THE THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
NOVEMBER 7TH, 2021

For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood.”
Mark 12: 44

WHAT’S GOING ON AT BLASE

November 13 | Game Night

November 22 | Adult Faith Formation, pg. 5

Thanksgiving Drive has started!
See page 9 for details.

Prayer of the Week:
The widow in today’s Gospel reading gave everything she had to her community. How can you give to your local and church community? Volunteering is a form of active prayer. Reflect this week and consider if there is a ministry at St. Blase or a local group that you could join to give back like the widow in today’s Gospel.

OFFICE HOURS
Week of Nov. 7th
Mon - Thurs: 9am-4pm
Friday: 9am-12pm
Saturday: 9am-4pm
Closed for lunch: 12-1
Sunday: 8:30am-12:30pm

MASS TIMES
Week of November 7th

Weekday Mass: 9:30am
Monday, Tuesday, and Friday
Saturday: 4:00pm
*Saturday’s mass is livestreamed
Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am
Confessions: Saturday at 3:00pm

586.268.2244 | office@stblase.org
12151 E. 15 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48312
**NEW Parishioners**

Welcome to the St. Blase Community!

Gerald Chojnacki
Margie Harms
Jacob and Dennell Hanson and Family

**Mass Intentions**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6 | Weekday
4:00 PM  Deceased Members of Giudici and
Verona Families
Fred Kuspa
Margaret Szlaga, 21 yr. anniversary

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 | THIRTY-SECOND
SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 AM  Stanley Janusz, 2 yr. anniversary
Delphine Chyla
Larry & Pat Wilk, 50th Wedding
Anniversary

11:00 AM  Rita and Norbert Radulski
Steven and Cecelia Skoczylas
Ben D’Annunzio, 11 yr. anniversary

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8 | Weekday
9:30 AM  Brody Trombley, S. I.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 | The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
9:30 AM  Parishioners of St. Blase

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 | Saint Leo the Great
NO MASS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11 | Saint Martin of Tours
NO MASS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12 | Saint Josaphat
9:30 AM  Leonard Mironski

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 | Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini
4:00 PM  Eleanor Iwankowski
Raymond Iwankowski, Sr.
Ray Iwankowski, Jr.
Henry Masakowski
Michael Masakowski

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
9:00 AM  Robert Ludwig
Sam Porcasi, 7 yr. anniversary

11:00 AM  Patricia Walko
George Milobowski, 15 yr. anniversary
Ben & Tilly Schmidt
Parents of Jerome Schmidt
In October, Pope Francis opened a two-year synod on synodality itself. This synod is to focus on becoming a church in which we listen and learn from one another. The goal is to become less autocratic in our decision-making and to arrive at more decisions through consensus. To that end, the Vatican instructed dioceses to hold listening sessions to gather input from parishes, Catholic universities, lay movements and other Catholic institutions. These will then be synthesized into a report to be submitted to each national bishop conference. This will result in a working document to guide the synods meetings through March 2023.

Whether such a consultation will occur here remains to be seen. Synod 16, a local consultation within our own Archdiocese, used a similar process. However, only Catholics meeting certain criteria were invited to be part of that process. Pope Francis envisions a wider consultation that specifically includes our marginalized. “We must acknowledge the frustration and impatience felt by many pastoral workers, members of diocesan and parish consultative bodies and women, who frequently remain on the fringes. Enabling everyone to participate is an essential ecclesial duty.”

(Pope Francis, October 9, 2021, in The National Catholic Reporter, 10/29/2021, 6.)

We live in strange times. Popes are often protective of their autocracy while bishop conferences seek consultation. We now have a Pope who desires such dialogue, while many bishops would prefer autocracy.

When I wrote my doctoral dissertation, the point was to examine Martin Luther King, Jr., from a Catholic perspective. Only in time did I come to appreciate the insight of the first chapter of my work. The Rev. Dr. King had often been explained through the lens of 3 or 4 white theologians. In researching King’s teaching, I came to see a definite path from the spirituals, slave rituals, and the nascent Black Church, to King himself. King was not the product of white theologians, but emerged from the yet to be recognized and respected theology of Black Christians. King himself served as a major impetus to taking this tradition seriously.

One of those whose work helped me make this connection was Albert Raboteau, Jr., who died a few weeks ago due to complications of dementia. His first book, Slave Religion: the “Invisible Institution” in the American South, became a key to my understanding and first chapter. After 40 years, it remains in print and is considered required reading in courses on African American religious history.

Raboteau went on to write many other works, along with a personal memoir, entitled, A Sorrowful Joy. He began teaching at Xavier University in New Orleans (the only historically black Catholic college in the U.S.). He then spent 30 years at Princeton becoming known as “the godfather of Afro-American studies.” His own faith journey led him to embrace the Eastern Orthodox Church. Albert Raboteau was known as a quiet, calm man who radiated peace, and who had a knack for advancing the careers of his graduate students. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and may perpetual light shine upon him.
UPCOMING EVENTS

BRIDGE CLUB GAME
Tuesday, November 9th
BRIDGE CLUB MEETING
Our next game is on Tuesday, November 9th from 11 AM - 2 PM. 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

THANKSGIVING MINISTRY 2021
As a part of our Thanksgiving Ministry, we will be accepting frozen turkeys starting November 1st - November 20th. See page 9 for more details on this year’s Thanksgiving Ministry. Thank you!

MANY GAME NIGHT
Saturday, November 13th
MONTHLY GAME NIGHT
Game Night is back! Invite your friends! Bring your own games or use ours. Admission is $5 per person and includes pizza, salad, dessert, and beverages. We’ll start around 5:30 PM after the 4:00 PM Mass.

Please RSVP by calling Don Rogowski at (586) 604-3952 or emailing Don at drogowski@yahoo.com. Thank you!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION
Monday, November 22nd
more details page 5...

NEEDLE & HOOK GROUP
Thursday, November 18th
FRIENDLY BLASERS
This group meets the first and third Thursday of the month in the Social Center. We get together to have lunch, chat, and sometimes play bingo. Our next meeting starts at 11:30 AM on November 18th. We love seeing new faces, so if your Thursdays are free, we’d love to see you there!

Wednesday, December 1st
NEEDLE & HOOK GROUP
Do you knit, crochet, needlepoint or cross-stitch? If so, this group is for you. Just bring in your current project and take a seat. This is an opportunity to share “purls” of wisdom, get ideas and enjoy the company of fellow textile artists. This is strictly a social group; there will be no formal instruction.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 1st at 6:30 PM.

Below are only a few of the many ministries at St. Blase that help with Mass and events. To learn more about our ministries and groups, visit the Parish Office or stblase.org

GREETERS
Greeters welcome parishioners and visitors to the church before masses. Parishioners of all ages are invited to share in this ministry. We especially need greeters for the 11:00 AM Mass. If interested, contact Ceil Toepel at (586) 268-0112.

BAGELS & DONUTS
Teams of parishioners are needed to help setup, serve, and cleanup at bagel & donut socials after 9 AM and 11 AM Sunday liturgies. If interested, contact the Parish Office.

ALTAR SERVERS
Children and teens are invited to share in the parish liturgical ministries and learn firsthand about the celebration of the liturgy. If interested, contact Christina Willson in the Parish Office.

USHER/USHER IN TRAINING
Ushers help with seating, collection, and communion during mass and after mass handing out bulletins. Kids are also welcome to hand out bulletins as Ushers in Training. If interested, contact Jim Richard (586) 755-7876.

TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
The Technology Committee provides video resources, including our weekly live streaming and recording of events. Availability during mass times is a must. If interested, contact the Parish Office.
Grief is something we all experience at some point in our lives. It is difficult, but we find support in God and the people God puts in our lives. In this Adult Faith Formation presentation, Amy Park-Goeddeke will provide us with information and guidance on how to find peace and solace during the journey.

Amy Park-Goeddeke, LMSW, IMH-E, has her Master of Social Work from Wayne State University. She has practiced in the field of clinical social work for over 20 years. She has received certification from The Trauma and Loss Center for Children for Trauma and loss. She also has a certification from The University of Wisconsin in Grief and loss. In addition, she has received training as an End of Life Doula from Lifespan Doulas. Amy works full time for community mental health and has a small private practice where she works with individuals of all ages and their loved ones.
Remember loved ones and mark their place in time. St. Blase is breaking ground on a new outdoor Memorial Garden, right next to the Labyrinth Prayer Garden. Order a personalized brick paver to be placed in the garden to commemorate them.

Please use this form to reserve your commemorative brick paver. One order form is needed per each individual brick paver. Select from 3 sizes and enter desired message in the appropriate boxes. The inscription on each brick paver is limited to the number of characters and spaces shown. Layout, font, and font size will be consistent on each to ensure overall balance.

Ordered by: ____________________________

__________________________

Email: ____________________________

__________________________

Phone: ____________________________

__________________________

Brick Size: ____________________________

Order by: January 15, 2022

Questions: Contact Parish Office (586) 268-2244

*Limited number of 8x8 and 12x12 paver bricks
This week’s Gospel is about giving all you have to God and doing it with a humble heart. Jesus tells us to be wary of those who while preaching good seek their own fortune at the sake of others. There is a huge difference in those seeking to help others because they truly care for those they are helping, and those that help others for their own benefit to reap the rewards and accolades of their works. In today’s terms, think of it like social media influencers that tear down others so that they can get more likes, followers, karma, or other brandings for their own profit. They think they are doing good deeds in society, but in fact they are only benefitting themselves. Their love is misplaced, which can lead to disaster within themselves. When you put the love of money, prestige, and accolades over what are true acts of kindness, then your actions are hollow.

Jesus then watches as a crowd puts money into the treasury. Many of the rich put in large sums of money, which doesn’t affect their bottom line but makes them “look good” to others. A widow approaches and puts in two small coins. This is not a lot of money to the rich, but it is all she has of her own. She gave all she had, granted small in comparison to the rich who had more, but who truly gave more? This isn’t about condemning large gifts or romanticizing poverty, but about the motivation behind what is given. What is the reason behind the gifts? Is it for notoriety so all can see what you give or is it humbly given to help others? Sometimes when we act with others in mind, ignoring the ego of our ways, we are rewarded in ways that enhance our soul and bring us closer to God.

We should always serve one another without recognition or ulterior motive so that our actions are not self-serving but filled with love. Every humble act that we do to help others means far more than any boastful act. Giving of ourselves with love, kindness, and mercy are reflections of God’s unconditional love that He has for us, and this further deepens our relationship with Him, which is always our ultimate goal! God is good!

What is the difference between how the Scribes behaved vs. how the poor widow behaved in today’s Gospel? What can we learn from this?

Why is it important to contribute to the needs of the Church by sharing our time, talent and treasure?

**Thankful Bunting**

Start preparing for Thanksgiving by taking on an attitude of gratitude! Gratitude increases our overall happiness, helps us to be less self-centered, and helps us to be the people God calls us to be. Reflecting on what you are thankful for is a great way for your family to cultivate a generous spirit and a sense of contentment. Collect all of your family’s sentiments of gratitude and make a thankful bunting (a string of colorful triangular flags) today.

**What you’ll need:**

Sturdy white paper (such as cardstock or just copy paper if that is all that is available), scissors, tape, colorful Sharpies/paint/crayons/markers, and hole-punch or stapler

**Instructions:**

First, cut your paper into triangles big enough to draw and write on. Cover your work surface to protect it from the paint/markers. Next, tape a series of triangles down on your work surface, to hold them in place. Invite family members to draw pictures and/or write words of the things they are thankful for. Then color the images with paint, markers, or crayons. Once finished, remove the tape. Arrange the triangles and use a hole-punch to punch holes in the top corners of each triangle, then weave yarn through all the holes to string them all together, or you can staple/tape them to the string. Finally, hang your new thankful bunting up where everyone can see it!
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 12:30 pm, 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.
CRISIS SUPPORT NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)</td>
<td>877-337-0611</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compassion Pregnancy Center</td>
<td>586-783-9620</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan</td>
<td>248-338-4250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence – Turning Point</td>
<td>586-463-6990</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug Addiction Support, Clinton Twp</td>
<td>1-800-558-0175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Problem Gambling Hotline</td>
<td>1-800-270-7117</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poison Control Hotline</td>
<td>800-222-1222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suicide Prevention Hotline (24 hours)</td>
<td>or 800-273-TALK(825)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employment Services</td>
<td>800-285-WORKS(9673)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free Legal Advice by Phone</td>
<td>1-800-ATTORNEY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grief Counseling</td>
<td><a href="http://www.griefshare.org">www.griefshare.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospice Services</td>
<td>888-247-5701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immigration Services</td>
<td>800-375-5283</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals on Wheels (Macomb County)</td>
<td>586-469-5228</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Macomb</td>
<td>586-254-1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>(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, &amp; Refugee Assistance)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Rachel (Post-Abortion Counseling)</td>
<td>888-722-4355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interfaith Caregivers</td>
<td>586-757-5551</td>
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<tr>
<td>(assist with grocery shopping and other daily tasks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Services in Macomb County</td>
<td>586-469-6999</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Lawn mowing, snow removal, transportation, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Shepherd Coalition</td>
<td>586-307-8888</td>
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<tr>
<td>(for eviction assistance, disconnected utilities, and other resources, Open Mon-Thu)</td>
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<tr>
<td>THAW (The Heat &amp; Warmth Fund)</td>
<td>1-800-866-8429</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pope Francis Center</td>
<td>313-963-5134</td>
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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.

CHRISTIAN Service

Thanksgiving Ministry 2021

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please consider donating to our Thanksgiving Ministry 2021.

Last year, because of the pandemic, we decided to purchase gift cards to Meijer instead of putting together and delivering baskets of food to local families in need of assistance. It turned out to be a huge success! Because of your generosity, we were able to give each family a substantial amount for their Thanksgiving dinners! We received very positive feedback from those families as well. They appreciated the freedom to buy what their families enjoyed most. We have decided to repeat this process again this year since we had such a successful outcome.

We would love to once again be able to give each family a generous amount so that they are able to enjoy a full dinner with their families this Thanksgiving. We will also offer them a turkey when they come to pick up their gift card. (See page 4 for turkey donation information).

Please be as generous as you can!

All donations we receive from our parishioners will be used to buy the gift cards needed and will then be distributed to families in our local community that are most in need.

*** To donate, please click on the donation link located on our website at: stblase.org or stop by the parish office to make your donation. ***

Thank you for your generosity!

Meijer Simply Give Holiday Campaign

ST. BLASE HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR THE MEIJER “SIMPLY GIVE” HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN!

The program will begin on: Sunday October 3rd, 2021 through Saturday, January 1, 2022. Donation cards are available on the Information Counter in the Gathering Space for your convenience.

HOW IT WORKS: “Simply” take a $10 donation card and bring it to any checkout at the Meijer store on Van Dyke and 16 Mile Road. The money that is donated will come directly back to St. Blase in the form of gift cards to help restock our pantry with the needed food items necessary to continue our mission of serving those in our community that need it most. The cards are also available inside the store at the check-out lanes.

*BONUS DAY* Saturday, December 11, 2021

Meijer will generously match whatever amount we bring in during this Double Match Day! So please take a card (or two) and help us help those in need!

Any questions about the program, please call Lisa Grembi in the Parish Office at (586) 268-2244.
We would like to invite all to come and see these miracles about the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The event will take place in the Social Hall behind the Church. We look forward to seeing you there!

Location St. Louise de Marillac Parish