

Genesis Vicariate Newsletter

From the Vicar,

The month of March has two solemnities that fall during Lent: St. Joseph (March 19) and the Annunciation (March 25). Since March is the month of St. Joseph, I would like to focus on the former solemnity.

A long-held belief among many saints, popes, theologians and Doctors of the Church is that St. Joseph was cleansed of original sin while in the womb—i.e., before birth. He was not conceived immaculately, but was purified after conception and thus born without original sin. St. Alphonsus Liguori, who believed this, also held that St. Joseph never committed a personal sin. This is not doctrine nor dogma but a pious tradition. Another correlate to Joseph's lifelong sinlessness is that he was assumed bodily into Heaven. This was held by Pope St. John XXIII and eminent theologians and saints like St. Bernardine of Siena, St. Vincent Ferrer, St. Francis de Sales and Jean Gerson. That there are no relics of his body or claims to his tomb buttressed this idea.

Joseph is a quiet hero—a man's man. The Gospels say little about Joseph and Joseph says absolutely nothing in the Gospels. But the actions of this "master dreamer" (like Joseph of old) speak volumes. In his two roles as Jesus' earthly (foster) father and Mary's husband, he faithfully served God in the vocation Providence called him into.

Several Franciscans argued that although Joseph was not Jesus' biological father he served as his father in every other way. St. Bernardine of Siena said, "Joseph held Christ in his arms like a father and spoke baby talk ... [and] with sweetness heard the little babbling child call him 'father'!"

The Church has fully embraced St. Joseph who was often in the shadows of the two more eminent members of the Holy Family. In 1870 Pope Pius IX proclaimed him patron of the universal Church. He was the only saint who appeared at Fatima (1917) other than Our Lady. In 1955, May 1 was celebrated as the memorial of "Joseph the Worker" as an alternative to Communist May Day celebrations. In 1962 "Joseph" was added to Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I) by Pope St. John XXIII and was declared the patron of Vatican II (1962-1965) by the same pope. In 2013 Pope Francis added Joseph's name to Eucharistic Prayers II, III, and IV. So don't hesitate to ask St. Joseph to intercede for you for issues of family, employment, being a faithful and chaste Christian man, traveling, and protection from evil. "Go to Joseph!" (Genesis 41:55) the Bible says. Let's do—and not just in March. St. Teresa of Avila was right some 500 years ago: in the last days his star will shine!

Fr. Alex Kratz, OFM

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CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2020 AT PETRUZZELLO'S ON APRIL 3RD!

Please join us for a beautiful, black tie at Petruzzello's Banquet Hall in Troy including dinner (non-meat options because it is a Friday during Lent), music and dancing, silent and live auction, and a program sharing the impact Catholic Charities has made across the Archdiocese of Detroit because of your generous support. This event helps fund our 14 offices that support all six counties of the Archdiocese of Detroit servicing over 20,000 individuals annually. Please consider attending the event, become a sponsor, donating an auction item, or simply donating to support the event. All can be done online at: <https://ccsem.cbo.io>.

Please contact Adam Perry at perrya@ccsem.org or 586-416-2300 ex: 3621 with any questions!

FISH FRY FRIDAY NIGHTS:

Saint John Paul II Parish and St. Raymond Parish – check out these opportunities to support area parishes and enjoy fellowship!

ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL:

St. Florian Parish – May 2nd & 3rd – Music by The Polish Muslims (Saturday) and Kielbasa Kings (Sunday); Polish dinners, desserts and beverages; Polish Folk Ensemble performances; Raffle and children's games.

Genesis Vicariate Directory

Bp. Donald Hanchon, Regional Moderator
(313) 596-7444

Father Alex Kratz, Vicar
(313) 727-9784

Assumption Grotto

Pastor, Rev. Eduard P. Perrone
13770 Gratiot Ave., Detroit, MI 48205
(313) 372-0762 ~ FAX (313) 372-2064
grottoecore@ameritech.net
www.assumptiongrott.com
Saturday ~ 7:30 am (Latin), 4 pm
Sunday ~ 9:30 am (Latin), 12 pm

Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Pastor, Rev. J.J. Mech
9844 Woodward, Detroit, MI 48202
(313) 865-6300 ~ FAX (313) 867-4613
cathedral@aod.org
Saturday ~ 8 am, Sunday ~ 11 am

St. Moses the Black

Pastor, Rev. Marko Djonovic
1125 Oakman Blvd., Detroit, MI 48238
(313) 868-4308 ~ FAX (313) 868-9771
Sunday ~ 10 am

Our Lady Queen of Apostles

Pastor, Rev. Janusz Iwan
3851 Prescott, Hamtramck, MI 48212
(313) 891-1520 ~ FAX (313) 891-3552
qofaparish1917@gmail.com
queenofapostlesparish.org
Saturday ~ 5:30 pm (English)
Sunday ~ 8 am (English), 9:30 am (Polish)

St. Hyacinth

Pastor, Rev. Janusz Iwan
3151 Farnsworth, Detroit, MI 48211
(313) 922-1507 ~ FAX (313) 922-2459
Saturday ~ 4 pm
Sunday ~ 11:15 am

Our Lady Queen of Heaven – Good Shepherd Catholic Community

Pastor, Rev. Michael C. Nkachukwu
Associate Pastor, Rev. Tyrone Robinson
8200 Rolyat, Detroit, MI 48234
(313) 891-4553 ~ FAX (313) 891-5782
ladyofgoodshepherd@att.net
www.ourladyofgoodshepherd.net
Saturday ~ 4 pm
Sunday ~ 10 am

St. Florian

Pastor, Rev. Miroslaw Frankowski, Sch
2626 Poland, Hamtramck, MI 48212
(313) 871-2778 ~ FAX (313) 871-5947
office@stflorianparish.org
www.stflorianparish.org
Sunday ~ 10:30 am (Polish) 12:30 pm (English)

St. Ladislaus Chapel

2730 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212
Saturday ~ 4 pm (English)
Sunday ~ 9 am (Polish), 6:30 pm (Polish)

St. John Paul II

Pastor, Rev. Andrew Wesley
5830 Simon K, Detroit, MI 48212
(313) 305-7394 ~ FAX (313) 305-7396
sjp2parish@gmail.com
Sunday ~ 10 am (Eng) and 11:30 am (Polish)

St. Raymond – OLCG

Pastor, Rev. Michael C. Nkachukwu
Associate Pastor, Rev. Tyrone Robinson
20103 Joann Ave., Detroit, MI 48025
(313) 527-0525 ~ FAX (313) 527-9776
infosaintraymond@gmail.com
Saturday ~ 4 pm, Sunday ~ 10:30 am

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