



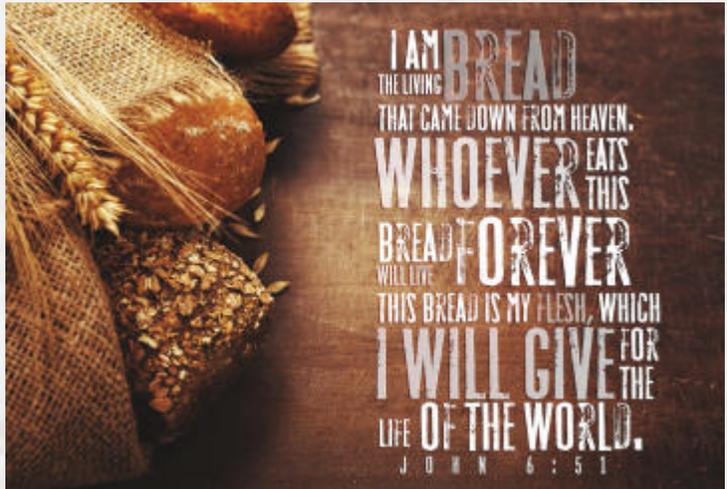
ST. JOHN FISHER CHAPEL

University Parish

August 8, 2021 ● The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Kean Perspective: "Something to Be Repeated"

Though God works in the miraculous, He doesn't simply wave a wand to eliminate any problem that comes along. More often than not, God's miracles happen in the midst of real world difficulties that we must overcome. What do I mean by this? A good example can be found with Elijah in the first reading. He is fleeing for his life from the vindictive Queen Jezebel who wants to kill him, and he is exhausted. The angel provides the miraculous meal that he eats to gain his strength. But it is real food not magic food, and so the angel must wake him up to eat a second time, otherwise he will not have enough strength for the journey. That is a very pragmatic angel.



God knows us and our needs. God works with us in His plan of salvation, and God knows that we will need His help again, and again, and again. In the gospel reading we have the third of five different segments given to us from Chapter six of St. John's gospel. In general, St. John tends to have a repetitive style, but in this chapter it is more pronounced. In the section that we hear this weekend and the section just prior to it, Jesus refers to himself as being food come down from heaven at least five times (arguably six).

Next week Jesus will also repeat himself stressing how we must eat His flesh and drink His blood. The only other time that Jesus is this repetitive in His teaching style is when he stresses that if you have seen Him you have seen the Father. Both the eucharistic teaching of this chapter and the importance of His oneness with the Father are crucial themes for the early Church. Jesus is not a movement or merely a great teacher. He is one with God, and it is because of this that He can say that He is the bread come down from heaven. Just as Jesus was repetitive in His teaching, He knew that the Manna come down from Heaven had to be replenished daily for the Israelites wandering through the desert. It was a miracle, but a miracle that had to be repeated.

It was real food, and the Children of Abraham would have starved without it. Not only is Jesus repetitive about this theme, but He is also giving us a clue about the type of Bread that He will be, and the type of meal that He will provide for us. It will be something to be repeated again, and again, and again.

Jesus knows that we are sinners and that we have a constant need to be connected to Him. Just as the body grows weak when we don't have regular healthy nourishment, so too the soul grows weak if we don't have a regular connection to that which utterly nourishes it: The very presence of God in the Eucharist. Yes, God works in the miraculous, but He also works with us just as we are -- sinners in need of constant support. There is a great beauty in the fact that the angel makes Elijah eat twice, for we are to eat the Body of Christ likewise, again and again in a continuous way in order to make us strong for the entirety of life's journey.

May you have a blessed week.

—Fr. Jim Kean

ST. JOHN FISHER CHAPEL

UNIVERSITY PARISH

3665 Walton Boulevard
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Phone: 248-373-6457 (+extension)
Emergencies: 248-693-0907
Web: www.sjfchapel.org
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MASS TIMES

Tuesday: 12:15pm Mass
Wednesday: 12:15pm Mass
Thursday: 7:15pm Mass
Friday: 12:15pm Mass
Saturday: 8:30am Mass
Sunday: 10am & 6pm Mass

CONFESSION TIMES

Thursday, 6pm in Church
Saturday, 9am in Church

PRAYER & DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration

1pm every Tuesday | 6pm every Thursday

Parish Rosary

8am every Saturday

PARISH CONTACTS

Administrator/Pastor:

Fr. Jim Kean, jkean@sjfchapel.org

Associate Pastor:

Fr. John Carlin, jcarlin@sjfchapel.org

Buildings / Grounds / KofC #5452:

Ron Schoenstein, maintenance@sjfchapel.org

Campus / Outreach Ministries:

catholiccampusministry@sjfchapel.org

Data/Records Coordinator:

Linda Guilbert, 248-373-6457 ext. 3103
records@sjfchapel.org

Finance Manager:

Lori Rafferty, 248-373-6457 ext. 3109
busmgr@sjfchapel.org

Religious Education:

Judie McGuire, religioused@sjfchapel.org

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Sunday, August 15, 2021

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

First Reading: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

Psalms: 45:10, 11, 12, 16

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-27

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SUN | August 8 at 10am - Erin Ferland
at 6pm - Priestly Vocations

TUE | August 10 at 12:15pm - Sean Robinson

WED | August 11 at 12:15pm - Martha Robinson

THU | August 12 at 7:15pm - Stanley Cook

FRI | August 13 at 12:15pm - Michael Cowen

SAT | August 7 at 8:30am - Josh

UPCOMING EVENTS



EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION

In honor of the Feast of the Assumption

Sunday, August 15th

You're invited to join us for a Eucharistic Procession in honor of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother following the 10am Mass on Sunday, Aug. 15. If you would like to help with the procession, we could use 4-6 volunteers to help hold the canopy. Contact Anna Eusebio at 248-842-8226.



A BIGGER BOAT

In this next teaching series, we will be talking about the liturgy – specifically the liturgy of the Mass. My goal is to look at each of the different parts of the Mass to better understand what is going on, the signs and symbols present, and the deeper mysteries they reveal, so that we can better pray the Mass. There are many parts of the Mass, so, this will be a longer teaching series, but I am reminded that, about this time last year, I was working on the Fruits of the Spirit, which was at least 12-13 weeks long. This new series on the Mass could easily be that long as there is so much to consider, but it is not my intention to write a book. There are already many, many books written about the Mass by people much more learned than I. My goal in this series is just to look at the parts of the Mass and offer something for us to consider/pray with, so that we can better celebrate these sacred mysteries, this greatest of prayers that we can offer, the divine liturgy of the Mass.

To begin, let us first consider how the Mass got its name. Why is the Mass called the Mass? It comes from the very last words the priest or deacon says at the end of Mass — in Latin, “ite missa est”. The word “dismissal” actually shares the same root with the word “Mass” (missa) but there is more to the name than just dismissing the congregation. Literally translated, “ite missa est” means “She is sent” (She, meaning the Church) and there is a deeper spiritual meaning to these last words of the priest, a way in which God is speaking to His people. The word “Church” means “called out of” and refers to the assembly of God’s people who were “called out” of slavery in Egypt to receive God’s life-giving law at

Mount Sinai (CCC 751). In the same way, God calls each of us out of the world to receive divine life through the Word of God at Mass. And, just as God assembled His people at the altar, making a covenant with them by the sprinkling of blood, so Christ draws all people to Himself (Jn 12:32) in the Eucharistic sacrifice, nourishing us with His Body and Blood. This is the Church – those God has called to Himself and who, at the end of Mass, He sends forth, back into the world to make disciples of all nations (Mt 28:28) and bring the divine life we have received at Mass to the rest of the world. This is the missionary call of the whole Church.

She has been redeemed by Christ and now longs to share the Good News of Her Savior so that others may come to love Christ as She does.

This missionary quality is what underlies those last words of the Mass - “ite missa

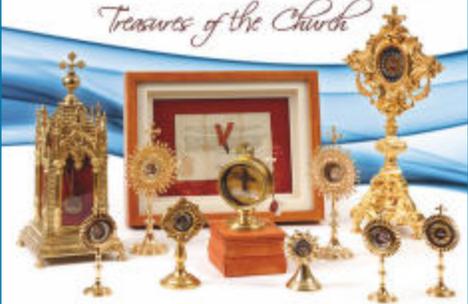
est”. It is why some priests or deacons will add “go in peace, to love and to serve the Lord” or, “go in peace, glorifying the Lord with your life”. Each of us receive this missionary call at the end of every Mass. Sometimes we can fall into the routine of going to Mass because that is just what we are *supposed* to do, but it doesn’t seem to affect the rest of my day/week. We can soon forget the graces we receive at Mass and fall right back into habits of impatience, anger, impurity, etc. We need to hear again this missionary call, our commission, to remember what we have received and share the gift of God. This is the call in our Archdiocese to Unleash the Gospel, to be a missionary Church, and there are no bystanders. As we dive into this series on the holy Mass, let’s ask the Lord to deepen our love for Christ and to inflame our hearts with the courage to go out and set the world on fire with that same love for Him.

–Fr. John



SACRED RELICS OF THE SAINTS

Treasures of the Church



Sacred Relics of the Saints:

Treasures of the Church

Friday, September 3, 2021

6:30pm at St. John Fisher Chapel
3665 E. Walton Blvd, Auburn Hills

Sacred Relics of the Saints: Treasures of the Church is coming to St. John Fisher Chapel! This exhibit begins with a teaching on Sacred Relics followed by a public exposition of the relics from many highly venerated saints. The event will take place on **Friday, September 3rd at 6:30pm.**

Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross will host the extraordinary Vatican collection of over 150 relics, some as old as 2000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Joseph, St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the “Little Flower”), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. There will also be a portion of the Veil of Our Lady and one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world.

Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. Throughout history, many healings have been worked in the presence of relics; and thousands have occurred through this ministry. You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members, which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession. For most, this will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. For more info about the exhibit, visit www.treasuresofthechurch.com.

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