Jesus then said to the Twelve, “Do you also want to leave?” Simon Peter answered him, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

John 6: 67-69
MASS Intentions

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 | Saint Pius X
4:00 PM Ruth and Al Cryderman
Roy and Phina Jeffrey
R. Potchynok
Fr. J. Profota
Sara Simons, S.I.
David Dettloff, 31 yr. anniversary
Candy Jozefczyk, Birthday Remembrance
Thomas R. Gray, Jr.
Ray Iwankowski, Jr.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22 | TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 AM Carol Rennie
11:00 AM Delphine Karpinski
John Kopczynski, 9 yr. anniversary

MONDAY, AUGUST 23 | Saint Rose of Lima
NO MASS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 | Saint Bartholomew
NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25 | Saint Louis; Saint Joseph
Calasanzz
NO MASS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 | Weekday
NO MASS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27 | Saint Monica
9:30 AM Parishioners of St. Blase

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28 | Saint Augustine
4:00 PM Anna Iannucci
Fred Kuspa
Harry Filipp, Birthday Remembrance (8/25/21)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 | TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 AM Rita Marsh, 1 yr. anniversary (8/30/21)
Louis & Carmela Biafora, Wedding Anniversary Remembrance
Katherine Peyok, Birthday Remembrance (8/26/21)
Marion Zukowski, 4 yr. anniversary

11:00 AM Robert Joyce, 5 yr. anniversary and Birthday Remembrance
Julia Cardona
Peter Roddy
Robert Inglis, 9 yr. anniversary

PRAYER Requests

HOSPICE
Genoveffa Todaro

HOSPITAL
Kristina Kowalski
Claire Smith

EXTENDED CARE
June Dupuis
Agnes McGartland
Kathleen Stephens
Dan Azarovitz
Mary Cameron

AT HOME
Josephine Armstrong
Josie Bauman
Robert Bergen
Kermit Billette
Linda Billette
Yvonne Bova
Jerry Colzani
Sam Criscenti
Anna Curtis
Norbert J. Dara
Linda Diegel
Marilyn Filipp
Ethan Gehrke
Barbara Jarema
Robert Jarema
Dorothy Kihm
Michael Kovak
Nancy Kramer
Lorenzo Lia
Leon Mann
Mary Ann Mann
Phyllis Marek
Lena Rose Marlow
Anna Masakowski
Robert E. Newcomb
Julia Perna
Sharon Petkoski
Robert Priskey
Alberto Ramos
Helen Rocca
Sarah Serra
Kathleen Tiano
Sharon Turnas
Eleanor Williams
Joann Zelenak
Libby Zelenak
Pat Ziola

NEWLY Baptized

Joseph Rocco Petrolere
Son of Tracy & Joseph Petrolere
Baptized on August 1, 2021
By Father Randy Phillips

Joseph & Patricia Hillman
were married at St. Blase
on August 7th, 2021
By Father Randy Phillips
IT’S LITURGY PLANNING TIME. Several staff members, liturgical ministers and lay representatives go away this week for 3 to 4 days. The overall purpose is to prepare for the upcoming liturgical year. Specifically, we reflect on the state of our parish, pray, review the scriptures for Cycle C, the Year of Luke, reflect and discuss what we hear, listen and review music possibilities...then put it all together. Yes, it is daunting and exhausting, yet it is also work borne of love for Christ, the church and our community. Sometimes, brutal honesty is required and feelings get hurt; sometimes discussion gets hot and apologies are needed. Yet, overall, it is because we care deeply about serving God and our community through liturgy and worship. Overall, there is far more joy and laughter than struggle.

This year we have several parishioners joining Liturgy Planning for the first time. That is exciting and a true blessing. Steve has been scouting overtime and has about 40 new music selections for our review and discussion. I’m thinking we will need all of those 4 days to complete our task. Please keep us in your prayers, though admittedly, there are weightier concerns to be brought before the Lord. Still, we would appreciate one or two.

Speaking of liturgy, last month Pope Francis issued a directive regarding the use of the Tridentine Mass. Though many simply call this, “The Latin Mass,” that term is not precise and leads to confusion. Pope Francis was not limiting the present mass from being celebrated in Latin. His directive was about the Tridentine liturgy, that is, the mass that was celebrated prior to Vatican II (which was in Latin, but with the priest’s back facing the assembly, communion rails, etc.)

The Holy Father’s directive allows each bishop within his own diocese to authorize or refuse the pre-Vatican II liturgy. He also placed responsibility on the local ordinary (bishop) to ensure that groups dedicated to the “extraordinary form” do not deny the validity of Vatican II and its liturgical reforms. The pope also stated that the pre-Vatican II Latin Masses can no longer be offered at parish churches and forbade establishing new parishes for the sole purpose of offering this liturgy. He also ordered that if the Tridentine liturgy is celebrated, the readings must be in the vernacular (the language of the people.) Archbishop Vigneron is currently reviewing Pope Francis’ brief declaration as to how it will be implemented within the Archdiocese.

The Pope’s rationale was focused on the unity of the church. The experiment to allow the pre-Vatican II Latin mass as an extraordinary form of the Roman Rite has fostered more division, not unity. The church officially has but one Roman Rite, not two. Continuing to foster a second rite is neither wise nor helpful to the spiritual life of the church.

THE DISCOUNT FOR EARLY REGISTRATION FOR FAITH FORMATION is winding down.

Register by August 31st and receive a discount and help us in preparing for the upcoming year. And don’t forget the BLESSING OF BACKPACKS THIS SATURDAY FROM 11 AM UNTIL 12 PM. In front of the church.

Yes, we still need the pledge or contribution to those who have given to the 2021 Catholic Services Appeal. We have reached about 75% of our target. Thanks to all who have given and to those who have not, please make your gift or pledge this week via the internet, in person or drop it in the offertory collection. WE HONESTLY DO RELY ON AND NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION. THANKS.

PARISH DIGITAL NEWSLETTER
Towards the end of Summer 2021, beginning of Fall 2021, you will have the option to receive a monthly parish e-newsletter sent directly to your inbox. If you would like to be on the list to receive our e-newsletter, please fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office.
*This will not replace our weekly paper bulletin or weekly digital online bulletin.

NAME__________________________
EMAIL__________________________

August 28 | Blessing of Backpacks, pg. 5
August 31 | Last day to get the Early Bird Discount for Faith Formation Registration! pg. 4
September 18 | Spaghetti Dinner, pg. 5
October 11 | Blood Drive, pg. 5

OFFICE HOURS
Week of August 22nd
Mon - Thurs: 9am-4pm
Friday: 9am-12pm
Saturday: 9am-4pm
Closed for lunch: 12-1
Sunday: 8:30am-12:30pm

MASS TIMES
Week of August 22nd
No Daily Masses this week
Saturday: 4:00pm
*Saturday’s weekend mass is livestreamed
Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am
Confessions: Saturday at 3:00pm
This week’s readings conclude the Bread of Life Discourse and it does so by offering us a choice. As mentioned previously, daily readings all have an overall lesson, or teachings, in which we need to learn. Choice is something that God has given to us freely, hence Free Will. God does not command us to love him, but gives us the choice to love him. A forced love is not true love. How do we make that choice? We listen. We read. We observe. We learn. We pray. We discern. We try our hardest not to falter as we walk that path of building our relationship with God.

In the first reading, Joshua gathers the people, relaying their history, and places before them a choice. He tells them to make a choice; to remember all that God has done for them. Joshua then tells them of his choice, “As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord,” (Jos 24:15) and the people also declare their choice. This choice that Joshua presents seems to foreshadow what Jesus states to His disciples in today’s Gospel reading. The Gospel reading starts out feeling somewhat broken; you will need to go back to the readings two weeks ago when Jesus proclaims, “I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world,” (John 6:51). The disciples heard this and started murmuring as they are not sure of what they are hearing. Jesus knew who would believe and who would not believe. He knew, but He still gives them the choice. He didn’t force them to believe and when many turned and walked away, He then turned to the twelve and pointedly asked, “Do you also want to leave?” Simon Peter answered him, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,” (John 6:67-68). They were given a choice.

It is easy to forget that we are disciples of Jesus as we listen to the Gospels depicting the lives of those that followed Jesus during His earthly ministry. Yes, the bible has a front page and a last page, but the words within is the living Word of God – His Word lives within each of us! We continually choose to accept, share, and show His love by the choices we make. We choose to love one another; to forgive one another; to be kind to one another; to pray for one another, and to reciprocate God’s unconditional love! God is good!

Time to Register!

Register now in the Parish Office or on our Parish Website. Join us for another year of faith-filled fun! Early-bird discount on tuition ends August 31st!

Parents, we always need volunteers to help with Faith Formation (catechists, catechist aides, and hall monitors). If interested, contact Diann in the office.
ON THE ROAD TO Emmans

We are almost at the end of summer. Enjoy these remaining days of August and the beginning of September. Soon schools will open their doors and the fall season will begin. School sports have already begun! However, one can still enjoy the fall colors of Michigan by getting out for walks and bike rides.

**DIACONATE UPDATE:** As we move into another season and school year I know that there are men out there with the call to ordained ministry. I speak specifically of those men who are married and have a call to become a deacon. It is that time of the year when the Archdiocese will host the “Diocesan Vocation Awareness Night” on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. If you know of men who have shown an interest in the diaconate, please prayerfully consider inviting them to this meeting – contact Deacon Ed for further information, questions, and the RSVP and link. Wives are highly encouraged to attend as well.

Some characteristics (certainly not exhaustive) that are present in permanent deacons are: humility, joyful, and faithfulness to the Holy Spirit. They are men of prayer; servers of others with charity; followers who lead; good listeners – quick to hear and slow to speak. They also regularly participate in the sacramental life of the church. And finally they are people who show compassion for all people.

Just as a side note, the diaconate needs younger men. I am getting older and cannot do as much as I used to. So younger men will have to take my place some day in the future when I take Senior status.

**MEN’S PRAYER GROUP UPDATE:** As we move back into some kind of normal life, we are looking to start up the Men’s Prayer Group again. It was put on hold due to the pandemic in 2020. NOTE the day has changed. We will begin meeting on October 5th at 6:30 PM. The change of day is due to Tuesday being the day for the K of C Meetings and also the night for Religious Formation. It will give more opportunity for men to attend. Please watch this space for more information and where we will meet.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:** Some people are wondering “where is God in this situation I am facing?” Some may find their spiritual connection to The Source of Life is growing, and they want to savor and celebrate that. Others feel their relationship to The Holy is stale and they want to understand and remedy that. Some have had a profound, or even disturbing, religious experience and need help processing what it means for them.

Are you looking for spiritual direction or for someone to listen to your “sacred story?” For more information on spiritual direction, please contact me.

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# UPCOMING Events

**Saturday, August 28th**

**BLESSING OF BACKPACKS**

It’s almost time to go back to school! Bring your backpacks and school supplies by on August 28th from 11 AM to Noon for a special blessing for a safe and successful school year. This blessing will be done as a drive-up in the church parking lot, the same way we did the Blessing of Food during Triduum.

**BLEASE BOWLING**

*Sunday, August 29th | 5:00pm*

Location: 5 Star Lanes | Contact Joe R: (586) 259-3294

**Tuesday, September 7th**

**BRIDGE CLUB**

The Bridge club is resuming back at a new time and location. For vaccinated persons, we will be meeting on the first Tuesday of each month from 11 AM to 2 PM in the Romero room at the church. Our first game is on Tuesday, September 7th. Those not vaccinated will arrange an off site game on the website Bridge Base Online. If you need a partner or have questions, please call Neville and Doreen D’Souza (248) 689-4148

**Saturday, September 18th**

**K OF C SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Join the K of C for some good food, good fun, and a great way to raise money for charity! Fundraiser for Haiti Outreach Mission after the 4 PM Mass in the Social Center.

Cost: Free Will Offering

50/50 Raffle

**MEN’S PRAYER GROUP**

*Tuesday, October 5th | 6:30pm | Thomas Merton Rm.*

**Monday, October 11th**

**BLOOD DRIVE**

Our Semi-Annual Blood Drive is coming up. Sign up at redcross.org or call Denise at (248) 952-0801. Thank you and eat healthy!
Passing on our faith to our children is an important responsibility. We have rich programs starting at age 3 and continue through 8th grade confirmation. Please reach out if you are interested in learning more.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION**

**Mass Intentions and Prayer Requests**
If you are interested in adding a mass intention or prayer request to the bulletin, please contact the parish office directly. The deadline for these requests is Sunday at 12:30pm, or at least 7 days before the Sunday of Publication.

**Bulletin Announcements and Ads**
Requests for new announcements, or edits to recurring announcements must be submitted **at least 7 days before the Sunday of publication**. To submit a request for a bulletin announcement, please contact Sarah.

Announcements may be edited or redesigned. Recurring announcements will be included for up to two weeks unless otherwise specified.

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**PARISH OFFICE**
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  Spiritual Director  
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- Bev Matlas  
  Financial Assistant  
  bev.matlas@stblase.org

- Linda Wilkins  
  Secretary  
  office@stblase.org

- Angelica Ramirez  
  Secretary

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**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

- Diann Chase.............................................x206  
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  Coordinator for Grades 1-6, Middle School  
  Grades 7-8, & Confirmation  
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- Kelly Sakorafos........................................X227  
  P3 – K5 Early Childhood Coordinator  
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- Anthony Howell........................................X227  
  1st Eucharist, and 1st Reconciliation

- Christina Willson........................................X227  
  1st Eucharist, and 1st Reconciliation  
  cwillson54@gmail.com

- Anne Krus..............................................x206  
  Confirmation Coordinator  
  anne.krus@stblase.org

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**Note:** At least 7 days before the Sunday of publication.
**CRISIS SUPPORT NUMBERS**

- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)..........................877-337-0611
- Compassion Pregnancy Center.............586-783-9620
- Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan...............248-338-4250
- Domestic Violence – Turning Point............586-463-6990
- Drug Addiction Support, Clinton Twp........1-800-558-0175
- Problem Gambling Hotline....................1-800-270-7117
- Poison Control Hotline.........................800-222-1222
- Suicide Prevention Hotline..............586-307-9100
- Employment Services......................800-285-WORKS (9675)
- Free Legal Advice by Phone.................1-800-ATTORNEY
- Grief Counseling..................................www.griefshare.org
- Hospice Services..................................888-247-5701
- Immigration Services..............................800-375-5283
- Meals on Wheels (Macomb County)........586-469-5228
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Macomb...............586-254-1500
  (Offers numerous support services including: Food Assistance Hotline, Gamblers Anonymous, Urgent Care for Mental Health Conditions, Counseling for Survivors of Sexual Assault, Anxiety/Depression Support Groups, & Refugee Assistance)
- Project Rachel (Post-Abortion Counseling)..........................888-722-4355
- Interfaith Caregivers..............................888-247-5701
- Senior Services in Macomb County (Lawn mowing, snow removal, transportation, etc.)........586-469-6999
- Good Shepherd Coalition
  (for eviction assistance, disconnected utilities, and other resources, Open Mon–Thurs)........586-307-8888
- THAW (The Heat & Warmth Fund)
  (for utility bill assistance)..................1-800-866-8429
- Pope Francis Center
  (for food and other support services)........313-963-5134

**CHRISTIAN Service**

**Macomb Food Program Cereal Drive**

St. Blase sponsors a cereal collection on the second weekend of each month. Our next cereal drive pickup is on **September 14th**! Please place donations in the gathering space bins.

**Plastic with a Purpose**

Our Plastic with a Purpose crochet group meets Monday, **September 13th**! Join us at 1:30 PM to create mats for the homeless. We could use your help, no crochet experience necessary!

**Save Your Stamps!**

Save stamps that have their perforations intact, and are not torn, cut or stained. Leave at least 1/4 inch on each side of the stamp when cutting it from the envelope. Simply drop your stamps in the basket at the information counter. Stamps are sent to the Sisters of the Holy Cross for the "Ministry with the Poor Fund."

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION**

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, please fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office. We’d be happy to answer your questions and assist you in your spiritual journey. The RCIA is a process which involves learning about the Catholic faith and discussion on how the faith impacts our lives.

Check the following that applies to you:

- I have never been baptized, and desire to learn more about the Catholic faith.
- I was baptized Catholic, and desire to receive First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation.
- I was baptized in another Christian denomination and desire to learn more about the Catholic Church.
- I have children who have never been baptized and desire them to be baptized.

**NAME________________________________________**

**PHONE________________________________________**

**SACRAMENTS**

Please call the Parish Office for all sacramental needs, including preparing for a baptism, scheduling your wedding, or planning a funeral mass. We will help you every step of the way.
THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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AROUND Town

Friday, September 17

GOLF FORE LIFE

Friday, September 17, 2021 - Solitude Links Golf Course

Join us at a beautiful, challenging course in Kimball Township for great golf, a great dinner, and a relaxing afternoon.

Golf Fore Life is a full scramble format fundraising event for the lifesaving ministry of Compassion Pregnancy Center. The shotgun start is at 1 pm with a tasty BBQ dinner at 6 pm. There will be special prizes and contest as well as an opportunity to win $50,000 cash with a hole in one on a designated hole.

Registration is required by Friday, September 3, 2021 to qualify for the $175 player fee. Join us and become a lifesaver! Register at https://compassionpregnancyfriends.org/golf-fore-life/

Thursday, September 30

IN OUR VOICES WEBINAR

A Survivor-Led Human Trafficking Webinar. Join this free virtual event to hear the raw truth through the eyes of four survivors, learn tips to spot human trafficking, and see how you can assist and offer support in the fight against this heinous sin.

5:30 - 6:30 PM | Register at pearlsofgreatprice.net

CSA 2021

Let's fill this thermometer! Together we can meet our CSA goal. If you have not already done so, please consider giving a donation to this year’s Catholic Services Appeal. We have not reached our goal yet and any shortage must be paid by our parish. Every pledge helps and makes a difference, so please give what you can. To donate, mail your CSA envelopes to the return address stated on your envelope or donate online at givecsa.org

Your gift helps fund over 100 ministries, programs, and services within the Archdiocese of Detroit. Once we reach our goal, 100 percent of the overage is returned to St. Blase.

Thank you for your generosity!

STEWARDSHIP

Month of July
Actual Offertory: $45,938.00

Annual Budget
Offertory Annual Budget 2021-2022: $655,590.00
Christmas Offertory Budget: $150,000.00
Total 2021-2022 Budget: $805,590.00

Catholic Services Appeal
Our Goal: $107,763.00
Total Pledged: $80,876.34
Total Number of Pledges: 347

Help us reach our goal! See thermometer above. If you have not already donated to 2021 CSA, please consider doing so. Donate at givecsa.org

Thank You to Alliance Catholic Credit Union!

St. Blase would like to acknowledge the generous monetary donation from Alliance Catholic Credit Union for our 2021 MCREST! Alliance is always willing to donate to our outreach ministries such as MCREST and the Warming Center. We appreciate their unfailing commitment to those in our community who are in need of assistance.