

# THE DRIFT

Blue Water Vicariate

November 2021

## From the Vicar

Recently, our vicariate's school oversight committee had its annual meeting. As many of you know, each of the parishes in the vicariate contribute five percent of its annual offertory to a school fund. This fund is then distributed to the schools throughout the Blue Water Vicariate: the five parochial schools receive one share and Cardinal Mooney High School receives two shares (if a parish's contribution to the fund exceeds the share that it would receive, it is removed as a participant). It is a way for everyone throughout the vicariate to support the important mission of Catholic schools. This arrangement (unique to our vicariate) has been in place for several years.

The role of the school oversight committee is to make sure that each of the schools meet certain criteria so that they remain eligible to receive their share. The criteria help ensure that the schools are healthy and are striving to be authentically Catholic.

I'm happy to say that overall, our schools are doing well. That's not to say that they are without challenges. Of course, there are always challenges! But thankfully, there are people and families in each of our schools who are working hard for our schools and students.

## The Month of the Poor Souls

Traditionally, Catholics dedicate each month of the year to some mystery of the faith or special saint. It is a way for us not only to remember these mysteries or saints and to cultivate devotion to them, but also to remember that all time belongs to God. All time is a gift from God. We hear phrases like "passing the time" or "killing time". But no time is without meaning if it is dedicated to God.

The month of November is traditionally dedicated to the Poor Souls in Purgatory. It is highlighted by the Church's observance of All Souls Day on November 2. So what is purgatory? Let me use an example to try and illustrate:

It's football season. Let's say I'm throwing the football around in the front yard and I break someone's window (my sin). I genuinely feel sorry for what I did (contrition) and I promise to be more careful in the future (amendment of life). Feeling sorry, I go up to the homeowner and tell him that I broke the window and that I am sorry (my confession). In his kindness, he forgives me (absolution). All set, right? I can now move on with my life.

The problem is that the window is still broken. It needs to be repaired (reparation). Now, the homeowner could take it upon himself to repair the window. He certainly has the ability to do that. But is that right? Is that just? It seems better for me to take some responsibility considering I am the one who broke the window.

Even after we've been forgiven of our sins in confession, temporal punishment remains. Temporal punishment is the damage caused by sin that remains even after the sin itself has been forgiven. That temporal punishment needs reparation.

How can this be done? Leaving aside any lengthy discussion of indulgences, we can pray, offer penances, and give alms. The saints often did voluntary acts of penance for their sins. It is why many of you were taught in your youth to "offer it up" when you had to suffer from some inconvenience.

What if we should die before having satisfied temporal punishment? This is where purgatory comes in. In purgatory, our souls are *purged* of any imperfections so that we are fully ready to enter into Heaven. It is called "temporal" punishment because it will come to an end, as will purgatory when we have "paid the last penny" (Matt 5:26).

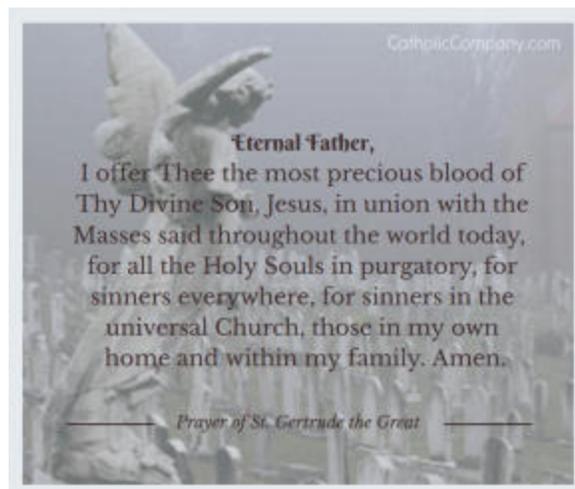
That's why we don't look at purgatory as a third destination aside from Heaven and Hell. The souls in purgatory have already been judged for Heaven:

"All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven" (*Catechism* #1030).

Looking at it this way, purgatory is actually a sign of God's mercy, that even after we die, we can still be made perfect by God's grace.

For the souls who are in purgatory, we can assist them by our prayers, penances, and works of charity. And that's what this month can help us to remember. Think of your loved ones who have died. Think of those who have died and may have no one to pray for them. Think of yourself. Pray for the souls in purgatory as you would want someone to pray for you.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Acervo



A Special Opportunity for Women

**Welcome.**  
There is More to Life

**Women's Retreat: November 6-7**  
**St. Christopher Church, Marysville**  
**810-364-4100**

An incredible experience that will help you discover what's missing in your life and what to do about it.



### Day of Reflection

**Saturday, Nov 6, 2021**

*8:30am-3:00pm*

*Lunch Included*

Holy Family Parish Life Center

79780 Main St, Memphis, MI 48041

## Pray *Always*...Pray *All Ways*

Presented by the Blue Water Vicariate Catechetical Leaders

Open to all parish ministers, volunteers and interested parishioners

*(\*satisfies the retreat requirement for catechist certification)*

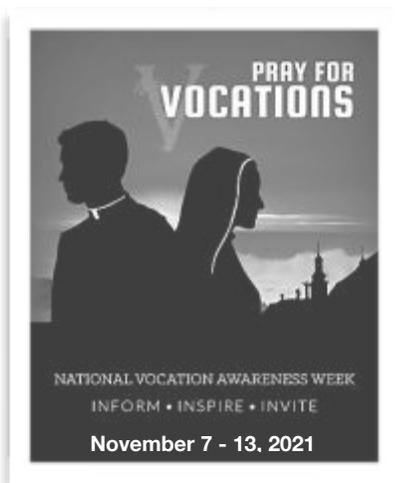
Join us for a day exploring "styles" of prayer with 3 different presenters

- ❖ **Dr. Donald Wallenfang, professor of Theology and Philosophy, SHMS.**
- ❖ **Janene Ternes, Prayer in Motion LLC.**
- ❖ **Reverend Philip Ching, pastor of Holy Family, St. Augustine, and St. Mary Mystical Rose**

No Charge to attend for anyone living in or serving the Bluewater Vicariate

Enrollment limited – RSVP no later than **Nov. 1**

Contact Tina Kovalcik, IC DRE at 586-725-1762 or [kovalcik@iccatholic.org](mailto:kovalcik@iccatholic.org) or Holy Family Faith Formation 810-392-2056 or [sfinley@holymfamily-online.org](mailto:sfinley@holymfamily-online.org)



## "Love your neighbor as yourself" ...

**Words Spoken by Jesus to all of Us.**

You are invited to tour the office and see how we share the love of Jesus with over 800 women and men in our local community. Come and see the exceptional steps taken to increase the center's impact and meet the staff, tour the center, and view the ultrasound system.

**Tuesday, Nov 30, 2021; 4:00 - 7:00pm**  
**1211 Griswold Street, Port Huron**  
**No RSVP needed, Join us!**

<https://bluewaterbabies.org>

The Spero Center offers free, compassionate care for women experiencing unplanned pregnancy. For over 34 years the center has been providing vital information as the clients face life-altering pressures and decisions. The power of ultrasound introduces moms and dads to their unborn babies at a significant time in their lives. Spero has served an astounding three generations of clients since we began. We believe that the more people see the center and hear about services provided, the more clients helped. **Be a part of history!**

## Blue Water Vicariate Directory

Including Weekend Mass and Confession Times (Please call for daily Mass schedule or to confirm)

### Holy Family Parish (Memphis)

Phone: 810-392-2056

**Masses:** Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 10:30 am & 5:30 pm

**Confession:** Saturday 3:30 pm

### St. Augustine Parish (Richmond) \*

Phone: 586-727-5215

**Masses:** Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 7:30 am & 9 am

**Confession:** Wednesday 8:45 am Saturday 5 pm

### Holy Trinity Parish

#### St. Joseph Church (Port Huron)

Phone: 810-984-2689

**Mass:** Sunday 11 am

**Confession:** Wednesday 6 - 7 pm

#### St. Stephen Church (Port Huron)

Phone: 810-984-2689

**Masses:** Saturday 4 pm, Sunday 9 am

**Confession:** Saturday 9 am to 10 am

### Immaculate Conception Parish (Ira Township) \*

Phone: 586-725-3051

**Masses:** Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 8 am, 10 am & 12 pm

**Confession:** Saturday 3:30 pm

Thursday after 8:30 am Mass

### Our Lady on the River Parish

#### Holy Cross Church (Marine City) \*

Phone: 810-765-3568

**Masses:** Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 8 am & 9:30 am

**Confession:** Friday after 9 am Mass

#### St. Catherine of Alexandria Church (Algonac)

**Masses:** Saturday 4 pm, Sunday 11:30 am

**Confession:** Saturday 3 pm

#### St. Mark Chapel (Harsens Island)

**Mass:** Sunday 10am

### St. Christopher Parish (Marysville)

Phone: 810-364-4100

**Masses:** Sunday 8 am, 11 am & 5:30 pm

**Confession:** Saturday 3 - 4 pm or by appointment

### St. Edward on the Lake (Lakeport) \*

Phone: 810-385-4340

**Masses:** Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 10 am & 12 pm

**Tridentine Mass:** Sunday 8 am

**Confession:** Sunday 7:30 am & 9:30 am, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 7:30 am, Thursday 6 pm, Saturday 7:30am, 8:30 am & 4 pm, First Friday 6:30 pm

### St. Mary Parish (Port Huron) \*

Phone: 810-982-7906

**Masses:** Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 9 am, & 11 am

**Confession:** Saturday 4 pm, Thursday 8:45 am-9:30 am, 1st Friday 8-9 pm or by appt.

### St. Mary Parish (St. Clair)

Phone: 810-329-2255

**Masses:** Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 8:30 am & 11:30 am

**Confession:** Saturday 9:45 am

### St. Mary Mystical Rose

Phone: 586-784-5966

**Masses:** Saturday 4:00 p.m., Sunday 10:00 am

**Confession:** Saturday 3:00 pm

### St. Mary Queen of Creation (New Baltimore)

Phone: 586-725-2441

**Masses:** Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 9 am & 11 am

**Tridentine Mass:** Sunday 1:00 pm

**Confession:** Wednesday during 6 pm Holy Hour Saturday 11:30 am

\* Indicates Catholic School on campus

**Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School (Marine City)**

Phone: 810-765-8825



## Submitting Info to The Drift

To submit information or events within the Blue Water Vicariate to be included in this monthly publication, be sure to include all pertinent information (i.e. organization, event name, location, contact, time and cost) and email to [editor@iccatholic.org](mailto:editor@iccatholic.org).

**Please note: We are unable to accept any handwritten or phone submissions. Only email, word, pdf, jpg, txt files can be accepted (nothing in publisher, please).**

## The Drift

is a monthly publication of the  
**Blue Water Vicariate**  
**Vicar: Fr. Lee Acervo**

Next Article Deadline: November 15, 2021

**Next Issue: November 28, 2021**

**Submit info to The Drift via e-mail at**  
[editor@iccatholic.org](mailto:editor@iccatholic.org)  
**(only email submissions please)**

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