



St. Mary Great Mother of God Catholic Church

We welcome you!

January 16, 2022

St. Mary
Great Mother of God
Catholic Church

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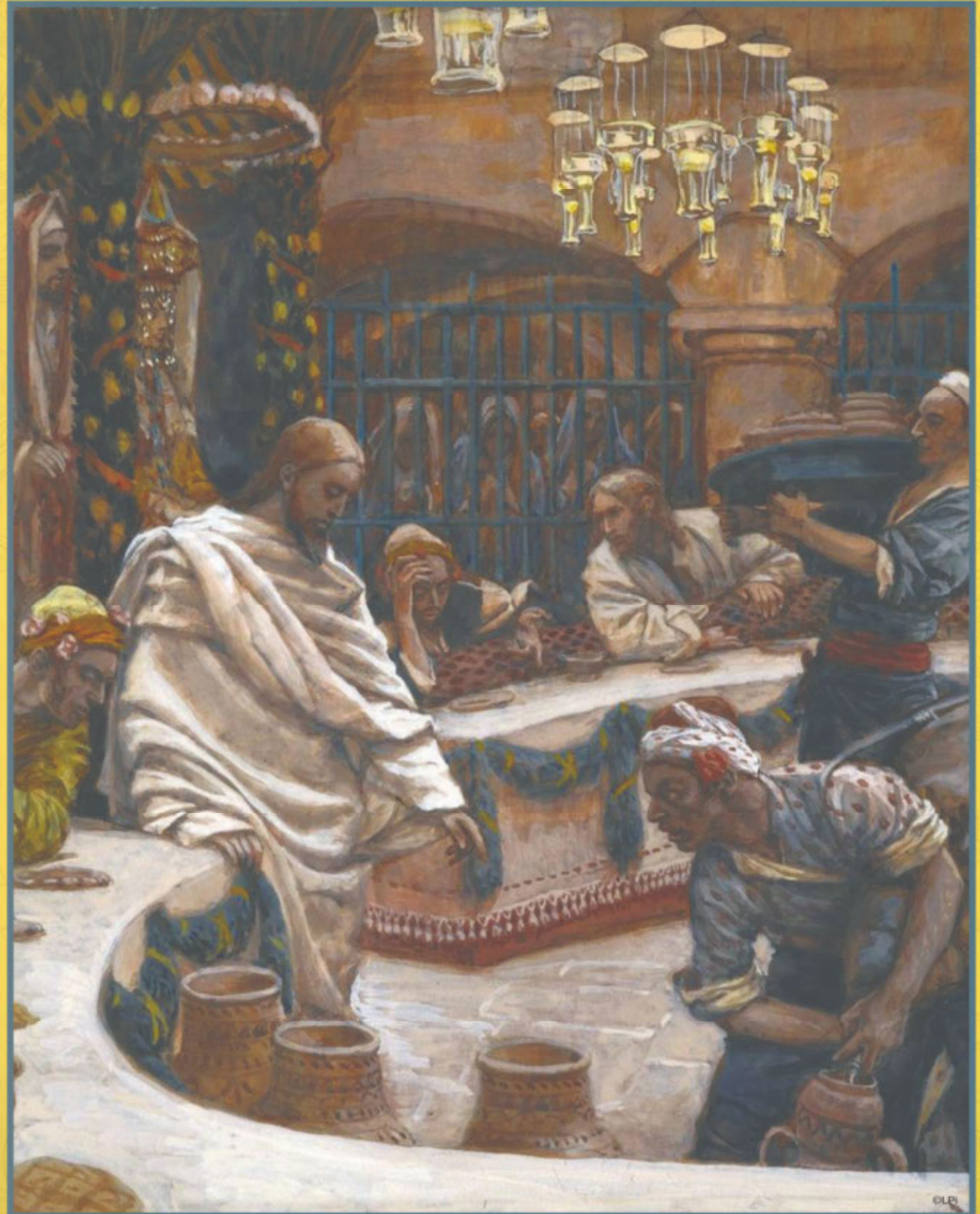
The Parish Office is open
Monday-Thursday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed for lunch 12-1pm

Daily Mass: 7:45 am
No Mass on Tuesdays
Weekend Masses:
Saturday 8:30 am
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 10:30 am

Adoration:
Wednesdays
8:15 a.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Confession:
Wednesdays 5-6p.m.
Saturdays **3-4:30 p.m.**
Or by appointment

For other Sacraments
please call the office



2nd SUNDAY *in ordinary time*

Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." - Jn 2:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Masses for the week of January 17, 2022

Mon	Jan 17	7:45 am	Mass -for the Holy Souls in purgatory
Tue	Jan 18	No Mass Today	
Wed	Jan 19	7:45 am	Mass—for the repose of the soul of Julia Rasch
Thur	Jan 20	7:45 am	Mass—for the repose of the soul of Mike Lally
Fri	Jan 21	7:45 am	Mass— for Henry Huston
Sat	Jan 22	8:30am	Mass— for the perseverance of all priests and religious
		5:00pm	Mass— for the repose of the Ed and Laura Berry
Sun	Jan 23	10:30 am	Mass— for all parishioners

**“If every flower wanted to be a rose, spring would lose it’s loveliness.”
— St. Theresa of Lisieux**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND OF January 22 & 23

	<u>Saturday 5:00 pm</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30 am</u>
Lectors	Jim Pfaller	Lisa Mills
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mike Organek	Neil Mills
Green Acres/Homebound	Brigitta Boston	
Flower Schedule	Cathy Gutowski	

Thank you to all who ordered SCRIP in January. We earned \$131.00 this month at ***no additional cost to you.*** SCRIP makes great birthday and anniversary gifts—or can be used by you for your own shopping. To see all the retailers that participate, go to **Shopwithscrip.com** and find the list at the very bottom of the opening page; click on “Brands List”.

Deposit for 1/9/2022

Adult Envelopes:	\$ 3792.00
Loose collection:	\$ 551.00
Children’s:	\$.00
Total:	\$ 4343.00



Needed for Budget \$5500.00

Are you preparing for marriage or looking into Natural Family Planning (NFP) options? The **Franciscan Life Process Center** invites you to **Introduction to Natural Family Planning (NFP)** on January 22 from 10:00 - 11:30 am at the Grand Rapids campus, 654 Davis Ave., NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504. This one-time session covers the basics of how NFP works and highlights the differences between methods. Cost: \$25/individual and \$40/couple Go to <https://introtonfp.eventbrite.com> to register.

Happy Birthday to You!

- Belated: Vivienne Halford 1/1/2022
- 1/17 Theresa Phillips, Adena Hermann
- 1/19 Rachel Wattenhofer
- 1/20 Katie Schnipke,
Steve Schnipke
- 1/21 Owen Krieger
- 1/23 Lisa Lane, Cheri Shay,
Theresa Judd, Carol
VanStee



Rest in Peace-for our deceased & their loved ones; All of our fallen heroes and the faithful departed. **Support Prayer for comfort & healing to those who are ill or injured, for the homebound & for caregivers and those in the Military;** All those affected by Covid-19 and natural disasters, Kathy Noskey, Rhonda Fitzpatrick, Susan Serne, Bob Graham, Lisa Zigmont, Vee Sarb, Bob & Barb Hess, Pat O’Connor, Jim Roskamp, Jeff Bowles, Betsy Davidson, Noah Langlois, Donna Roskamp, Dave & Martha Roskamp, Rosemary Gamble, Gertrude Zygaj, Anna Organek, the unemployed, Michigan’s economy, and war wounded, justice and peace in the world, and for all priests and religious, and the Holy Catholic Church.



LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Relationships are hard to clarify. Determining whether people in our lives are simply acquaintances and associates or a deeper level of friend is a journey that takes time. Identifying and celebrating those people who really care about us is a lifelong adventure that involves both moments of intense elation and heartache. Some relationships are more easily definable than others. Two people who are in love must decide whether the love they share has the freedom and depth necessary for lifelong commitments. Other relationships may look like friendship but may harbor grave dysfunction and toxicity. Discernment is needed on all fronts. Our relationship with God also needs definition and discernment. God has taken creation as His spouse and human beings as His children. God delights in us and all that He has made. The wedding feast at Cana demonstrates God's investment in all of this, especially our happiness. Life is a time for celebration and great rejoicing!

Adult Faith Formation: Please join us as we go through *Metanoia: A Journey with Christ into Conversion*. This 10-part series featuring Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, President of Franciscan University and founder of The Ministry of the Wild Goose, leads us on a journey with Christ into conversion. Each of the episodes explores areas of our life where conversion is so often necessary. Join us for the most important journey of our lives, a journey of grace, hope, repentance, and transformation. We will be meeting on **Wednesdays from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the St. Joseph room. All our welcome!**

Middle School Youth Group: Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, January 19th from 5:15 p.m. – 7 p.m.** All middle school students are welcome!

High School Youth Group will continue to meet on the **first and third Sundays of the month from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.** Our next meeting is **Sunday, January 16th.** All high school students are welcome!

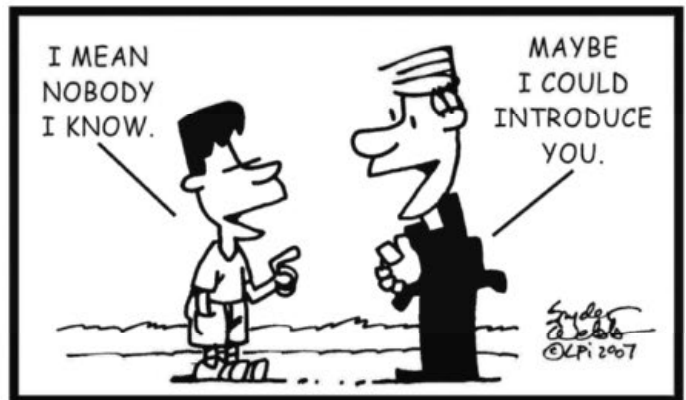
Adult Game Night: Rated PG

Jim & Melissa Patyi are hosting a game night at Big Boiler Brewery on Saturday, January 29th from 5-9pm.

The cost is \$15 a couple and covers the cost of the room rental. Each person is responsible for their own food and drink purchases.

All are welcome to join. Bring a game, or play one of ours. It's loads of good, clean fun. Please contact Melissa Patyi to RSVP. There is no deadline. I just wanted to get a head count. Call or text 616-550-8264. Hope to see you there!

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



IT TAKES ALL KINDS

"If every flower wanted to be a rose," wrote St. Therese of Lisieux, "spring would lose its loveliness."

Who is God asking you to be today? There is an obvious answer that springs to mind right out of the gate. God wants me to be a good person (a good father, a good husband) today; today, God wants me to be a saint.

But this answer fails to get to the heart of the question. We are all striving today to serve the same Spirit, but we are given different gifts to do so. The one who has the gift of knowledge may fail if today he decides he wants to be a healer. The one who has the gift of "varieties of tongues" might falter in the expression of wisdom.

Pray for our Seminarians



Pray for:

André W. Klaes

Mundelein Seminary
1000 E. Maple Avenue
Mundelein, IL 60060

Heavenly Father,

We give you thanks and praise for your son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit to inspire holy, faithful men to minister as priests. Lord, we pray for our seminarians, especially André. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR THE DEAD THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

We commemorate the faithful departed on November 2nd each year. However, we can and should continue to pray for the dead. Our growth in Christian perfection takes a long time. At the time of our death, many of us might not be saints yet. But God, in His mercy, allows for those who love Him to experience purification after death. Our word for that state is Purgatory. It's the antechamber of heaven, so to speak. We know we're

getting in the house, but we're not quite ready to go all the way in. There's rain to shake off our coats and dirt that's clogging our shoes.

Here on earth, we can pray for the souls in Purgatory. One way is to request that your parish offer a Mass for the intention of a specific loved one. We can also remember the departed in our daily prayers. Just as

we have special intentions for family and friends here on earth, we can pray for those who have died. It's also a good act of Christian charity to pray for the forgotten, those who have no one else to pray for them. God knows who they are!



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

I hope everyone's New Year's resolution are still going strong. We are only a couple weeks into the new year, so hopefully everyone should still be going strong.

Before Christmas I did a quick read of new book (it was published last year) entitled *Introduction to the Spiritual Life* by Brant Pitre. I would recommend this book. On the most basic level, it is easy to read and the author has an engaging style. In addition to that, the book really is an introduction, which means it covers broadly all the relevant topics but does not get too esoteric in any of them. This makes it very accessible.

A common concern that I hear from many is the sense that they don't pray as much as they should. This is probably generally true for all of us, but this concern contains within it an often unseen hurdle. How much should one be praying? We know we aren't where we should be, but often we don't really know where we should be. It is hard to find a solution if we don't really know, concretely, what the problem is.

This book helps to make some of those problems concrete, which means it is easier to find a solution to those problems. At the same time, it goes beyond prayer because our spiritual life is more than just prayer. Prayer is an important part of it, but there are other important parts, like overcoming sin and growing in virtue. It helps to bring to light, and to offer solutions, for those problems we may not even be aware of.

It is a good beginning, and we are still at the beginning of the year. For those who might still find it hard to make time, there is always the audiobook version to get you started. One of the benefits of our modern technology (remember, it isn't all bad) is that it can remove many of our excuses.

--Fr. Ferris

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.

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

- Jn 2:1-3

Excerpts from the Lectioary for Mass ©2021, 1998, 1970 CEB

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