

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

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ♦ JANUARY 30, 2022

COLLIDING AGENDAS: Short- and Long-Term Gain

– Fr. Bosco Padamattummal –

WHEN AGENDAS COME TOGETHER, amazing things can happen. Relationships deepen. Love flourishes. Energy and creativity flow. Life is abundant and rich. **WHEN AGENDAS COLLIDE**, conflict arises. At some level our agendas describe who we are and what we are about. The question is not whether we have agendas, we all do. The question is whose agenda guides our life?

That is the question at the heart of today's gospel (Luke 4:21-30).

The colliding agendas are the cause of the conflict between Jesus and his own people, in the town where he lived for 30 years.

Jesus left home in response to God's call to begin his public ministry which was centered down near the Sea of Galilee. Last Sunday we heard about Jesus coming to Nazareth, his hometown, with an agenda. He said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, release to the captive, sight for the blind, freedom for the oppressed, and to proclaim the year acceptable to the Lord." It was the same agenda and prophecy as that of the prophet Isaiah from the Old Testament. But there would be a difference. Jesus said, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

The next thing we hear from today's gospel is that it sounded great to the people.



"All spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth." The people loved it. "Is not this Joseph's son?" They recognize Jesus as one of their own. They know him. He knows them. When he



preached in the local synagogue, hidden within their question is an unspoken expectation, an agenda. "If that's what he's going to do for them, just think how much more he will do for us." They expect Jesus, as the hometown boy, will give a difference to his own people. They gave him his start. They helped make him what he is today. They are the village that raised him as a child. They expect to not just be remembered but to be repaid.

He was trying to show them that God was so much bigger, so much more loving, than they realized. He wasn't just their God; rather he was the God of all people. Israel had thought of itself as the chosen people, but Jesus was now revealing a God who was choosing all of humanity without distinction. Here was a God who had no favorites. Or, to put it another way, a God who favored all equally.

This was actually good news, but it was heard as bad news by



— continued on p. 2 —

St. Mary's Parish Weekly Calendar ❖ Jan. 29 – Feb. 5, 2022
 Mass Intention [requested by], & parish activities

SAT. JAN. 29	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. Blessed Virgin Mary)</i>
2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17 Mk 4: 35-41	3:30-4:30pm Confession ➤ 5:00pm Vigil MASS for the 4th Sunday in Ord. Time: For the People
SUN. JAN. 30	<i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Jer 1:4-5, 17-19 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 (or 13:4-13) Lk 4:21-30	8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession ➤ 8:30am MASS: † Joseph Fitzgerald [Pat Fitzgerald & Children] ➤ 10:30am MASS: † Walter Radisovich [Sylvie & Scott Strong]
MON. JAN. 31	<i>Memorial: St. John Bosco, Priest</i>
2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13 Mk 5:1-20	➤ 12:10pm MASS: INT. Fr. Bosco (BIRTHDAY) [St. Mary Parish] 3:30-4:45pm Rel Ed Classes / PC
TUES. FEB. 1	<i>Weekday</i>
2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3 / Mk 5:21-43	➤ 8:30am MASS: INT: Fr. John Lehner [Donna Hnizdor]
WED. FEB. 2	<i>Feast: The Presentation of the Lord</i>
Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40 (or 2:22-32)	➤ 8:30am MASS: † Élise Conseibo [Donna Hnizdor] 7pm Parish Pastoral Council Mtg/FFH
THUR. FEB. 3	<i>Weekday (opt. mem. St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr) (opt. mem. St. Ansgar, Bishop)</i>
1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 Mk 6:7-13	➤ 8:30am MASS: † Cliff Tracy [His family] 6:30pm "Bible Timeline" series / FFH
FRI. FEB. 4	<i>Weekday</i>
Sir 47:2-11 Mk 6:14-29	➤ 8:30am MASS: † Tom Burch [Ruth Burch & Family] Exposition & Adoration , beginning after morning Mass, then continuing all day & evening, closing with Benediction at 10:00pm 8:00-9:00pm Confession
SAT. FEB. 5	<i>Memorial: St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i>
1 Kgs 3:4-13 Mk 6:30-34	➤ 8:30am FIRST SATURDAY MASS: † Barbara Patrick [Frank & Cindy Remski and Family] 8:30am-3:30pm Confirmation Retreat/PC 3:30-4:30pm Confession ➤ 5:00pm Vigil MASS for the 5th Sunday in Ord. Time: † Carl Kemner [The Panches Family]
SUN. FEB. 6	<i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 (or 15:3-8, 11) Lk 5:1-11	8-8:15 and 10-10:15am Confession ➤ 8:30am MASS: For the People ➤ 10:30am MASS: † Sonja Rhees [The Panches Family]

**FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:
Colliding Agendas: Short- and Long-Term Gain**

the people of Nazareth. With prophetic insight Jesus unveils their agenda: And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

Most probably those hometown people were thinking, "Why is he telling us about the great things God did for those outsiders, for foreigners? What about us? We are the chosen ones." It must have sounded as if one of their own had turned on them, as if Jesus had betrayed and rejected them. That is the kind of talk that gets prophets killed and truth-tellers stoned (Lk. 13:34).

When they heard Jesus' words, "they were filled with rage." They ran him out of town and tried to throw him off the cliff. If you don't like the message, kill the messenger. The people's initial response of admiration and astonishment now turns to rage, as they attempt to throw Jesus down the cliff the town was built on. It is hard to conceive of a greater shift of mood in such a relatively short time. The people who had been so significant to Jesus in the first thirty years of his life now become his enemies. Jesus has a vision for his ministry and the people have another, a different vision. And they are so caught up in their own agenda they cannot hear God's agenda.

Dear brothers and sisters, we all have to come to terms with people disagreeing with us and rejecting our ideas and proposals. That is inevitable in our day-to-day dealings with people. What makes rejection all the more difficult to bear is when we are rejected by someone who initially accepted and loved us. Sometimes we have little control over the drift from initial acceptance to rejection by someone or some group. Jesus would not have been rejected by the people of Nazareth if he had become the kind of parochial figure, they wanted him to be. Jesus knew that he had to be true to his God-given mission that is beyond Nazareth which included everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

Acceptance by others is not of such a value that it needs to be bought at the price of denying our deepest and noblest convictions. Integrity – being true to what is best in ourselves, remaining true to God's promptings, God's call – is a much higher value than finding acceptance. A certain amount of rejection may be the price we have to pay if we are to take the path that we know in good conscience we must take. Giving in to what other people want to order to keep them on our side can lead to some short-term gain, but in the end, it can be more damaging to ourselves than the rejection we avoided by our compliance. †

Birthday Blessings!
JANUARY 31
Fr. Bosco

FEBRUARY 1
Cheryl Bauer
Gina Lentz
Gil R. Ruiz

FEBRUARY 3
Ron Kohmescher
Aaron Sangster
Susan Walters

FEBRUARY 4
Deborah Burch

FEBRUARY 5
Layla Line

Altar Flowers

JANUARY 30, 2022

 In memory of +Clarence
and +Margaret Fielder

[The Coltre Family]

Out of the darkness of my life,
so much frustrated, I put before
you the one great thing to love
on earth: the Blessed Sacrament ...
There you will find romance,
glory, honour, fidelity, and the true
way of all your loves upon earth.
(J.R.R. TOLKIEN)

FIRST FRIDAY ❖ COME SPEND TIME WITH JESUS!
Exposition & Adoration of the
**MOST BLESSED
SACRAMENT**
Friday, February 4
**Following morning Mass
until Benediction at 10:00pm**
Also: First Saturday Mass Feb. 5 at 8:30 am
*O Sacrament, most holy, O Sacrament, divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!*


Our Great Adventure Bible Timeline Series is underway! (and it's not too late to join in!!!)

The in-person sessions meet on **Thursday evenings**, starting at 6:30pm in Fr. Fisher Hall. But you can also attend these sessions **remotely** using Zoom. Or cover the material in your own time with the online videos. Is this technology that you have no experience with??? No problem. Contact Eric and Lori Feiler (efeiler@me.com), and they will get you set up easily.

Consider: These days it sometimes feels like we're living in the Twilight Zone – and maybe we are! Yet God's word is the same, yesterday, today and forever. If you need an anchor to bring some stability into life, the Bible has been safe mooring for thousands of years to Jews and Christians. The Bible study we are now beginning is a different kind of Bible study. It makes understanding Scripture easy for those of us who have never really gotten into it. It was designed for people who avoid reading the Bible because they just can't connect with it.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Eric and Lori OR Dcn Dennis at 734-761-3163, waltersdennis1940@gmail.com OR Bill Kwolek at 734-428-7674 land, 734-775-1124 cell, bkwolek@comcast.net OR the parish office at 734-428-8811

Rummage Sale

The Columbus Ladies Auxiliary in Dexter will be holding their 2022 Rummage Sale **Thurs. and Fri., Feb. 3 and 4** from 8:30am–7:00pm and on **Sat., Feb 5** from 8:30am–noon. The sale will be held at Columbus Hall & Banquet Center, 8265 Dexter–Chelsea Rd. in Dexter. Proceeds to benefit St. Louis Center. Donations will be accepted daily until Jan. 31 from 1:00–6:00pm. (Please: No furniture, computers, TVs, car seats, Christmas trees, or large exercise equipment.) For more info, visit the facebook page at www.facebook.com/ColumbusLadiesAuxiliary

Jeremiah 1:7 Young Men's High School Discernment Group

Fr. John Linden of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Saline is hosting all interested high school aged young men in going through the discernment process of coming to know one's vocation in life. Along with some dads from the parish, this group will meet once a month on **Monday evenings from 6:00–7:30pm (February 21, March 21, and April 18)**.

We will primarily use a book called *"To Save a Thousand Souls"* which is focused on priesthood, but we will not just explore the priesthood. Instead, using the book as a springboard, we will discuss how all vocations have similar demands and rewards for those who are determined to become good husbands and fathers. A priest lives as a symbol of a "husband" to the Church, and a father of a family is called to be a minister in his family's spiritual journey. So, what pertains to one, pertains to both types of fatherhood, just in different ways.


We will provide a pizza dinner, so please RSVP to Fr. John (frjohn@standrewsaline.org) at least a day ahead so we can order enough pizza!

Experience Jesus' Love at the Pious Union

Join the students of Encounter Ministries at the Pious Union of Saint Joseph in Grass Lake this coming **First Sat., Feb. 5**. Come at 11:30am for Holy Mass and Anointing of the Sick. Following Mass, teams will be available to pray with and for anyone who desires personal prayer and the infinite love of Jesus that lives in His Church today. Fr. Joseph Campbell, Chaplain at Lansing Catholic High School and Encounter student, will be the guest celebrant. Please join us at the Pious Union for this event and experience the love of Jesus.

Together with Bishop Boyea, we are "Disciples on the Way"

We are invited to be part of a weekly challenge that Bishop Boyea puts before us to inspire and develop us as disciples of Jesus. The mechanics of this initiative are simple: Let our Bishop know that you want to be a part of it, and then receive a weekly text or email with a spiritual practice for each day of the coming week. For instance, one week it was to praise God each day and to also praise one other person for something specific. Another week it was to pray one of the psalms each day. The year ahead offers so many opportunities to grow in our faith life, and this partnership with Bishop Boyea promises to be fruitful. To register, simply pick up your cellphone and text **ONTHEWAY** to **84576**. Or for more info or to sign-up for an email, visit www.dioceseoflansing.org/on-the-way



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

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK...


- 1) Happy Birthday Fr. Bosco
(Jim & Marja Warner)
- 2) Happy Birthday Fr. Bosco
(Pat Fitzgerald)

Please Pray for...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genny, Debbie, and Julie (Sarah Laskowski's family members) • David Gaylord • Mike Miner and family • Cindy Kelly • Laurie Sanders' son's fiancée's family, especially "Greg" • John Salvatore • The family of Alice Kidd • Ron Mann (and his family) • Neoma Reeter • Josh Zimmer • Marja Warner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Brogley (mother of Martin Brogley) • Connie Achtenberg (daughter of Connie & Jim) • Tom Leib • Jean Duffy and her siblings • Ryan Coulter • Mark Wiedmayer • Jerry Kripas • Joe Kirk • Loretta Widmayer • Joyce Stein • Christy Woody • Paul Whelan • Bruce Sommers
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...and for the repose of the soul of
† Ron Driessche
and of
† Mary Alice Krzyzaniak
and for their grieving loved ones.

To add or remove a name from this prayer list, please email: stmarymanchester2@gmail.com



St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, January 16, 2022

<i>Sunday Env (46)</i>	\$ 2,755.00
<i>Welcome & Loose</i>	196.00
<i>E-Giving (15)</i>	773.23
<i>Utility/Fuel (2)</i>	105.00
<i>E-Giving Utility/Fuel (1)</i>	25.00
<i>Combined toward budget: ...</i> \$ 3,854.23	
<i>Budget goal:</i>	5,300.00
<i>Amt BELOW goal:</i>	- 1,445.77
<i>OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:</i>	
<i>Bldg. & Maint (2)</i>	\$ 100.00
<i>Worldwide Evang (1)</i>	10.00
<i>E-Giving Cathl Relief Serv (1)</i>	25.00
<i>Tornado/Disaster Relief (26)</i>	992.00
<i>Poor Box</i>	212.25
<i>Votive candles</i>	44.00

Think you might be pregnant?
Need Help?

Alternatives to Abortion
Call (800) 712-HELP (4357)

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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