

January 16, 2022 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Meditation

God delights in you. How do you feel when you hear that? Delight usually comes with an exuberant flow of joy that seemingly arises from one's toes with the expression of great glee. Reflecting upon the deep measure of joy God has in us can be a source of joy for ourselves. Delight is infectious. A very young brother and sister were playing on the beach when the all too familiar ice cream truck made its daily rounds. The boy shook with excitement and delight as he took his sister's hand and exclaimed, "The ice cream man is here, isn't it great!" As they ran off toward the truck, one could hear the girl reply, "Yeah, I can't wait!" The experience of a child's delight in something so simple as ice cream, lifts our spirits from our burdens and transports us to the lighter, more innocent side of life.

Life is not meant to be a burden. Believe it or not, God actually wants us to be happy! In fact, the wedding feast at Cana shows us that God even puts His blessing on our happiness. It is okay to celebrate the wonder of ourselves and others. Life is good. It is always interesting to note that Jesus saves the good wine until last. You would think it would be the other way around. The superb quality of Jesus' wine points to the superior quality of life we find in Christ. It is not a life of burdens but a life of wonder and delight! In Christ, we are lifted from the superficial and mundane to a life of purpose, hope, and love.

God is with us through the long haul, through the challenges and sorrows as well as the successes and accomplishments. In spite of the fact that we often wander from the path, God's celebratory delight in us remains. As spouses are asked to remain faithful to each other through whatever life brings, God remains faithful too. This promise remains through this life and into the next. All we have to do is take the advice of Jesus' mother to heart when she says, "Listen to him." This wisdom saves us from foolishly giving in to the illusion that we can make better wine than Jesus. ©LPi

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Join the Knights of Columbus

I learned from another Council that no man is too busy to be an active Knight of Columbus. In fact, giving just one full day a year, 24 hours spread over a 12 month period, to Knights of Columbus activities

can make an enormous difference in your life. You will be able to serve our parish and help those in need throughout our community while also growing in your faith. Communities large and small across Michigan rely on the Knights of Columbus for our works of charity. We serve our church, families and communities with great love. Our love comes from our faith in God and living out our faith through action. We are considered the strong, right arm of the Catholic Church and you should seriously consider joining.

We invite all Catholic men from our Parish to join today! Come talk to us at the February 27th, Pancake Breakfast to learn what we do and how you can make a difference. As an incentive we have FREE membership for the entire year of 2022. Simply log into the Knights of Columbus website at: www.kofc.org/join

If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Fodell at 248-807-6929 or Joe Cylkowski at 248-875-3349. Also, if you are a college student, we will waive your dues as long as you are enrolled in classes.

God Bless You and Happy New Year!





Harry the Usher

Harry never even vaguely considered himself a minister in his church. "Come on," he would say, "the people who give out the Eucharist, the ones who Lector, maybe they are ministers, but me . . . I'm just an usher." A young priest in Harry's parish had given a talk on the "ministry" of greeter and usher, but Harry wasn't buying that "malarkey." He said he was just trying to "give the pastor a hand" by taking up the collection, steering people to Holy Communion, and saying hello to parishioners when they come into church.

Harry believed that, until one cold March night he came home from work and his wife told him that the pastor had called. Harry returned the call and the Pastor told him that a letter had been received at the rectory. The letter was simply addressed to "Harry the Usher."

The priest said that, since he was the only usher called Harry, would he please pick up his letter.

Harry, intrigued by the request, complied and on the way home ripped open the envelope and in the dim light of the car read the following:

Dear Harry,

I don't know your last name, but I guess that's fair, You don't know mine either. I'm Gert, Gert from the 10:30 Mass. I am writing you for a couple of reasons, and I hope you will understand.

One of the reasons is to ask a favor. I am not particularly close to any of the priests in the parish, but somehow I feel close to you. I don't even know how you got to know my first name, but every Sunday morning when I walked into Mass you smiled and greeted me and called me by my name. We would exchange a few words that were perhaps meaningless to most like how bad the weather was; how much you liked my Easter hat and how late ${\cal I}$ was on a particular Sunday.

I don't have any close family left, Harry. My husband has been dead for 16 years and the kids are scattered. Not too many people smile and greet an old lady like me, but you did.

Harry, in the little time left to me, I just wanted to say thank you. Thank you for your thoughtfulness' for remembering my name is Gert; for the smiles and laughter; the consideration and conversation.

Now for the favor - I am dying, Harry. My time is running out. It is not important that you come to my wake, but what is important to me is that when they bring me to church for Mass for the last time you will be standing at the front entrance. It wouldn't seem right if you weren't standing there to say, "hello. Gert, Good to see you."

If you are there, Harry, I will feel assured that your warm hospitality in my home parish will be duplicated by Peter, Jesus and Mary in my new home. I hope they will say as you always did, "Hello Gert. It is good to see you."

With Love and Gratitude, Gert

The lady who wrote that letter recently was buried at her parish church. Harry did stand at the entrance. He smiled and said the words Gert wanted to hear as he gently touched the coffin. He found out it wasn't malarkey. Harry had become a minister.

Harry was an Usher at St. Charles in Newport.

Holy Spirit Church

Calendar at a Glance

Monday, January 17 Office Hours 9am-3pm 11am-AA 7pm-Adult Faith Formation

Tuesday, January 18 Office Hours 9am-3pm 10am-Women's Prayer Group Noon-Adult Faith Formation 5:10pm-Elementary FF

Wednesday, January 19 Office Hours 9am-3pm 9am-Morning Mass 10am-Adult Faith Formation 6:30pm-Elementary FF 6:30pm-Middle School FF

Thursday, January 20 Office Hours 9am-3pm 9am-Morning Mass

Friday, January 21 9am-Morning Mass

<u>Saturday, January 22</u> 10:30am-Confirmation Retreat 5pm-Mass 6pm-TAG

Sunday, January 23 9am-Mass 11am-Mass

24 SUNDEY IN ORDINARY TIME



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.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Have you ever watched a crew race? At the collegiate or Olympic level, it looks like the boats are gliding effortlessly across the water. To make this happen, though, it takes the work of nine people understanding their roles and engaging their talents. The two rowers in the bow are in charge of technique and balance. The four rowers in the middle are the engine room. These people are often the biggest and strongest ones in the boat and use their strength to propel the boat forward. The two rowers in the stern are in charge of pace. They must have cool heads, especially during the last push of the race. All eight rowers in the boat face backward and put their trust in one person who can see where they are going; they know their roles and they listen to the one who gives them directions. On paper, this person shouting directions, known as the coxswain, does not look like they would influence the race that much. They are small, under 5'3" and are not even paddling. The coxswain sits in the stern of the boat and yells out commands. But if you ask anyone in the boat, the rowers will say that this role is what makes or breaks a good crew team. The coxswain does the speaking, coaches the crew, corrects their strokes, and motivates. However, an outsider who knows nothing about the sport may dismiss this person at first sight.

A good team understands its individual roles and performs them to the best of its ability. The rowers that set the pace don't worry about providing motivating speeches. It is simply not their role. The ones providing power don't worry about the pace, but simply provide the muscle to make that pace productive. This same concept applies to the spiritual life as well. When we look at the breadth of the church, we see both talented, faith-based musicians, as well as tonedeaf Scripture scholars. There are people proclaiming the word of God to huge congregations or social media followings, and there are people whose spiritual truth is only heard by babies they bounce through sleepless nights. There are people whose gifts are to advocate in the streets and organize the fight for the poor, and there are those who are prayer-warriors from the pew. In today's second reading, we are reminded, "But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes."

These gifts are often distributed to unlikely people. Peter, a humble fisherman, became the first pope of the worldwide church. Juan Diego, a poor man from Mexico, sparked a religious conversion of entire continent. Francis, a spoiled son of a wealthy family, became one of the most

powerful beacons of spiritual poverty. The mother of Jesus was a poor woman from a nowhere town, and yet God trusted her enough to birth the Savior of the world. In the gospel today, we see her assume her role even more in Jesus' story. She is a conduit for miracles. She brings attention to an issue that needs Jesus' help: "They have no wine." Mary knows that her son is the only one capable of solving this problem. She quickly becomes an organizer of people and tells the servers to "Do whatever he tells you." Then after Jesus performs his miracle of turning water into wine, she is a witness to the awe others experience and the transformation of heart in his disciples who become believers. Much like the coxswain in rowing, she may not get much credit for her role, but she can see what good lies ahead, and in so doing, helps the miracle happen. She steers us back to her son Jesus over and over again. Mary knows that when you fulfill your God-given role, you prepare the way for miracles to happen, and you finish the race better than you started.

Meghan Larsen-Reidy

Meghan Larsen-Reidy lives in Pittsburgh with her husband and three lively children. She currently works as a campus minister, but has also served as a teacher, DRE, and youth minister. Meghan is a proud graduate of Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame.



Meditations for January 16 John 2:1-11

Jesus . . . revealed his glory. (John 2:11)

Why was Mary so insistent that Jesus do something about the shortage of wine at the wedding at Cana? Perhaps she was a close friend of the bridegroom's family. If that was the case, of course she would have cared that they not be embarrassed about the wine running out.

In this very personal, familial setting, Jesus performs his first sign by turning water into the finest wine. But the miracle didn't just save face for the parents of the bridegroom. Jesus was revealing his glory. He was showing his disciples that he was no ordinary rabbi. He had come as the promised Messiah, to be the "new wine" that would save the world (Matthew 9:17; see Isaiah 25:6).

From the personal to the prophetic. From the specific circumstance to the universal truth. So often this is how Jesus works. Just look at some of the "signs" in John's Gospel. He takes five loaves and two fish and feeds five thousand, revealing how he intends to feed and nourish us for all time in the Eucharist (6:5-14). Lazarus dies, but Jesus raises him, showing us that he came to defeat death once and for all (11:1-45).

Isn't this the case for all of us? We ask Jesus to come into a specific situation, as Mary did at the wedding at Cana. And when we see him acting—whether that's through answering our prayer or reassuring us of his presence—he reveals something about himself. That he loves us. That he cares for us. That he has come to save us. That he will be with us always.

Is there some situation in your life that you want the Lord to enter into? As you pray, remember that he wants to do more than just resolve the immediate problem you are facing. He wants you to know who he is and why he came. He wants to reveal his glory to you.

"Jesus, open my eyes to your glory in my life!"



On behalf of the Holy Spirit Family, we would like to extend our deepest sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of:

Kathy Rakowski



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.

Martha Abercrombie Nancy Duzzie Debbie Adams Kathy Edwards Greg Azzoli Suzanne Farnum Jeannine Aubry Richard Fish **Bob Behmer Ruthie Glover** Kathy Bergen Lisa Grunwald Loren Bloetcher Dominic Guzzardo Dale Bretz Richard Haviland Jerry Bretz Wendy Heibert Brooklyn Bridson Juliann Heidt Carol Burke Scott Hoensheid Jim Byrnes Carol Johnson Amanda Burger Jim Johnson Kevin Burger Jim Kelly Stephanie Byrne Tracy Kelly **Doris Cameron** Mike Konopnick Margaret Chenier Ken Kost Harry Cole **Bob Kotulak** Mary Cole Rick Kowal Nancy Cooper-Bass Karen Law Family **David Crockett** Marty Levin Ollie Dishaw Pete Lillemoen Ed Deaton Maurie Luther Gene Demey Roberta Luther Steve Demey Tom Mitch Sue Deming Robin Motley Renee Dubiel Ed Meyer

Jeff Mummery Keri Mueller Diane Nightengale Jamie O'Brien Nancy Ochoa Don Owens Aalyhi Phelps Josephine Polcyn Michael Polcyn Anthony Pilarz Michael Pino Jr. Christine Rejniak Paula Reynolds Rhett Richardson **Kelly Rodgers** Kit Schatz Betty & Ken Simmons Phil Thomas Courtney Thompson Tom Torode Martin Tufts Linda Tudman Vicki Wheeler William Zelony James Zelony Carole Ziegler

Weekly Offertory Collection

| Date | Actual | Budget | Over / (Under)) |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| Christmas | \$ 11,997 | | |
| 01/09 | \$ 9,332 | \$ 10,200 | (\$ 868) |
| Y-T-D | \$365,696 | \$385,800 | (\$20,104) |

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.

Readings for Sunday, January 23

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 | 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27 | Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Annual Holy Spirit Super Bowl Wild Game Dinner

Sponsored by the Holy Spirit Men's Club

Sunday, February 13th Doors open at 4:30pm

The Super-Bowl will be on the BIG SCREEN.

Wild Game Dinner includes: Chili, Stew, Pheasants/Rice, Hot Dogs, Fish, Chips/Snacks, Draft Beer, Pop & Water

Cost: \$10/person + 1 non-perishable food item.
17 and under are free.
Tickets are available at the door.

Activities will include: Football Squares, Card Games Sportsman Raffle with drawings at Half-Time

ALL Parishioners are invited to attend, but please note that this event is designed for parishioners 18 years and older.

Questions? Contact Brandan Luther 248-496-0985 / brandanluther@yahoo.com or Chris Porter 248-891-6064

Family Prayer

Prayer for Marriage

Gather your family to pray this prayer for your own marriage. If you are not married or separated, adapt the prayer to pray for a special couple in your life.

Heavenly Father we come before you to thank you for all you have done and continue to do in our lives and marriage. We come before you today, God, asking for a strong bond of unity in our marriage covenant. When people look at our marriage, may they be reminded of how you love your Church. We renew our wedding vows today and strive to bring each other to heave. May our children always know that they are loved by you and that they were created with a purpose. Holy Family, make our family more like yours. Watch over us, protect us, and help us to live this day in great charity and overwhelming peace. Amen

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



STS. ANNE & JOACHIM Feast Day: July 26

St. Anne was born in Bethlehem and married Joachim, a shepherd, from Nazareth in Galilee who supplied the Jerusalem temple with sheep for sacrifices.

St. Anne and Joachim had been married for 20 years when Joachim went into the desert to plead with God to give them a child. After a time of fasting, an angel assured him that he and Anne would be given a child they were to name Mary and dedicate to God. St. Anne wondered where her husband had gone and felt despair at being barren. She cried out, "Why was I born, Lord?"

An angel appeared to tell her she would soon give birth to a daughter she was to name Mary, a child who "shall be spoken of in all the world." After Mary was born, Anne and Joachim dedicated her to God at the temple of Jerusalem where she spent much of her childhood. When Mary was fourteen, she was engaged to Joseph of Nazareth and became the Mother of God. They probably never realized that through their vocation to marriage, they would become the grandparents of Jesus!

Please Prayerfully Consider Adoring in Our Chapel

Hours needing to be immediately filled.

Sunday 3-4AM Monday 9-10AM Tuesday 8-9PM

Wednesday 2-3AM, 3-4AM, 4-5AM, 3-4PM

Thursday 3-4AM, 4-5AM, 7-8AM, 4-5PM, 5-6PM

Friday 8-9AM

Saturday 3-4AM, 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

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 17

1 Sm 15:16-23 | Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday, January 18

1 Sm 16:1-13 | Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday, January 19

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 | Mk 3:1-6 9:00 a.m. (PPP) Dominic & Rita Guzzardo 9:00 a.m. +Bob Stager (4th Anniversary) 9:00 a.m. David Helou-Birthday Blessings

Thursday, January 20

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 | Mk 3:7-12 9:00 a.m. (PPP) Dominic & Rita Guzzardo 9:00 a.m. Holy Souls

Friday, January 21

1 Sm 24:3-21 | Mk 3:13-19 9:00 a.m. (PPP) Dominic & Rita Guzzardo 9:00 a.m. +Kathy Rakowski

Saturday, January 22

5:00 p.m. (PPP) Dominic & Rita Guzzardo 5:00 p.m. +Leo & Dolores Sowinski 5:00 p.m. +Cecilia Krajewski

Sunday, January 23

9:00 a.m. (PPP) Dominic & Rita Guzzardo
9:00 a.m. +Kurt Ziobro (11th Anniversary)
11:00 a.m. (PPP) Dominic & Rita Guzzardo
11:00 a.m. +Craig Althouse
11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the
Chenier & Spampinato Family

Financial statements for 2021

We send contribution statements by request only.

Fill in the information below and place it in the collection basket, or mail it to the office. NO INFORMATION WILL BE GIVEN OVER THE PHONE. We do not have CSA contribution information. Call 313-237-5768.

| Envelope Number your envelope) | (across from the date on |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Name | |
| Address & Zip | |

Lector Schedule

Saturday, January 22

5:00 p.m. - Phil Wojtowicz

Sunday, January 23

9:00 a.m. - Jim Pipoly 11:00 a.m. - Ron Shankin

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.

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

Faith Formation

Director of Faith Formation:

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

Youth Ministry & SAGS

Minister of Music

David Popovits - Text - 810-516-6594

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.









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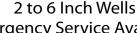
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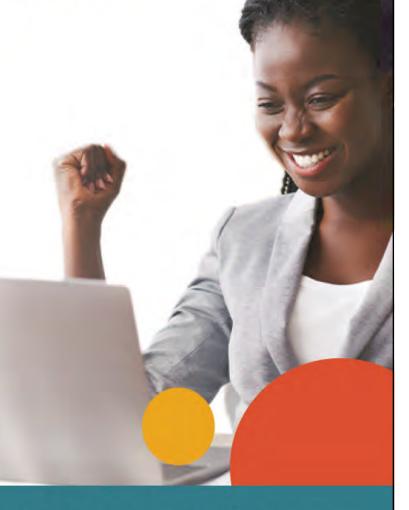
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