



St. JOHN FISHER CHAPEL

University Parish

August 22, 2021 | 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Kean Perspective: "Who and What Do We Choose?"

This weekend we reach the conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse in John's Gospel. This gospel reading seems almost like an epilogue after the great exchange of last week (which, by the way, we did not hear because of the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary) where Jesus said three times that we are to eat His flesh and drink His blood to have eternal life. However, this week we hear a great moment, too.

There is a sadness to the way Jesus poses the question to the disciples who stayed faithful: "Will you also go away?" In these words, we hear the opportunity for another of Peter's proclamations, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." We also can detect a sadness that surely must be a lament for the loss of those companions who no longer follow Jesus. This is not the separation of strangers at a bus stop; no, this is the parting of friends who have journeyed and bonded along the same path.



Joshua, too, came to a similar point of reckoning. He had just finished the crucial and lengthy phase of the forty years in the desert. The descendants of Abraham were about to enter the "Promised Land." They were leaving behind their nomadic existence in the desert to settle in the much more fertile "Holy Lands" of today. The villages and towns of the region practiced the pagan faiths of their time. Very popular back then were the "Fertility Cults" that included cult prostitution. Men

visited these prostitutes, and their actions were meant to symbolize the fertility of the world and regeneration. Like our oversexed culture of today, it was merely a distortion and a debauching of the beautiful design that God had intended. Joshua was clear that he would chose the way of the Lord! He would not chose the comfort and pleasure of the pagan ways.

Every generation, every time and place must consider such choices in the face of cultural temptations. Today we have the ways of comfort and entertainment offered as a substitute for religion and pleasure sold to us as the ultimate goal of life. Each of these paths of ease promise, in their own way, a form of liberation, greater freedom, and contentment. More often than not, what they deliver is mere distraction or worse, addiction. Which way will we choose?

Several years ago, after I preached about this Joshua passage, a parishioner bought me a wood plaque with this citation of Joshua who pledged to choose the way of the Lord. I always keep it near the entrance to my living area. Joshua stood at the threshold of the Promised Land, and he was clear about how he and his family would live. I wish for my life and all our lives to be similarly clear: That we will choose to honor and serve the Lord.

-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
Facebook.com/SJFCUP

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

CONFESION 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, religiousued@sjfchapel.org

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Sunday, August 29, 2021
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
Psalm: 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5
Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27
Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

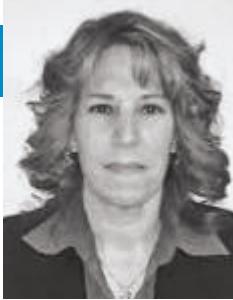
SUN | August 22 at 10am: People of Afghanistan
at 6pm: Vocations to the Priesthood
TUE | August 24 at 12:15pm: +Sean Robinson
+David Bugai
WED | August 25 at 12:15pm: +Martha Robinson
THU | August 26 at 7:15pm: +Stanley Cook
FRI | August 27 at 12:15pm: +Special Intention
SAT | August 28 at 8:30am: +Josh

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

K-8th Religious Education Registration is open! Our new program will consist of both a traditional catechism class for students and a monthly event for the whole family. Registration is available online at sjfchapel.org or pick up a form in our parish office. For more information, please visit our website or contact Judie McGuire. Registration ends August 31st.



Saturday, August 28th, join the Zion Young Adult group for a casual afternoon of wine and the Word of God at Youngblood Winery! Fr. Drew Mabee will be joining us. Invite a friend! Attendance is free, but limited to ages 21-39. Wine tasting and wood fired pizza will be available for purchase! For more details, check out our bulletin board or go to our website.



FINANCE UPDATE

OFFERTORY REPORT

Lori Rafferty

Our Offertory is the primary source of funds for our day-to-day operations. The average weekly collection should be \$5,000 in order to meet our budgeted expenses.

Wk ending Aug. 15, 2021

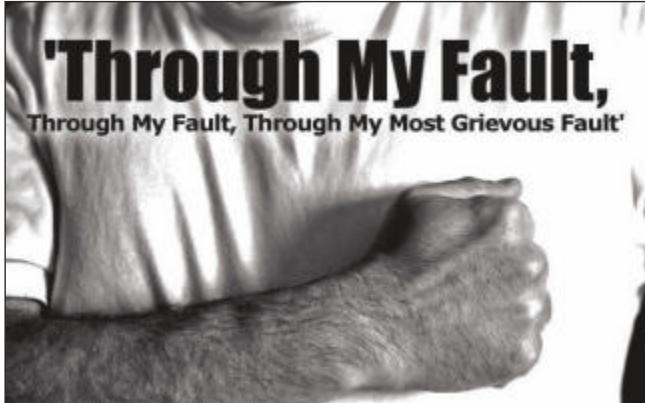
Envelopes: \$4,483
Electronic: \$1,259
Total: \$5,742

FY July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

YTD Offertory Collected: \$34,787
YTD Offertory Budgeted: \$32,423
Over/(Short) from Budget: \$2,364



A BIGGER BOAT



Next, in the order of the Mass comes the penitential act. This is when we pray the confiteor and strike our breast like the tax collector in the parable, praying, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Lk 18:13). Or, sometimes we just repeat the Kyrie after the priest/deacon: "Lord have mercy..." There are a few different options for the penitential rite.

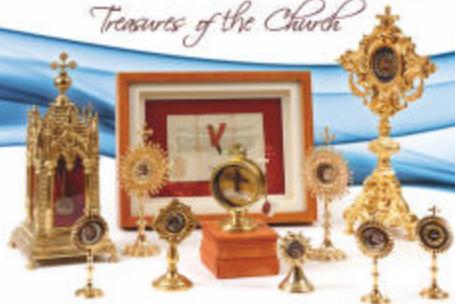
We should note that the penitential act *does not* absolve sins. Many of us have developed the habit of making the sign of the cross when the priest says, "May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins...etc.", but it is not necessary. There is no absolution of sins here. Therefore, if you find yourself in a state of grave sin, you need to go to confession before receiving communion. Venial sins however, *are* absolved when we receive the Eucharist (CCC 1393-4). Bet you didn't know that!

The important thing to note at this part of the Mass is our disposition as we come before the Lord. We must have humility. God is about to do something great for us in this Mass. At each Mass, He performs a new miracle in giving us the gift of Himself in the Eucharist. We don't deserve it and we didn't earn it. It is His gift to us. In the old rite of the Mass, the priest would actually do the penitential rite at the foot of the stairs before he ascends to the altar, signifying that this priest comes from a sinful people and is himself unworthy to celebrate the mystery. But God only needs to say the word and he is healed - each of us is healed and made worthy to receive our Lord.

- 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.

Parishioners

OAKLAND HILLS DERMATOLOGY

- Medical • Cosmetic & Surgical Institute •
- DR. CHRISTOFER N. BUATTI Board Certified Dermatologist / MOHS Surgeon 1-888-DR-CHRIS (372-4747)
- Same Day Appointments Available www.oaklandhillsdermatology.com
- 2251 Squirrel Rd., Suite 200, Auburn Hills

COMPLETE BANQUET FACILITIES
Off-Premise Catering
www.rivercrestcatering.com

River Crest
COMPLETE BANQUET FACILITY AND OFF-PREMISE CATERING

Patio/Outdoor Ceremony Site
652-6706
900 W. Avon Road, Rochester, MI



Trust our family to serve your family.

Potere-Modetz Funeral Home

339 Walnut Boulevard | Rochester | 248.651.8137

Modetz Funeral Home & Cremation Service

Silverbell Chapel

100 East Silverbell | Orion | 248.371.3777

Riverside Chapel

Simpson-Modetz Funeral Home

5630 Pontiac Lake Road | Waterford | 248.674.4181

www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

Rochester
REAL ESTATE, LLC
248-270-0179
929 W. University Dr., Ste. 101
Rochester, MI 48301

Rochester Real Estate
can help at every step of
selling your house
Full marketing, listing and closing services
from a broker who is also a real estate attorney
**Call today to find what your
home is worth!**

WEINGARTZ
EVERYTHING FROM LAWN TO SNOW
WEINGARTZ.COM

**THE ORIGINAL
BUDGET TREE SERVICE**

Over 20 Years Experience • Licensed & Fully Insured

*Not affiliated with any other budget tree service

TREE & SHRUB REMOVAL • LOT CLEARINGS

TREE & SHRUB TRIMMING • STORM DAMAGE • FIREWOOD

FREE ESTIMATES 800-964-7785

24 Hour Emergency Service • *ASK FOR AXEL OR ERIC

30% OFF For Seniors

with coupon • Limit 1 coupon per job • Limited time offer on coupon

Classic Appreciation

WORLD CLASS AUTO DETAILING
CERAMIC COATING SPECIALISTS

81 Mill St. Rochester

248-656-2159

www.classicappreciation.com

LICENSED & INSURED
MASTER PLUMBER
WATERWORK
PLUMBING

WaterWorkPlumbing.com

Senior Discounts 248-213-9248

24 Hr. Emergency Service

\$20 OFF ANY SERVICE

FORTUNAREALTORS.COM

BOB GILLAM

b.gillam42@gmail.com

313.600.3125



Member K of C #5452
supporting St. John Fisher
First Responder
Rebate Program

TOTAL PAINTING
All Facets of Painting
Drywall • Drywall Repair
Jeff Kerre
248-651-8238

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass

Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

**AVAILABLE FOR
A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!**

Contact **Michael Ficzner** to place an ad today!
mficzner@4LPI.com or **(800) 477-4574 x6452**

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!