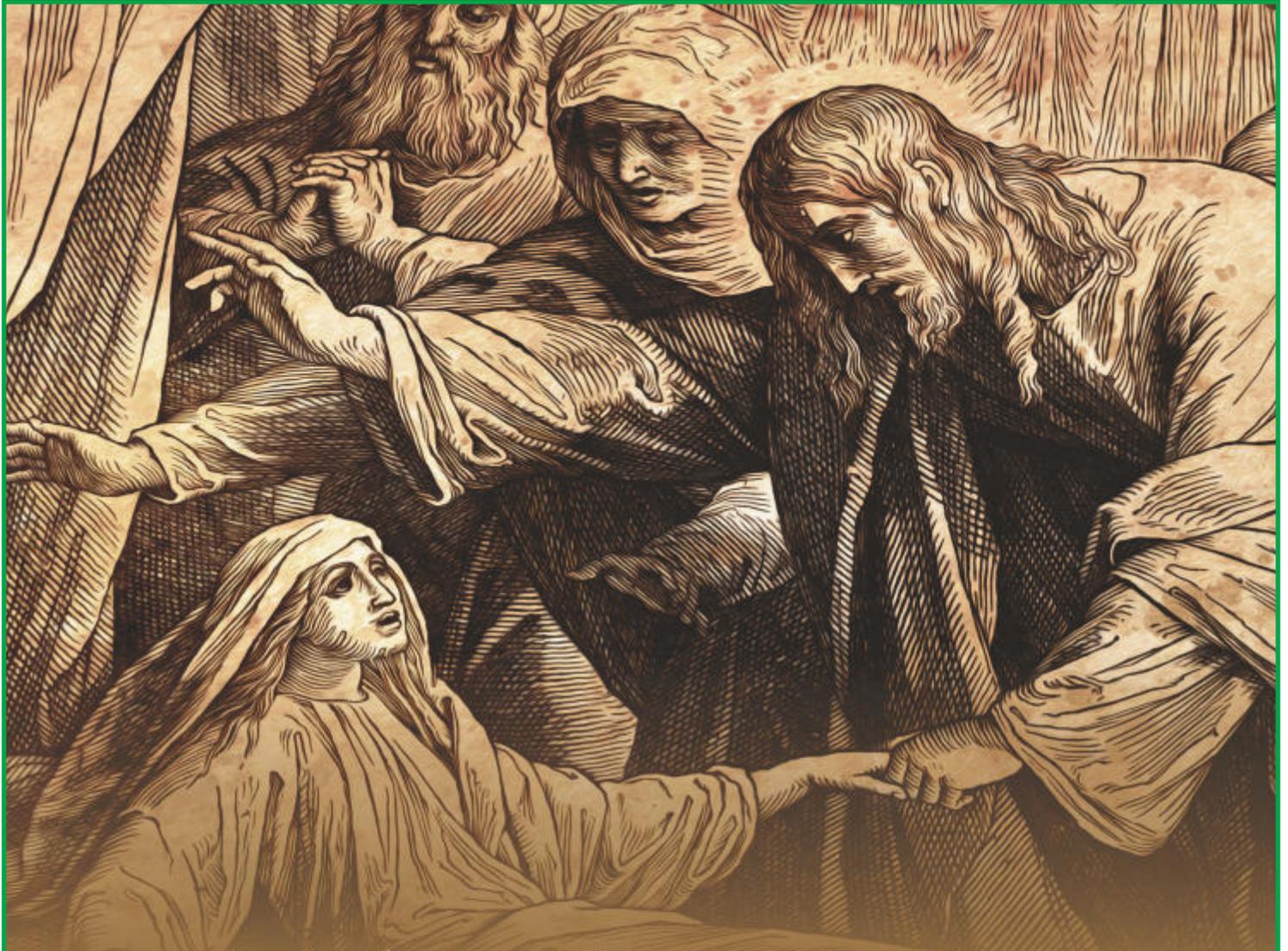




Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

June 27, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

So he went in and said to them, “Why this commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep.” - Mk 5:39

Readings for the Week of June 27, 2021

Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13 [2a]/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43

Monday: Gn 18:16-33/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 8-9, 10-11 [8a]/Mt 8:18-22

Tuesday: *Vigil:* Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19
Day: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [7a]/Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Mt 9:1-8

Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5 [1b]/Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 20:24-29

Next Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 [2cd]/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The author of The Cloud of Unknowing prays, "That which I am and the way that I am, with all my gifts of nature and grace, you have given to me, O Lord, and you are all this. I offer it all



to you, principally to praise you and to help my fellow Christians and myself." Knowing that God sustains us in being is the key to faith. All that we need to do is to love God as God is and the rest will begin to fall into place. God made us in His image and desires that we have life. God also desires that we be healed of all of our wounds, especially those caused by sin, and know his loving touch. Being weighed down by negativity, imperfections, the cares of the world, and weakness is not something that God desires.

Faith can profoundly change how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It gives a clearer lens through which to see life and connects us with the powerful virtues of love and hope. Three friends journeying with us through all that we encounter, faith, hope, and love, help us experience God's embrace and heal us. All we have to do is let God be who God is and not foolishly try to make Him into what we need or want Him to be. Without God we cease to be. It's that simple. The very blood that flows through my veins and the life that I have come directly from Divine origins. With this knowledge of who God is and who I am, I can open my ears and hear the powerful words Jesus speaks, "Do not be afraid, just have faith." Trust begins.

When we are struggling, we naturally reach out for God because we know that a divine remedy is the only remedy. But, in doing so we wrestle with letting God take charge. We want something more miraculous and visible than the obvious and have difficulty in finding consolation simply resting in God's presence. Our naked being, stripped of any pretense or self-serving agenda, is being called to rest in and love the un-created Presence of God. Reach out in love to God. Ask God to heal you from all that separates you from Him. Put aside any ideas of God that create barriers between you and God's tender and endearing presence. The Cloud of Unknowing leaves us with wisdom, "think of yourself and of him in the same way, that is, with the simple awareness that he is as he is and that you are as you are." This is a meeting of two friends who desire nothing more than to share life together.

July 3rd ~ St. Thomas, Apostle

Little is recorded of St. Thomas the Apostle. Thomas was probably born in Galilee to a humble family, but there is no indication that he was a fisherman. He was a Jew, but there is no account of how he became an apostle to Christ. Nevertheless, thanks to the fourth Gospel his personality is clearer to us than some of the other Twelve. Thomas' name occurs in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Acts of the Apostles; but in the Gospel of John, he plays a particularly distinctive part. Thomas is often condemned for his lack of belief, but Thomas was equally courageous, willing to stand by Jesus in dangerous times. He also relentlessly sought the Truth. Like an inquisitive child, he constantly asked questions. And, his wonderful profession, "My Lord and my God," is the clearest declaration of Jesus' divinity in Holy Scripture.



It was St. Thomas who raised an objection prior to the Last Supper: "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way where I am going." Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?"

With the keenness typical of the Twelve, Thomas misunderstands Jesus' reference to His death and resurrection. Thomas' question provides Jesus an opportunity to teach one of the most profound and difficult truths of His ministry. Jesus said to Thomas: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."

Lastly, and more famously, St. Thomas is remembered for being absent from the Upper Room the first time Jesus appeared to the disciples after His Resurrection. Thomas dismissed the accounts of the others by saying, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands and put my finger into the nail marks, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." Eight days later Thomas made his act of faith. He fell at the feet of Jesus and said, "My Lord and my God!" and Jesus replied, "Because you have seen me, Thomas, you believed. Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet believe." This incident gave rise to the expression "doubting Thomas."

Accounts of Thomas' missionary activities are unreliable, but the most widely accepted report holds that he preached in India, although he was reluctant to start the mission. According to the Acta Thomae, the apostles divided up the world for their missionary labors, and India fell to Thomas. However, Thomas claimed that he was not healthy enough and that a Hebrew could not teach Indians; even a vision of Christ could not change his mind. A legend has it that Christ appeared to a merchant and sold Thomas to him as a slave for his master, a king who ruled over part of India. One story suggests that Thomas offered to build a palace for the Indian king that would last forever. The king gave him money, which Thomas gave to the poor. Asked to show his progress, St. Thomas explained that the palace he was building was in heaven, not on earth. Ultimately, after giving into God's will, Thomas was freed from slavery. He planted seeds for the new Church, forming many parishes and building many churches along the way.

To this day, Saint Thomas is venerated as the Apostle of India. In fact, there exists a population of Christians along the Malabar Coast, on the western coast of India, who lay claim to conversion by St. Thomas. Their tradition holds that he built seven churches, was martyred during prayer by a spearing on the "Big Hill" near Madras, and was buried in Mylapore, on the east coast of India. Ultimately, St. Thomas' remains were transported to Ortona, Italy, where they reside today.

St. Thomas is the patron saint of the blind (due to occasional spiritual blindness); craftsmen (e.g., architects, carpenters and masons); geometricians; and theologians.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, June 26, 4:30 pm, and Sunday, June 27, 10 am Masses respectively - Peter's Pence Collection

Sunday, July 4, 10 am Mass - Independence Day Liturgy

Monday, July 5th, Rectory Office Closed

Peter's Pence Collection A Concrete Sign of Mercy

We are continuing our Peter's Pence Collection this week. This Collection occurs yearly on the Sunday closest to June 29, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, as a sign that Catholics around the world are joined together in support of the Holy Father.

The concrete participation in the needs of the universal ecclesial community has taken different forms throughout history. Collections and donations by the individual faithful or entire local churches raise awareness that all the baptized are called to materially sustain the work of evangelization and, at the same time, to help the poor in whatever way possible. By doing so, they build up the Church so that it will continue to minister to all for generations to come.

During his apostolic visit to Bangui in the Central African Republic in 2015, Pope Francis visited the city's pediatric hospital with a donation of medicines and a promise that he would not forget the country's children. With contributions raised to support Peter's Pence, the Holy Father kept that promise to the children of Bangui by founding a new facility in 2017. The existing hospital was renovated, and a new facility specifically for malnourished children was constructed. In a March 2019 message, Pope Francis described the hospital as "a concrete sign of mercy" originating with his 2015 visit.

Support for such papal efforts has its roots in the scriptural message to take care of the poor and is an expression of unity with the Holy Father. Peter's Pence expresses this unity in two ways: through the ongoing activities of the Holy See and through the charitable works of the Holy Father on behalf of those most in need.

This weekend, take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a *sign of mercy* to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous, envelopes are in the pews for your use.



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A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

The healing of the woman and the child in today's Gospel is a reminder we are all wounded. We retreat to those we love looking for acceptance, listening, understanding, and support. Families must be healing communities where Jesus is present in our care for one another.

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Your Gifts at Work - St. Christine Christian Services remains a beacon of hope in northwest Detroit for those in need of its services. "It has humbled me more than I could have ever imagined and just made me grateful for every day that I can go there and serve," said Maureen Northrup, a social worker whose position is funded through the Catholic Services Appeal. "I feel like I'm doing the work of a disciple."

Situated in Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood, St. Christine's provides hot meals and groceries through its soup kitchen and food pantry, as well as clothing and assistance with utilities and tasks like obtaining a birth certificate, making a photocopy, or reading a document. "It's the simple things we all take for granted," Maureen said. "We give them the assistance they need on a daily basis."

After Maureen researched food pantries at other social service organizations around the country, St. Christine's began offering a self-serve pantry program. Instead of clients receiving a box packed with staples, they now choose themselves from what the pantry has available. "It's about dignity and respect," Maureen added. Clients include the homeless and working poor; families, single parents, and grandparents raising grandchildren.

Prayer to St. Thomas the Apostle

O Glorious Saint Thomas,
your grief for Jesus was such that
it would not let you believe He had risen
unless you actually saw Him and touched His wounds.
But your love for Jesus was equally great
and it led you to give up your life for Him.
Pray for us that we may grieve for our sins
which were the cause of Christ's sufferings.
Help us to give ourselves in His service
and so earn the title of "blessed" which Jesus applied
to those who would believe in Him without seeing Him.
Amen.

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

In your prayers...

Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.

Anthony Mastronardi	Jesse Ocampo
Stephanie Smith	Mary Spansky
Janet Law	Marie Kane
Laura Alix	Mike Dulapa
Betty Leone	Kathy Bush
Jo Marie Nardi	Sue Allasio
Anthony Crimardo	Richard Goll
Rosemary Schoolcraft	Tim Fitzgerald
Tiffany Gelle	Kristen Freiburger
Robert Stark	
Pauline Williams	
Eloise Parker	
Herb and Jeanne Damman	
Doreen Redman	
Sarah Wagner	
Nenette Ferreria	
Lolita Dorado	
Albert Fajardo	
Eduardo Fajardo	
Aurora Guinto	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, July 3, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Bryan Jones

Lauren Smith

Sunday, July 4, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

David Smydra

Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, June 26 - Vigil: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m. - John P. Langan (8th Anniv)

Sunday, June 27 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 a.m. - Joseph Petrylka, For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

Monday, June 28 - St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr

Tuesday, June 29 - Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

Wednesday, June 30 - The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

9:00 a.m. - For Healthcare and Frontline Workers

Thursday, July 1 - St. Junipero Serra, Priest

Friday, July 2 -
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Saturday, July 3 - Vigil: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, July 4 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 a.m. - Salustiano Guinto, Dr. Raymond Kettel, John Shea, Rita Allman (13th Anniv)



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