

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ♦ JANUARY 2, 2022

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN

— Dcn. Dennis Walters —

TWENTY-SOME YEARS AGO, Rev. Alex Jones, then pastor of Maranatha Pentecostal Church in Detroit, was conducting a series of teachings for his African-American congregation about how the early Church worshiped. As part of that series, he asked me to explain the Rosary to his Wednesday night study group.

My talk went into the history of the Rosary, then into the mysteries, and then the prayers: the Our Father (which they knew), the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be (both of which were unfamiliar). I explained why the words of the Hail Mary call her “Mother of God,” namely, that if Jesus as a person is both human and divine, and Mary is his mother, it’s only appropriate to call her “Mother of God” – which is exactly what early Christians called her. That was the easy part my talk.

But when I came to the concluding prayer, the Hail Holy Queen, I realized that the words of that prayer presented a challenge: how to avoid creating the impression that Mary usurps the saving role of her Son. So, going through the prayer line by line, here is a summary of what I told them.

“Hail, Holy Queen.” Mary’s queenship is not obvious to most Christians. To them, she was a simple country girl who happened to be chosen as the mother of the Savior. Yet that

choice conferred royalty upon her. The angel Gabriel told Mary that her son would be given the throne of his father David, and that he would reign forever (Luke 1:32-33). Thus, Jesus would be a king. With a modern king, his wife would usually be the queen; but in ancient Israelite monarchies when kings had many wives, the king’s mother would be queen. As both mother and queen, she had enormous intercessory influence with her son (see 1 Kings 2:19-20). Mary is every inch a queen.

“Mother of Mercy.” Here, the prayer uses a figure of speech called *metonymy*, substituting one noun for another without changing the basic meaning. For example, instead of saying, “John talks a lot,” I might say, “John’s all mouth.” The figure makes the idea bolder, more forceful. In the same way, this prayer substitutes the name of a virtue for a person. Mary is the mother of Jesus; Jesus, being God incarnate, is the embodiment of mercy; so, figuratively, Mary is mother of Mercy.

—continued on p. 2 >>>



St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ❖ Jan. 1-9, 2022
Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

DCN. DENNIS' ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:
Hail, Holy Queen

SAT. JANUARY 1, 2022*Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God*

Nm 6:22-27
Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21

- **8:30am MASS:** † **Jim Ross**
[*Bill & Astrida Panches*]
✦ *Eucharistic Adoration following morning Mass*
3:30-4:30pm Confession
- **5:00pm Vigil MASS for the Epiphany of the Lord: For the People**

SUN. JAN. 2*Solemnity: The Epiphany of the Lord*

Is 60:1-6
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

- 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
- **8:30am MASS:** † **Vicky Curley**
[*Bill & Astrida Panches*]
- **10:30am MASS:** † **Angelia Carrier**
[*Frank & Cindy Remski*]

MON. JAN. 3*Christmas Weekday*

(opt. mem. *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*)

1 Jn 3:22-4 :6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

- **12:10pm MASS:** † **Élise Conseibo**
[*Scott & Sylvie Strong*]
3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed Classes / PC

TUES. JAN. 4*Memorial: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

1 Jn 4:7-10
Mk 6:34-44

- **8:30am MASS: INT: In thanksgiving of the improving health of the Fitzgerald Family** [*Pat Fitzgerald*]

WED. JAN. 5*Memorial: St. John Neumann, Bishop*

1 Jn 4:11-18
Mk 6:45-52

- **8:30am MASS:** † **Dick Krzyzaniak**
[*Shirley Krzyzaniak*]
7:00pm Parish Pastoral Council / FFH

THUR. JAN. 6*Christmas Weekday*

(opt. mem. *St. Andre Bessette, Religious*)

1 Jn 4:19- 5:4
Lk 4:14-22a

- **8:30am MASS:** † **Mike Stem**
[*Marie & Robert Skrobola & Family*]

FRI. JAN. 7*Christmas Weekday (opt. mem. St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest)*

1 Jn 5:5-13
Lk 5:12-16

- **8:30am MASS:** † **James O'Sullivan**
[*The O'Sullivan Family*]

✦ **Exposition & Adoration**, beginning after morning Mass, then continuing all day & evening, closing with Benediction at 10:00pm
8:00-9:00pm Confession

SAT. JAN. 8*Christmas Weekday*

1 Jn 5:14-21
Jn 3:22-30

- 3:30-4:30pm Confession
- **5:00pm Vigil MASS for the Baptism of the Lord:** † **Natalie Daubner**
[*Her Family*]

SUN. JAN. 9*Feast: The Baptism of the Lord*

Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Acts 10:34-38
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

- 8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession
- **8:30am MASS:** † **Donald Vogrin & the 6th Year anniversary of death of † Jim O'Sullivan** [*The O'Sullivan Family*]
- **10:30am MASS: For the People**
4:00-5:30pm Confirmation class/PC ■

“Our life, our sweetness, and our hope” – another example of the same type of figure. As a mother, Mary conceives life in her womb and delivers it to the world. Jesus called himself the way, the truth, and the life. In bearing him, Mary gives birth to Life itself, since God is Life. From the earliest years of the Church, icons have shown Mary holding the child Jesus out to us for our adoration. In presenting him to us, she presents us with the Life that he is. That Life is the source of hope for us who desire eternal life. These icons show Mary in her role as a mediator, not the source of our life or our hope but the one who brings these realities to us.

“To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.” We appeal to the sinless Queen because our nature has inherited the sin of Adam and Eve that banishes us from the Garden of Eden. We can't return there on our own. We look to our Queen for help.

“To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.” It often surprises me how many Catholics have trouble with this part of the prayer. While this life contains many occasions for joy and happiness, it also carries with it times of sadness and much misery. Love for this life should not obscure the mourning that attends loss, tragedy, pain, sickness, and death. It's on occasions of sadness that we appeal to Mary.

“Most gracious advocate.” According to the Catechism, Mary “by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation.... Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix” (CCC 969). She pleads on our behalf before the Father, as Queen Bathsheba did in presenting petitions to Solomon or as Queen Esther did to save her people from genocide. Being an advocate, Mary also communicates to us the graces that she obtains from the Father. And so we pray:

“Turn thine eyes of mercy toward us.” The oldest Marian prayer we have comes from a third century Egyptian plea for her help. The language is much like that of the Memorare: “Under your mercy we take refuge, O Mother of God. Do not reject our supplications in our necessity, but deliver us from danger, [O you] alone pure and most blessed.” As Queen, Mary's gaze is one of mercy toward her children.

“Show unto us the fruit of thy womb, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary.” As in the Hail Mary, “fruit of thy womb” is a picturesque way of saying, Show us your child, Jesus. *Clement* is just an old-fashioned word for *merciful*.

As I told the Maranatha study group, this is a prayer rich in imagery, but one that makes a simple request: Though you are a sinless Queen, Mary, you know our condition, because you lived through it yourself. Bring us to your Son, and your Son to us. This prayer ends the Rosary and is a fitting one to end the day with; it's often sung in Latin as part of night prayer. †

**DISCIPLES
TOGETHER
ON THE
WAY**

An invitation from Bishop Boyea:

“I want to invite you to join me as Disciples Together on the Way. What's that? Let me explain.

“This life is a journey. It's a pilgrimage. A pilgrimage from God and to God. We are each pilgrims on that narrow path. It's not an easy journey. We all know that. However, if we co-operate with God's grace we can make it and, even better, we can make it together.

“Across the coming year, we will then attempt to acquire a different good habit each week in order to help you and me develop in four key areas of

discipleship: prayer, catechesis, community and apostolate. Starting this January, I will send you a specific challenge focusing on a particular habit of authentic discipleship. Inspired and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, it will then be for each of us to live-out that habit over the subsequent seven days.

“Do you want to take up the Disciples Together on the Way challenge? If so, simply pick up your cellphone and text ONTHEWAY to 84576 or go to dioceseoflansing.org/on-the-way

“It's that easy!”

How to attain perfect happiness...

Are you a farmer? Do you work in a manufacturing plant? In an office? Or as a tradesman? Do you own a business? Are you a musician? Are you pretty good at a hobby or pastime? If you're competent at what you do, you're there because you work at it – right?

Now think about two important realities! Working to be the best version of ourselves while we are alive brings a degree of happiness. But God tells us in the Bible that we are immortal. He created us to live forever with Him in PERFECT HAPPINESS. If you don't think about this reality every day, it's time to begin.

Join fellow Christians who want to become the best ETERNAL versions of themselves. Sign-up for the Bible Timeline series starting on **Thurs., Jan 27**. The promotion flyer with important information and the sign-up envelope are in the church vestibule. If you have questions, contact Dcn Dennis: 734-761-3163, waltersdennis1940@gmail.com OR Bill Kwolek: 734-428-7674 land, 734-775-1124 cell, bkwolek@comcast.net OR the parish office: 734-428-8811

Seminary Visit

The Diocese of Lansing will be offering a "Come and See Weekend" at Sacred Heart Major Seminary **Thurs. through Sun., Jan. 20-23, 2022**. This event is open to men college-age and older from our Diocese, who may be a good candidate for seminary formation. The weekend will include attending daily Mass and Holy Hour with the seminarians, visiting classes, talks on discernment and seminary life, and time for fraternity and personal prayer. There is no cost for the visit. For more information, check out our website (lansingpriest.org/visit/), or email Fr Whitlock at jwhitlock@dioceseoflansing.org

O Come Let Us Adore Him!

Christmas invited us into an even more intimate union with Jesus. Please consider continuing this and drawing even closer as this new year begins by making time for **Eucharistic Adoration** – especially on First Fridays when we have **Exposition!** For each hour of Exposition, a parishioner commits to staying with Jesus. There are three open times needing to be filled: **11:00am–noon, 1:30–2:30pm, and 2:00–3:00pm**. If you want to say "Yes" to spending time with Jesus, please contact Pete Nashif (who coordinates Adoration) at pjnashif@sbcglobal.net

A Time to Dance!

Come join us for an enjoyable evening of music, dancing, and fellowship at the Old St. Patrick's parish hall (5671 Whitmore Lake Road in Ann Arbor)! Old St. Pat's is hosting a swing/line dance for young adults on **Sat., Jan. 8** from 7pm to 11pm. Age range for this event is 16 and up, and the dress code is semi-casual. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. There is a \$5 cover charge. "For all things there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the heavens... a time to laugh...and a time to dance" (Ecclesiastes, 3:1-5).

Take the Next Step

Learn more about becoming a Sidewalk Advocate or Support Prayer Partner. *Ann Arbor Sidewalk Advocates for Life* (SAFL) is looking to grow our team and would love for you to join us. Our trained Sidewalk Advocates and Prayer Partners serve year-round, rain or shine to reach out to change the hearts and minds of abortion-minded women and men. By the grace of God, our Advocates have been involved in many saves at the Ann Arbor Planned Parenthood over the last 7 years, including 20 saves during the Covid lockdown!

All are invited to sharpen the tools in their pro-life tool belt by taking the SAFL Basic Training 2.0. This comprehensive training is life-changing! Ask us how to get involved as a Sidewalk Advocate or Support Prayer Partner today! Take the next step toward helping end abortion in our community! **Next training: Sat., Jan. 15. RSVP by Wed., Jan. 12.**

FIRST FRIDAY ❖ JAN. 7
COME SPEND TIME
WITH JESUS!



**Exposition & Adoration
of the Most Blessed Sacrament**
Following morning Mass on Fri., Jan. 7
until Benediction at 10:00pm

*O Sacrament, most holy, O Sacrament, divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!*



**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



**The SANCTUARY LAMPS
are burning this week for
the following intentions:**

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...

- 1) For the repose of the soul
of + Victoria Curley
(Marilyn & Allan DeShano)
- 2) For the repose of the soul
of +Carl Kemmer
(Jim & Marja Warner)

Please Pray for...

- Connie Achtenberg (daughter of Connie & Jim)
- Jean Duffy and her siblings
- Rick (son-in-law of Rita & Ray Michaels)
- Marja Warner
- Leroy Cummings
- Connie (Uhr) Marion and her daughter Milly & family
- Ryan Coulter
- Mark Wiedmayer
- Bob Scharpenberg
- Paul Whelan
- Kirsten (stepdaughter of Laurie Sanders' brother Mark)
- Joyce Stein
- Christy Woody
- Jerry Kripas
- Joe Kirk
- Loretta Widmayer

...and for the repose of the souls of
† Rita and Ray Michaels
and for their grieving loved ones.

Birthday Blessings!

- JANUARY 2**
Linda Magee
- JANUARY 3**
Gina Jennings
- JANUARY 7**
Doug Ricker
- JANUARY 8**
Richard Fielder
Cynthia Remski



**St. Mary Roman
Catholic Church
Stewardship**

WEEKLY COLLECTION Sunday, December 19, 2021

Sunday Err (69)	\$ 5,285.00
Welcome & Loose	264.00
E-Giving (8)	553.45
Solemnity of Mary	15.00
Christmas (5)	150.00
Christmas decorations (2)	30.00
Immaculate Conception (1)	40.00
E-Giving Immac Conc (1)	50.00
All Souls (1)	25.00

Combined toward budget: ... \$ 6,412.45
Budget goal: 5,300.00
Amt ABOVE goal: + 1,112.45

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Bldg. & Maint (4)	\$ 80.00
Retired Religious (6)	330.00
Poor Box	422.25
Votive candles	17.00

**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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