.” Recall those times you’ve agreed to do something and later regretted it so much that you went to great lengths to crawl your way out of the promise.

According to “The Zoe Report” in *HuffPost*, a common explanation might be, “I am a people pleaser,” but that is an oversimplification. “People-pleasing is not only about repeatedly saying yes, it is also about what we don’t say or do in order to avoid conflict.” The article helped me understand that when we say yes, we are also saying no to alternate possibilities.

It’s important to wrap our minds around this truth, because it can save us from disappointment and turmoil. Whether we tend to say yes or say no, our tendency typically applies to every decision—from simple ones, like whether to contribute to a potluck, to life-changing ones, like whether to change careers.

I recently heard about a woman who said yes when her boyfriend proposed, although her gut told her the relationship had run its course. In praying about the situation, she recognized that her acceptance of the proposal came from her fear of accepting the relationship’s failure, inflicting pain on others, and being alone. Ultimately, saying no would mean she would have to embrace her own internal conflicts, something she had neglected to acknowledge.

After prayer, she overcame her fear and ended the relationship. Later, when she entered the sacrament of marriage with someone else, she did so with a full understanding of the commitment and joy it encompasses. It is important to not overpromise and underdeliver. When you have to make a decision, give yourself and others who are involved the gift of time to assess all aspects of it. Pray about it. If you say yes, know what you’re also saying no to, and vice versa. Maintain a big-picture lens to avoid the stress of finding yourself in a less-than-desirable situation. †

When you have to make a decision... pray about it. Maintain a big-picture lens.

From *Liguorian*, October 2020.

Wisdom from Catholic Update

From “Angels: Servants of God, Guardians of the Faithful” by Michael Eisenbath

Perhaps the greatest angelic devotion for Catholics is reserved for Michael, whose feast is celebrated with Gabriel’s and Raphael’s every September 29. Michael is mentioned four times in Scripture: twice in the Book of Daniel, once in the Book of St. Jude, and once in Revelation. From those references, the Church has concluded that he has several key responsibilities, including to battle Satan, take the souls of the faithful departed to heaven, and be a champion of the Church. Angels resemble human beings in that they were created with intelligence and free will. The Church teaches that soon after their creation, the angelic spirits divided into two groups: those that freely submitted to God’s will and those who refused to do so. The evil spirits, led by the angel Lucifer, were driven out of heaven by the obedient angels, led by Michael.

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



Loving and faithful God, help us learn the true joy of living together as brothers and sisters with all your children. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 29—
October 4

Monday, Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael:
Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 or Rv 12:7–12ab / Jn 1:47–51

Tuesday, St. Jerome:
Zec 8:20–23 / Lk 9:51–56

Wednesday, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus:
Neh 2:1–8 / Lk 9:57–62

Thursday, Holy Guardian Angels:
Neh 8:1–4a, 5–6, 7b–12 /
Mt 18:1–5, 10

Friday, Weekday:
Bar 1:15–22 / Lk 10:13–16

Saturday, St. Francis of Assisi:
Bar 4:5–12, 27–29 / Lk 10:17–24

Bringing Home
the Word 
September 28, 2025

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