



*Assumption Grotto
Parish - 1832 -*

ASSUMPTION GROTTA NEWS

ASSUMPTION GROTTA CHURCH

September 19, 2021



*Our Lady of Lourdes
Shrine - 1881 -*

A Vicarious Descant

Just before the passage of today's Gospel for the Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost, our Lord had silenced the Sadducees about the resurrection. Today's passage begins, "When the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them (a scholar of the law) tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

Hidden in these passages is the sincerity of this Pharisee. It is likely that the Pharisees gathered together first to discuss among themselves, then challenge the Lord. The Pharisee who asked the question was likely selected by the others to demonstrate his skill as a "scholar of the law." There was probably quite a bit of pressure to prove himself.

But within this scene is a Pharisee who likely had a sincere heart, as Fr. Cornelius Lapidé points out in his Great Commentary. The Pharisee asking the question truly desired to know how the Lord would reply to this most difficult question that had long divided scholars. It almost approached the question asked by the woman at the well who said to the Lord: "Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you people say the true worship is in Jerusalem."

There were many disagreements among the scholars of the law. They prided themselves in discussing these matters at length. In this case, St. Bede tells us that this was actually "a very controversial question among the Jews in the time of Christ. Many of them thought that the

chief commandment of the law concerned sacrifices and victims to be offered to God according to the law in Leviticus 1, because by these God is properly worshiped as Lord above all. This was why the Pharisees told children to say to their parents, corban, that is, the money with which I thought I would support you, I have vowed to God; therefore it must be given to Him, not to you (Matt 15:6)."

The other opinion was the law of love from Deuteronomy 6 and also Psalm 39 where we read: "Sacrifice and offering you do not want, but ears open to obedience you gave me. Holocausts and sin-offerings you do not require, so I said, 'Here I am; your commandments for me are written in the scroll. To do your will is my delight; my God, your law is in my heart.'"

This is the very passage from the Psalms that is interpreted at length in the Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 10. There you will find a perfect example of Scripture explaining Scripture, and those passages are especially precious. It is the passage speaking of the one sacrifice of the New Covenant, which is why Our Lord immediately asks the Pharisees, "What think you of Christ (the Messiah) whose son is he?"

This Pharisee held the other opinion that the greatest commandment was the one confirmed by Our Lord—You shall love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart and with thy whole soul and with thy whole mind—[the second is like it:] you shall love thy neighbor as thyself.

The bible commentators point out that this is the same event found in both Mark and Luke as well. St. Mark, who records the most concise of the four Gospels describes further what happens after this passage from St. Matthew's Gospel. And it is in those words that we see the Lord acknowledging the Pharisee's sincere desire to know how the Lord would answer. There we read the Pharisee saying, "Well said, teacher, you are right in saying, "He is One and there is no other than he.' And 'to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself' is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." The Pharisee rejoiced that the Lord affirmed his own understanding which is why we read, "And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God. And no one dared to ask him any more questions" (Mark 12:32-34).

Let us be "not far" from the kingdom of God in our minds and hearts. There is a lot of controversy today that seems to demand more and more time and attention. Let us not lose sight of the narrow path: let us continually draw nearer the Lord Jesus in prayer, fasting and almsdeeds.

The Vicarious Descants have been a convenient placeholder until "A Pastor's Descant" returns to print. Please continue to pray that such time may be soon. Likewise, the Vicarious Descants are infrequently about administrative and diocesan matters, but usually focus on the Liturgy, the spiritual life and catechesis. Nonetheless, it is important to mention the singular archdiocesan appeal made each year and

Mass Intentions  for the Week

Monday, - September 20, 2021

7:30 a.m. – Nancy Lopiccolo (L)

Tuesday, - September 21, 2021

7:30 a.m. – Thomas Szumplawski (D)

Wednesday, - September 22, 2021

7:30 a.m. –Theresa Carp (D)

Thursday September 23, 2021

7:30 a.m. – Sara Marion (L)

Friday, - September 24, 2021

7:30 a.m.– Berger & DeHenau Families (L&D)

Saturday, -September 25, 2021

7:30 a.m. – Alyse Ledford

4:00 p.m. – Private Intention

Sunday, September 26, 2021

6:30 a.m. – Private Intention

9:30 a.m. - People of the Parish

12:00 p.m. – Roberta Solomon (D)

Holy Father’s Intention for September

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle: *“We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.”* (www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/the-popes-monthly-intention)

Prayer for Pope Francis

Almighty and everlasting God, have mercy upon Thy servant, Pope Francis, our Supreme Pontiff, and direct him, according to Thy loving kindness, in the way of eternal salvation; that, of Thy gift, he may ever desire that which is pleasing unto Thee and may accomplish it with all his might. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen. (recite 1 Our Father & 1 Hail Mary).

Mass Servers

Saturday, September 25, 2021

4:00 p.m. D. Bastuba, J. Cline

Sunday, September 26, 2021

6:30 a.m. R. Jacek, M. Pomeroy.

9:30 a.m. K. Garavaglia, A. Santine, M. Grado, C. Bueche

12:00 p.m. M. Chambers, A. & W. Remski, G. Welsing, J. & D. Berch

Readings for the week of 09-19-21

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-4

ASSUMPTION (GROTTO) PARISH

13770 Gratiot Avenue

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Pastor: Rev. Fr. Eduard Perrone

Associate: Rev. Fr. John Bustamante

Deacon Rev. Mr. James Wilder

RECTORY BUSINESS HOURS

Monday-Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm

Evening hours by appointment

Rectory 313-372-0762, FAX 372-2064

website: www.assumptiongrotto.com

email: grotto Rectory ‘at sign’ameritech.net

Grotto Gift Shop 313-332-4432

Parish Council President

Anna Graziosi 313-372-0762

Organist Ray Long 313-372-0762

Email: grottomusic ‘at sign’ameritech.net

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturdays at 4:00; Sundays at 6:30, 9:30 (Tridentine), & Noon

HOLY DAY MASSES: 6:30, 9:30 (Tridentine), Noon & evening at 7:00 p.m.

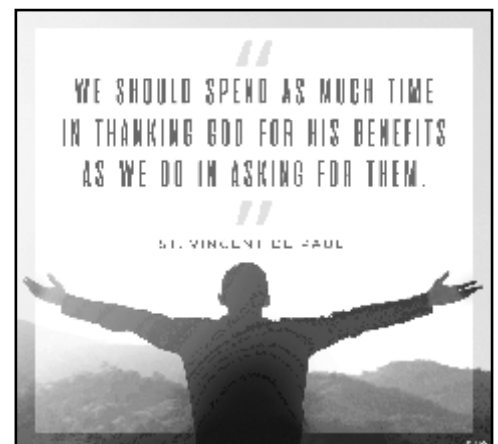
WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday-Saturday 7:30 a.m. (all Tridentine).

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 2:30-3:30, Sunday 9:00 & 11:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS: Every Saturday after the 4:00 p.m. Mass or Sunday after the Noon Mass. Arrange at the Rectory Office.

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS: After the Noon Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

REGISTRATION: Visit the Rectory or call for a form to be sent out to you.



A Vicarious Descant (continued)

for which each parish is responsible as we approach the half-way point.

The Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) is an annual assessment made on each parish in the Archdiocese of Detroit. The amount of the assessment is calculated each year from multiple metrics including the parish collections, the number of families and what the parish can afford. The CSA is a primary way that parishioners are able to share in the work being done at the archdiocesan level by providing the necessary funds for over 170 different ministries. Whatever amount of the assessment that is not paid through pledges is the responsibility of the parish to pay from its general fund.

In the CSA year ending in May 2021, we were short of the assessment by over \$20,000. Consequently, over \$20,000 had to be taken from the offertory, gifts, and bequests to pay the CSA assessment. That amounts to three-quarters of one month's income that we had to withdraw from our general fund that would otherwise have been used to pay our bills.

Every dollar over the CSA assessment amount goes directly back to Grotto. In 2018 and 2019 our parish exceeded the CSA assessment goal and actually gained financially because of your generous donations. Each CSA dollar is not taxed (as the offertory is) nor does it increase the assessment amount for the following CSA year. It does benefit the parish to pay off the CSA assessment each year.

This year the Archdiocese has assumed the burden of administering the CSA. To help with this process, we are asking that you please do not send your checks to the parish or add your CSA offering to your Sunday offertory envelopes. Beginning next year, there will no longer be a "CSA" checkbox on your weekly Offertory envelopes. Instead, please use one of the following methods to make your donation:

First, you may mail your donation to:

Archdiocese of Detroit-CSA, PO Box 6047, Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007-6647. Please make checks payable to Archdiocese of Detroit-CSA

Second, you may give online at www.givecsa.org or <http://grotto.csaad.org>. This is the preferred way.

And third, you may make a donation by phone at 1-888-331-8695.

Thank you for supporting this annual appeal. Let us continue to ask our Blessed Mother to watch over our parish as we seek to fulfill our spiritual and material obligations and assist others in the missionary work of proclaiming the Gospel.

Parish Council Meeting & August 15th Wrap up Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 21st at 7:30pm. The August 15th Wrap up Meeting will also take place at this time.

Sunday Social

The Sunday social will resume today, Sunday, September 19th. Donuts and coffee will be available.

Adult Catechism Classes

Adult catechism classes will begin on Tuesday, September 21st at 6 p.m. in the school. Please contact the rectory and leave your name and number if you plan to attend.

Homeschool

The Grotto Friday Homeschool Program begins September 24th. Please contact the rectory for more information.

Upcoming Seminar by the Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation

Hugh Owen will give a presentation on the traditional Catholic doctrine of creation, how Catholics should evaluate the molecules-to-man evolutionary hypothe-

sis, and how the answers to these questions relate to the culture of death and the current crisis of faith and morals. When: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday Sep 22, 2021. Where: Assumption Grotto school gym. Knights will provide beverages and snacks. Please contact kolbetalk@assumptiongrotto.com for more information. *"May the work of the Kolbe Center be widespread and help to free the people of our days from the greatest myth of modern times"* - Athanasius Schneider, Auxiliary Bishop of Astana, Kazakhstan

Marian Catechist Basic Course

The 16-week Marian Catechist Basic Course Class will begin on October 2nd. The class will meet every other Saturday, or on every 3rd Saturday rotations. It is not too late to join the class. If you are interested, please call the rectory for details.

2021 Call to Holiness Conference

Call to Holiness Presents: Bishop Athanasius Schneider, In Defense of Catholicism. The conference will take place on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at the Mirage Elegant Banquets in Clinton Township. For more information, or to register, please visit www.calltoholiness.com

Altar Boy Training

Any boy who has received his First Holy Communion is eligible to be an altar boy. The next monthly Altar Boy Training will be held on Saturday, **October 9th** in the church from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. All altar boys are asked to attend.


Grotto St. Vincent de Paul Helpers

Parishioners who are in need of help may contact Jeff Cline at 586-242-1959



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Te Deum Laudamus!
A Blog by a Grotto Parishioner
DIANE M. KORZENIEWSKI
Photos from liturgical events at Grotto; select topics in Catholicism; useful links
<http://te-deum.blogspot.com>



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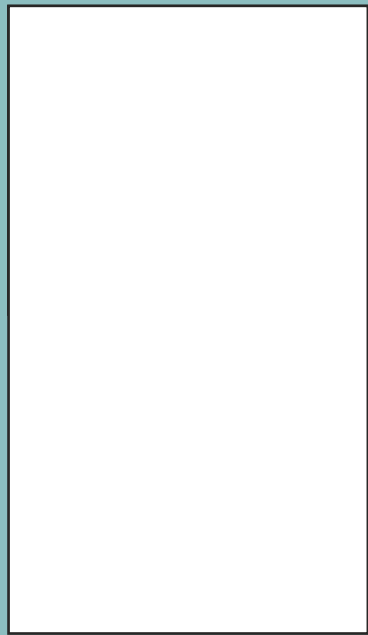
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