

SAINT MARY
of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL
Administrator

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WEEKEND MASSES:
Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am
Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE ♦ NOVEMBER 21, 2021

◆◆◆◆◆ THERE IS ANOTHER VOICE ◆◆◆◆◆

– Fr. Bosco Padamattummal –

ON THIS FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING, the Gospel of St. John takes us into this civil trial, the final week of our Lord's life before His crucifixion. In the 18th chapter we have a series of trials that our Lord was put through: three of them with the Jewish leaders and three of them with the Gentile leaders. Pilate entered again into the Praetorium and summoned Jesus and said to Him: "Are You the King of the Jews?"

It's a simple question and Pilate wants a simple answer, a simple truth. Yes or no. You either are or you aren't. Which is it? That's the kind of question we always hear lawyers in the court room ask: Yes or no? Even if you've never questioned a witness or tried a lawsuit, I am sure there have been times in your life when you too wanted a clear answer and a simple truth. Pilate wants to possess the truth.

I think we all do things to try to possess the truth. There is, however, a dark and dangerous side to claiming possession of the truth. When we claim to be the sole custodians of truth, we put ourselves in the position of having to defend, guard, and protect that truth. We promote and impose our truth on others. Conversations are reduced to monologues of rhetoric, and relationships give way to — continued on p. 2



St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ❖ Nov. 20-28, 2021
Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

SAT. NOV. 20	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. Blessed Virgin Mary)</i>
1 Mc 6:1-13 Lk 20:27-40	3:30-4:30pm Confession ➤ 5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe: † Wilma Lentz [DeeDee & Jim Sabakian]
SUN. NOV. 21	<i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>
Dn 7:13-14 Rv 1:5-8 Jn 18:33b-37	8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession ➤ 8:30am MASS: For the People ➤ 10:30am MASS: † Leon Ball [Judy Walz] 4-5:30pm Confirmation Class / FFH
MON. NOV. 22	<i>Memorial: St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr</i>
Dn 1:1-6, 8-20 Lk 21:1-4	➤ 12:10pm MASS: † Sandy Trolz [Ann Pat Wolf and Janet Shurtliff]
TUES. NOV. 23	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr) (opt. mem. St. Columban, Abbot) (opt. mem. Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr)</i>
Dn 2:31-45 Lk 21:5-11	➤ 8:30am MASS: † Leon Ball [Sally Gavin]
WED. NOV. 24	<i>Memorial: St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs</i>
Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 Lk 21:12-19	➤ 8:30am MASS: † Gerald Damian [Clandian Damian]
THUR. NOV. 25	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. St. Catherine of Thansksgiving Day)</i>
Dn 6:12-28 Lk 21:20-28	➤ 9:00am MASS (note Mass time): † Leon Ball [Jeff & Connie Schaffer]
FRI. NOV. 26	<i>Weekday</i>
Dn 7:2-14 Lk 21:29-33	➤ 8:30am MASS: † Leon Ball [The Panches Family]
SAT. NOV. 27	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. Blessed Virgin Mary)</i>
Dn 7:15-27 Lk 21:34-36	3:30-4:30pm Confession ➤ 5:00pm VIGIL MASS for the First Sunday of Advent † Robert Lakowski (birthday remembrance) [Laskowski Family]
SUN. NOV. 28	<i>First Sunday of Advent</i>
Jer 33:14-16 1 Thes 3:12-4:2 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36	8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession ➤ 8:30am MASS: For the People ➤ 10:30am MASS: † Leon Ball [Barb Doster] ■

FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:
There Is Another Voice

either isolation or domination. And violence arises in the words we speak and the actions we take. Sometimes it is a violence that injures or kills another human being, but it always wounds the human soul – theirs and ours.

We all have heard that monologue rhetoric from our friends or in the media: someone's research on the internet about whether or not the vaccine works against covid. This sort of claiming possession of truth looks like broken hearts in marriages, families, and friendships. It looks like each presidential candidate claiming to know more and better than the other.

Why does Jesus not give Pilate a straight answer? Maybe that's his way of telling us that truth is never as simple as we want it to be, never as absolute as we often assert it to be, and never as exclusive as we sometimes claim it is. He knows that truth is more than a fact, an answer, or an experience, and that it cannot be possessed. Rather, it is a life to be lived.

The truth to which Jesus testifies is the God who is beyond the circumstances of this world and yet always present in the circumstances of this world. Jesus came into the world to tell us about that truth, to show us what it looks like in a human life, and to teach us how to be a part of and belong to that truth. To seek and claim sole and exclusive possession of the truth is the way of Pilate and the way of the world, but it is not the way of Christ.

Jesus never asks us to possess the truth about him or anything else. Instead, he asks us to belong to the truth, to let ourselves be possessed by his truth, and listen to his voice.

So, here is my question: Do we belong to the truth, or do we live and act as if the truth belongs to us? How we answer that question will determine whose voice we listen to, the choices we make, the priorities we establish, the words we speak, and the actions we take. "Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice," Jesus said.

In reality we listen to our own voice and the voices of those who think and act like us. We listen to the voice of our political party, our country's leaders, our religion. We listen to the voice of our own fear and insecurity. I have heard and listened to them. I know they are real. And they do speak a truth, but it is only a piece of the truth. They remind me that the world is not always safe, and life is not always easy.

THERE IS ANOTHER VOICE, A VOICE THAT SPEAKS FROM A KINGDOM NOT OF THIS WORLD. In the midst of uncertainty, fear, and terrorist attacks, *there is a voice that says*, "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand" (Is. 41:10). "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Mt. 28:20). In the darkness of death, *there is a voice that says*, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live" (Jn. 11:25).

In a sea of human diversity – people who think, act, and believe differently than us – *there is a voice that says*, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mk. 12:31). In a world with battle lines drawn and enemies named, *there is a voice that says*, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Mt. 5:44). In the midst of humanitarian need, *there is a voice that says*, "I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Mt. 25:35).

In the pain of a broken heart, hurt feelings, and betrayals, there is a voice that says, "If anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you" (Col. 3:13). That's the voice I want to listen to. That's the truth to which I want you also to belong to. †

Birthdays Blessings!

NOVEMBER 24
Edith Dahl

NOVEMBER 25
Debra Line
Karin Villarreal

NOVEMBER 26
Dee Dee Sahakiar
Nancy Walkow

Altar Flowers

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

In memory of
+Blanche Blakney

[June Faubion]



**Adoremus in Aeternum,
Sanctissimum Sacramentum**

**Let us adore forever,
the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Thanksgiving Day Mass and Poor Box Collection

Mass on Thanksgiving morning, this coming **Thurs., Nov. 25** will be at 9:00am (instead of the usual 8:30am Thursday Mass). And what could be a more perfect way to begin a day of thanksgiving than with the Holy Mass, thanking our dear Lord for His many blessings! And as we appreciate our blessings, let us remember also those less fortunate, those in need. The collection at the Thanksgiving Day Mass will be designated for the parish Poor Box, a special fund that permits Fr. Bosco the discretion to help parishioners who are experiencing weighty burdens and trials, and need a little help to get by. Most of the Poor Box funds come from the pennies, dimes, and quarters dropped in the Box on the wall in the main vestibule. And it is amazing how those small amounts can add up! But needs are also great, so this special collection will help replenish the Poor Box and permit acts of mercy for those in need. Thank you for your generosity.

Our friend Joyce Stein

A dear friend to many and a friendly fellow parishioner to all is our sister-in-Christ Joyce Stein who has been a member of our parish for many, many years. Joyce has been nearly homebound in more recent years, and the other day the Prayer Tree received an email from Carol Westfall, Joyce's daughter. We wanted to share it with the whole parish so everyone can have the opportunity to reach out to Joyce. Here is the text of the email: *"I'm writing to let you know that Joyce Stein moved today. She is now living at Birchwood Garden, a small group home (only 6 residents) on the west side of Ann Arbor, not far from the Meijer store at Jackson and Zeeb Roads. Visits, cards/letters, and phone calls are encouraged! Visits are best between 10am-7pm. If you have a question about whether it's a good time to visit, call Birchwood first and just ask (734-882-2102). This will be a huge adjustment for Mom. Hopefully, she'll adjust with time. Tough day – for Mom and for all of us."* Call also for the mailing address to send a note to Joyce.

U-M Calendars: Gift Item & Parish Fund-Raiser

For many years, parishioner Bill Shurtliff has generously donated to the parish a quantity of his popular University of Michigan calendars that feature his beautiful pen & ink/watercolor drawings. The parish in turn makes them available for purchase with *all* proceeds going totally to the parish. The calendars sell in Ann Arbor stores, online, and around the country for \$16.00 each. But at the parish, we ask only for a minimum donation of \$8.00. (but don't hesitate to give more!). Each year's calendar has a different selection of scenes and several new drawings. A great gift for any Go Blue fan or alum! And by your purchase, a welcome gift to the parish also! See the display in the main vestibule.

Magnificat Companion & Liturgical Calendars

Advent is a time of prayerful preparation for the great blessing of the birth in time of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the feast of Christmas. It is a time for thoughtful reflection – not to be overlooked because of the busyness of buying gifts, decorating the house, and baking cookies. Advent is "both/and"! To help with your Advent reflections, pick up from the main vestibule the little "Advent Companion" booklet. In it are brief reading for each day to assist us in moving through Advent with the mind and heart of the Church. Also, pick up a copy of a 2022 calendar with beautiful religious art and liturgical observances noted on the calendar dates. *"The days are coming, says the Lord..."*

Talk on Saint Joseph at Pious Union

During this "Year of St. Joseph," the Pious Union of St. Joseph in Grass Lake has presented a series of talks on St. Joseph on the 3rd Sunday of each month. This month's talk is this **Sun., Nov. 21** at 6pm. Come in-person or watch live on Facebook (PiousUnion/ShrineofStJoseph) or the Shrine website (www.PiousUnionOfStJoseph.org). For more info, call 517-522-8017.

O most blessed Patriarch, glorious St. Joseph, who was chosen to be the foster father of the Word made flesh and the chaste spouse of Mary, pray for us.

Please let Fr Bosco know...

If you or anyone in your family or friends group is sick or in anyway in need of a priest, please let Fr. Bosco know! We are blessed with a priest who so generously gives of himself to help those in need. What a sadness if someone is struggling with health or approaching death, and no one lets the priest know. You may be helping someone more than you realize. ■

Holy Mother Mary, Queen of All Saints, Pray for Us

Let us pray to the Queen of All Saints for the grace to remember that God has created us to live a life of holiness in this world and to become saints in heaven. God will give us enough grace to do this if only we have an earnest desire for holiness just as Mary did. Holiness does not consist in heroic deeds, but in doing the will of God perfectly, loving God with all our heart and our neighbor for God's sake, keeping our soul from sin, and being united with God through prayer and the sacraments. Let us pray to Mary to obtain for us the grace to imitate her holiness in this world and enjoy the vision of God and her presence for all eternity in heaven. Amen.

Please Pray for...

- Barbara Patrick
- Patrick Muldoon
- Joyce Stein
- Sonja Rhees
- Joseph Ruiz
- Carlos Cornu and his family.
- Former parishioner & her family (legal & spiritual battle)
- John Huber (brother of Sarah Laskowski)
- Bette Ball
- Christy Woody
- Carl Kemner (Beth Ball's brother)
- Jerry Kripas
- Loretta Widmayer
- Joe Kirk
- Connie Stancato
- Duane Beuerle
- Annie (sister of Lynn Waldecker)
- Baby Keaton
- Eric & Helena Zink
- Lois Milkey
- Paul Whelan

Every time we pray for the dead, we perform one of the spiritual works of mercy. May they rest in peace!



St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION Sunday, November 7, 2021

Sunday Evr (72)	\$ 5,998.45
Welcome & Loose	253.00
E-Giving (5)	377.79
All Saints Day (8)	145.00
All Souls Day (6)	115.00
Christmas decorations (2)	70.00
Combined toward budget:	\$ 6,959.24
Budget goal:	5,300.00
Amt ABOVE goal:	+ 1,659.24
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:	
Bldg. & Maint (10)	\$ 420.00
Campaign for Human Dev (2)	35.00
Poor Box	73.50
Votive candles	110.00

THINK YOU MIGHT BE PREGNANT? NEED HELP? ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION
Call (800) 712-HELP (4357)
24-hr emergency pregnancy help

Need Help? PROJECT RACHEL (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291, or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

NEED HELP? "COURAGE" is a Catholic spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. "ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for families & friends. For info in the Diocese of Lansing, call 517-342-2596 or email caverart@comcast.net

NEED HELP? An "AA" group meets Fridays at 7:00pm at Emanuel Church, 324 W Main St. (next door to St Mary's)

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