



Church
of the

Holy Spirit

3700 Harvey Lake Rd, Highland MI 48356

August 22nd, 2021 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Encouraging Deeper Understanding of Scripture

“Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods.” We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these “gods” because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with “who is God” and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised “more.” But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only “feels” true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom

can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It’s a choice we all have to make.

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Mike's Musings

Feast of St. Augustine, August 28th



Now here is a guy most of us can really relate to. Why do I say that? Because, the historical facts of his life before his conversion to Christ, tell us that he was the original "wild and crazy guy" until his 33rd year, when he was baptized. Augustine was a priest at 36 and a bishop at 41. He was truly a sinner turned saint. So, I think there's hope for people like you and I. There quickly surfaces the intensity with which he lived his life, whether his path was away from or toward God.

We have to mention his mother, St. Monica who died at Ostia in Roman Africa, in 387. After thirty years, she obtained the conversion of her dissolute pagan husband; under the guidance of St. Ambrose, and won the conversion of her eldest son, St. Augustine. She is the patroness and model for sinners. A bit more about Augustine is in order. Monica raised him as a Christian, but was not baptized. He studied rhetoric at Carthage to become a lawyer, but gave this up and devoted himself instead to teaching and study. His study of Philosophy (mainly Plato), and later the heresy of Manichaeism, "a practice by which it denies human responsibility for the evil that one does, on the premise that this is not due to one's own free will but to the dominance of Satan's power in one's life", grappled him for nine years. This resulted in his virtual renunciation of the Christian faith. He also lived for fifteen years with a mistress, by whom he had a son, Adeodatus. He moved to Rome to teach rhetoric, then to Milan. By now, he was dissatisfied with Manichaeism and came under the influence of St. Ambrose. After a long interior conflict, vividly described in his "Confessions", he was converted and baptized in 386. His understanding of Christian Revelation was shown in his voluminous writings, which proved more influential in the history of thought than any Christian writer since St. Paul. So, if Augustine, a real sinner, can clean up his act,..... so can we. What do you think?

Yours in Christ,
Deacon Mike

VBS Wrap-Up



Jesus' power pulled us through a beautiful week. 30 children along with 19 adult and teen leaders encountered Jesus through exploring the bible, praise and worship, music, personal faith stories and celebrating community. The weather couldn't have been better while the Holy Spirit was active. Many thanks to Tom Bovee, Elizabeth Frawley, Meg Howard, Gloria Konarzewski and Leo Kowalyk

for helping transform our building into a Rocky Railway wonderland! Next year will be "Monumental"!

Holy Spirit Church

Calendar at a Glance

Monday, August 23

Office Open 9am-3pm
11am-AA

Tuesday, August 24

Office Open 9am-3pm
10am-Women's Prayer Group

Wednesday, August 25

Office Open 9am-3pm
9am-Morning Mass

Thursday, August 26

Office Open 9am-3pm
9am-Morning Mass
10am-SAGS Frankenmuth Cruise

Friday, August 27

9am-Morning Mass

Saturday, August 28

5pm-Outdoor Mass

Sunday, August 29

9am-Mass
11am-Mass



No Pushing

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran, she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" As she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran, she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late ... But please don't shove me either!"

Parish Vision: To Be Christ to All.
Our Mission Statement: Led by the Holy Spirit, we accompany others to encounter Jesus, to give witness to Him, and to grow as missionary disciples.



Catechists needed

Faith Formation classes will resume face-to-face in September. I am in need of a few adult catechists to share the faith as catechists. If you are available Tuesdays from 5:00 – 6:20 for grades 1-5, or 6:30 – 8:30 for grades 6-7, or Wednesdays from 6:30 – 7:40 for grades 1-5; please give me a call or email! jillian@holyspirithighland.com 248-887-1634. God’s blessings will flourish when we share our gifts and talents.

Knights of Columbus Council #8500

This past June, we elected new Officers.

Grand Knight Joe Cylkowski; **Deputy Grand Knight** Gary Webb; **Chancellor** Dean Aubry; **Recorder** Jim Byrnes; **Financial Sec’y** Tom Daratony; **Treasurer** Bill Dillon; **Advocate** Dennis Lucas; **Warden** Mike Konopnick; **Inside Guard** Tom Mitch; **Outside Guard** Ray Jeffery; **1 Year Trustee** John Litzelman; **2 Year Trustee** Bob Szymanski; **3 Year Trustee** Gerry Burke.

We plan on having an Installation Ceremony in the near future. We will send out an announcement when that is to take place. As you see and meet your Officers thank them for serving you.

Coming up on September 18th at the 5:00pm Mass we plan on having a Corporate Communion. Please plan on attending the Rosary to be said in the Narthex prior to Mass. Also, we plan on introducing the Knights of the Month, Family of the Quarter, and the Knight of the Year.

We are hoping to be able to have our first Pancake Breakfast on September 26, 2021 after the morning Masses. See you there.

September’s General Business Meeting will be held on the September 14th, 2021. Dinner from 7-7:30pm with the meeting starting at 7:30pm. Last month we had the Knights on Bikes make a great presentation. I want to thank Gary Cornellier for introducing them to us. Join us next month to help serve your parish.



Seniors Aging Gracefully, Sometimes



Come and see what SAGS is all about. There is something for everyone! Here are our upcoming events:

Thursday, August 26th

Frankenmuth River Lunch Cruise, gather at Church 10:00am Lunch at Zehnder’s followed by a cruise of the Cass River on an historic paddle boat, The River Bell.

Flyers available at the information station.

Thursday, September 9th

10:00am, Guest speaker on different types of Insurance available for health care when you need it the most.

Thursday, September 23rd

10:00am, gather at Church for a trip to Spicer’s for a trip to the Cider Mill. Including lunch, hayride and a wine tasting.

Thursday, December 2nd

10:00am, gather for trip to Meadowbrook Hall for Lunch and Christmas Tour.

Flyers available at the information station.

Please Prayerfully Consider Adoring in Our Chapel

Hours needing to be immediately filled.

Sunday	3-4AM, 2-3PM
Monday	2-3AM, 3-4AM
Tuesday	9-10AM
Wednesday	2-3AM, 3-4AM, 4-5AM, 2-3PM, 3-4PM
Thursday	3-4AM, 4-5AM, 5-6PM
Saturday	5-6AM, 11AM-12PM, 12PM-1PM

Children’s Hour - Monday’s 11AM-Noon

COVID Cleaning Schedule

Weekdays 12PM-1PM closed for cleaning

We are always looking for substitute adorers. Please call, Jenna Konarzewski 248-891-1623 Or Autumn Woodcox 248-872-6607

Meditations for August 22
Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

We also will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:18)

As he is nearing the end of his life, Joshua wants to make sure his people will remain faithful to God. And so he asks them, Will you serve the Lord your God, or the foreign gods of your neighbors?

We already know the outcome; we know how often the Israelites failed to keep their covenant with God. Yet it was not actually these particular people who turned away from God but “a later generation” who “did not know the Lord or the work he had done for Israel” (Judges 2:10).

So how do the people gathered before Joshua that day keep their covenant? Notice that when they make their vow, they recall what God has already done for them. He has led them out of slavery, protected them on their journey to the Promised Land, and driven out the people who dwelt there (Joshua 24:16-18). Perhaps it’s because they are so aware of God’s goodness, faithfulness, and mighty deeds that they are able to make—and keep—their promises to him.

We all struggle at times to keep our commitments to the Lord. How often have we made a resolution in morning prayer only to break it by noon! But when we face the inevitable temptation to serve other “gods,” perhaps we can follow the lead of these Israelites by recalling what God has done for us.

The next time you’re battling a temptation, you could recall the Father’s goodness in sending his Son to become one of us. Or his mercy in forgiving your sins. Or the gift of Jesus’ Body and Blood in the Eucharist. Or the “mighty deeds” he’s accomplished in your own life.

Reflecting on such truths will give you greater confidence that God’s abundant grace can help you overcome every sin. Then, filled with love and gratitude, you’ll be able to say wholeheartedly with Joshua, “As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord” (24:15).

“Father, let me never forget what you’ve done for me.”

Prayer
REQUESTS

The names of the sick will be removed in 6 weeks. To re-list, or to add a name, please call the parish office at 248-887-5364.

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Debbie Adams | Ruthie Glover | Jamie O’Brien |
| Patrick Amrine | Dominic Guzzardo | Jan Oleszczak |
| Greg Azzoli | Juliann Heidt | Mark Orn |
| Jeannine Aubry | Scott Hoensheid | Don Owens |
| Samantha Barlow | Carol Johnson | Lillian Papierniak |
| Rosemary Barnard | Jim Kelly | Pam Parker |
| Bob Behmer | Tracy Kelly | Josephine Polcyn |
| Bruce Bennett | Sam Kirk | Anthony Pilarz |
| Kathy Bergen | Mike Konopnick | Cole T. Quirolo, F3 |
| Brooklyn Bridson | Ken Kost | Sylvia Ramirez |
| Amanda Bridger | Bob Kotulak | Christine Rejniak |
| Kevin Burger | Rick Kowal | Paula Reynolds |
| Margaret Chenier | Pete Lillemoen | Kelly Rodgers |
| Nancy Cooper-Bass | Alberto Luciani | Betty & Ken Simmons |
| Betty Anne Crawford | Maurie Luther | Kimi Stephens |
| Gayle Crawford | Roberta Luther | Aubrey Sweet |
| Jacob Crockett | Aiden McCleary | Martin Tufts |
| Gene Demey | Christina McCarthy | Linda Tudman |
| Steve Demey | John Matchinski | Terese Tuohey |
| John Dickey | Tom Mitch | Louie Weglarz |
| Kathy Edwards | Ed Meyer | |
| Morgan Elliott | Robin Motley | |
| Kailee Gallagher | Jeff Mummery | |



Weekly Offertory Collection

Date	Actual	Budget	Over / (Under)
	Actual	Budget	Over/Under
08/15	\$ 8,914	\$10,200	(\$1,286)
Y-T-D	\$63,838	\$71,400	(\$7,562)

This report is based on the Offertory Collection line in the budget. It includes weekly envelopes, loose and children’s collection, holy day collections, and online giving. It does not include Christian Service, fuel, or kitchen fund envelopes, the Christmas collection, Parish fundraisers, grants received, CCE tuition and fees, or other miscellaneous income. It is based on a yearly budget where we anticipate the expenses of the Parish. Just because there may be a deficit here, it does not mean the Parish is operating at a deficit. Feel free to direct questions to the Parish Finance Council.

The weekly offertory is the life-blood of any parish. We have utility bills to pay, a large physical plant to maintain, staff that we have hired to run our day-to-day operations, youth to teach, worship and music ministry to support, Christian Service neighbors to help. We need everyone who can to put something in the offertory basket each week. We are so grateful for all who give weekly and are consistent contributors.

Readings for Sunday, August 29

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 | Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27
 | Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Explore the Gospel



The Words of Eternal Life

Jn 6:60-69

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them, "Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe." Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father." As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. 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."

Take Time to Chat

1. Today's reading concludes the Bread of Life Discourse which we heard on August 1st and August 8th. The disciples claim that Jesus' teaching is hard. What are some teachings that are hard for you?
2. Why do you think some of the disciples left Jesus and went back to their former way of life? Why do you think the Twelve stayed with Jesus?
3. Which group of disciples do you most identify with . . . those who left Jesus or those who stayed with him? What is Jesus saying to you through the Bread of Life Discourse?
4. St. Moses the Black struggled with perfectionism and feelings of inadequacy. Have you ever felt like that? St. Isidore helped Moses the Black. Who would you turn to for help with these feelings?

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Christian Service Corner

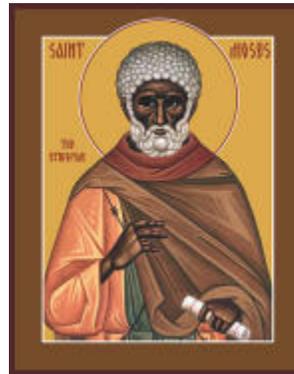
We are in need of the following items:

Laundry Detergent, Mayo, Toilet Paper, 2qt Juice

All Purpose Cleaner (spray bottle), Paper Towel

**Due to COVID we can no longer take plastic or paper bags and we cannot accept expired food.*

Meet Our Extended Family



St. Moses the Black

Feast Day August 28

Born 330, died 405

Moses the Black was a slave of a government official in Egypt who dismissed him for theft and suspected murder. He was a large, imposing figure and became the leader of a gang of bandits who roamed the Nile Valley spreading terror and violence. On one occasion, he took shelter with some monks in a colony in the desert of Scete when attempting to hide from local authorities. Their lifestyle as well as their peace and contentment influenced Moses deeply. He soon gave up his old way of life and joined the monastic community at Scete. Moses had a rather difficult time adjusting to regular monastic discipline. His flair for adventure remained with him. Attacked by a group of robbers in his desert cell, Moses fought back, overpowered the intruders, and dragged them to the chapel where the other monks were at prayer. He told the brothers that he didn't think he should hurt the robbers and asked what he should do with them. The overwhelmed robbers repented, were converted, and themselves joined the community. At one point, Moses became discouraged when he concluded he was not perfect enough to be a monk. Early one morning, St. Isidore, abbot of the community, took Brother Moses to the roof and together they watched the first rays of dawn come over the horizon. Isidore told Moses, "Only slowly do the rays of the sun drive away the night and usher in a new day, and thus, only slowly does one become a perfect contemplative." Moses proved to be a prophetic and effective leader. He was eventually ordained a priest and became the spiritual leader of a colony of hermits in the desert. At about age 75, the colony was attacked by a group of bandits. Moses forbade the brothers to take up weapons. All but eight were martyred by the bandits. Today, St. Moses the Black is remembered as one of the Desert Fathers and is honored as an apostle of non-violence.

Mass Intentions

Lector Schedule

Monday, August 23

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 | Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 24

Rv 21:9b-14 | Jn 1:45-51

Wednesday, August 25

1 Thes 2:9-13 | Mt 23:27-32

9:00 a.m. (PPP) Leo & Laura Kowalyk

9:00 a.m. Our Parish

Thursday, August 26

1 Thes 3:7-13 | Mt 24:42-51

9:00 a.m. (PPP) Leo & Laura Kowalyk

9:00 a.m. Holy Souls

Friday, August 27

1 Thes 4:1-8 | Mt 25:1-13

9:00 a.m. (PPP) Leo & Laura Kowalyk

9:00 a.m. Our Parishioners

Saturday, August 28

5:00 p.m. (PPP) Leo & Laura Kowalyk

5:00 p.m. Special Intention

Sunday, August 29

9:00 a.m. (PPP) Leo & Laura Kowalyk

9:00 a.m. +Ted Gostomski

11:00 a.m. (PPP) Leo & Laura Kowalyk

11:00 a.m. +Stephen Jones

11:00 a.m. +Margret Chenier

Saturday, August 28:

5:00 p.m.

Carol Ramirez

Sunday, August 29:

9:00 a.m.

Carrie Pishek

11:00 a.m.

Bill Metz

Church of the Holy Spirit

3700 Harvey Lake Road

Highland, Michigan 48356

248-887-5364 Fax: 248-889-1374

www.holyspirithighland.com

(Vicariate of the Lakes)

Rev. Wayne Ureel, Pastor

Michael Somervell, Deacon

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY - 5:00 p.m., SUNDAY - 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

HOLY DAY - 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS - Saturday, 4pm or by Appointment

Parish Offices

Business Manager:

Kay Young - Kayoung@holyspirithighland.com.....248-887-5364

Pam Glover - Glover@holyspirithighland.com.....248-889-5888

Fax.....248-889-1374

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Mon.-Thur.

RCIA: Ron Shankin.....248-245-1608

Stephen Ministry:248-887-5364

Christian Service: Gayle Greene.....248-887-1441

Faith Formation

Director of Faith Formation:

Jillian Peck - Jillian@holyspirithighland.com.....248-887-1634

Youth Ministry & SAGS

Julie Owens.....248-887-0027

Jojo Kind.....248-887-0027

Email.....TAG@holyspirithighland.com

Minister of Music

David Popovits - Music@holyspirithighland.com...810-629-8807

Pastoral Council

Meets the 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Baptisms

Contact Deacon Mike at 248-887-8813

Marriages

Contact Fr. Wayne 6 months before your wedding date.

Bulletin Deadline: Thursday at noon

Changing your address or phone number? Please notify the office when making these changes.



Weekly Report

Parish Target\$83,450

Pledged\$30,651

Amount Needed to Reach Goal.....\$52,799

Thank you for your generous response.

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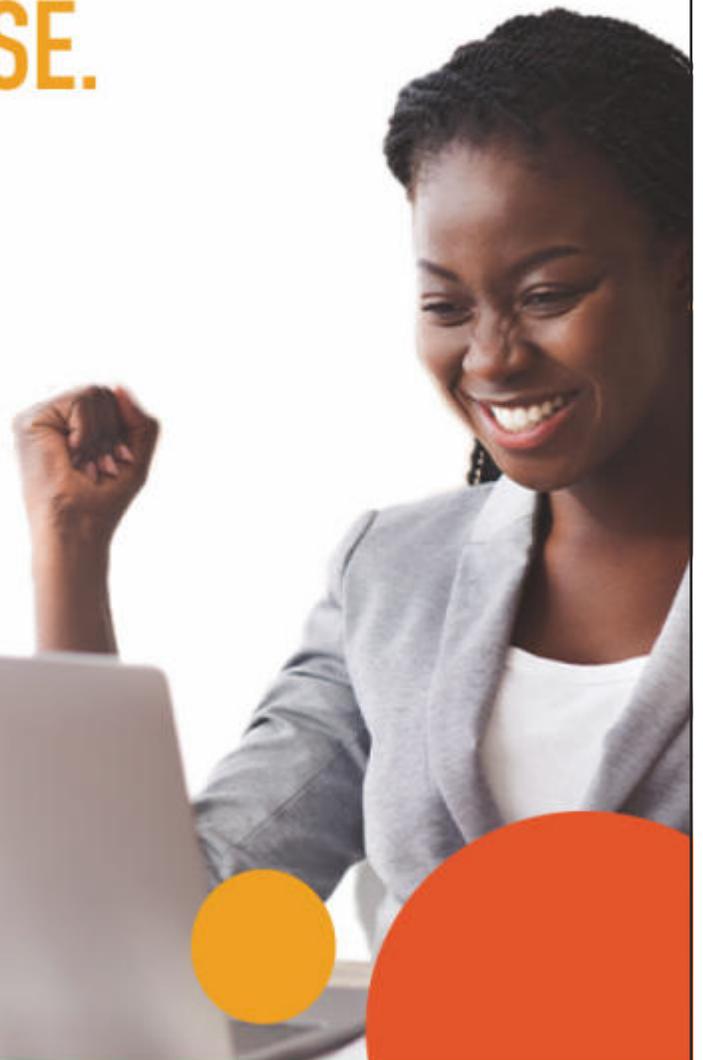
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