

**The Jubilee Prayer**  
Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have  
given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ,  
our brother,



and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.  
May your grace transform us into tireless  
cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within  
both humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil van-  
quished,  
your glory will shine eternally.  
May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.  
Amen

## ST ROCH CATHOLIC CHURCH

25022 GIBRALTAR RD, FLAT ROCK, MI / 734-782-4471 / STROCH@STROCHFLATROCK.COM

**MAY 18, 2025**

## 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

[Jesus said,] "My children, I will be with you only a little while longer.  
I give you a new commandment: love one another."

- Jn 13:33a, 34a

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

LP1

### **Our Parish Mission Statement**

We, the Catholic-Christian Community of St. Roch Parish, following the work of Jesus Christ, are dedicated to the faith formation, and spiritual growth of our Parish and neighboring communities. As the people of God, we are called through the Holy Spirit to evangelize, to minister, to provide faith-filled experiences of prayer and devotion and to cultivate the Gospel values of Love, Peace and Justice.



FROM OUR HOOD IN THE WOODS  
ON THE ROCH  
The Fifth Sunday of Easter – April 18<sup>th</sup>,  
2025

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,  
One of the first sayings I ever heard Pope Francis say to us as priests, that really stuck in my mind, was what I translated from Pope Francis as: **“PRIESTS, YOU MUST SMELL LIKE YOUR SHEEP!”**

It came from the Chrism Mass at the Vatican from Pope Francis on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013; also an important day for me, since I was ordained a priest on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1992.

From Pope Francis’ homily that day:  
*“The priest who seldom goes out of himself, who anoints little – I won’t say “not at all” because, thank God, the people take the oil from us anyway – misses out on the best of our people, on what can stir the depths of his priestly heart. Those who do not go out of themselves, instead of being mediators, gradually become intermediaries, managers. We know the difference: the intermediary, the manager, “has already received his reward”, and since he doesn’t put his own skin and his own heart on the line, he never hears a warm, heartfelt word of thanks. This is precisely the reason for the dissatisfaction of some, who end up sad – sad priests - in some sense becoming collectors of antiques or novelties, instead of being shepherds living with “the odour of the sheep”. This I ask you: be shepherds, with the “odour of the sheep”, make it real, as shepherds among your flock, fishers of people.”*

This phrase has certainly become part of my own priestly mantra, especially as I tell Becky at the parish offices at OLOW, or other staff members, and sometimes even family: *“Well, time to go: I must go smell like my sheep!”*

This means spending time with God’s People not only in the most important moments of the sacraments and other liturgical moments, but in the everyday events of people’s lives: taking time to have breakfast together... having some coffee and a donut... there are many small and wonderful ways in which that can occur. I reference it and align it to the

2 Corinthians 2:15 scripture verse of “putting on the fragrance of Christ.” (Not always the easiest juxtaposition!)

For me, it relates to where in his autobiography, Pope Francis shares:

*“The culture of encounter requires us to be ready not only to give but also to receive from others, and it encourages us to step out from ourselves, to be pilgrims. But if we give priority to personal encounter, walking together, as well as confronting each other, even with severity, but with respect, then it will be easier to overcome differences later and to leave them behind.”* Then Pope Francis quotes the Brazilian poet and composer, Vinicius de Moraes: **“Life, my friend, is the art of encounter, even when there’s so much discord.”**

Each of the readings this weekend invites us to “step out from ourselves...” to “be pilgrims”.... To give priority to “personal encounter walking together.” TO EMBRACE THE ART OF ENCOUNTER!

The ART OF ENCOUNTER through Paul and Barnabas in the first reading this weekend from the Acts of the Apostles:

*They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying, “It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.”* Having the courage in the art of encounter to undergo hardships... but to persevere!

The ART OF ENCOUNTER in the second reading of the Book of Revelation, between God and His People:

*“Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.”* The encounter of God’s dwelling is with us!!! Not once and a while, or in certain moments... BUT GOD WILL DWELL WITH US AND WE WILL BE HIS PEOPLE!

And the ART OF ENCOUNTER in the Gospel of John is between Jesus and us, as He commissions each of us:

*“I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

One of the chapters in Pope Francis’ autobiography that truly touched a very central part of my heart was Chapter 25, entitled: “I Am Just One step.” In this chapter Pope Francis remarks: **“The**

**Church will go on. I am just one step in its history.”**

Perhaps a most sacred part in the ART OF ENCOUNTER is what he writes at the end of this chapter:

**“We need to be humble, to leave space for the Lord, not of our false securities. Tenderness is not weakness: It is a true force. It is the road that the strongest and bravest men and women have taken. Let us take it, let us fight with tenderness and with courage. May you take it, may you fight with tenderness and with courage... I am just one step.”**

TRULY THE ART OF ENCOUNTER:  
“...If you have love for one another.”

Smell anything? Smell anyone?  
Whoops: time to go “smell like the sheep!”

In the Word, Fr. Bob

Thursday, May 22nd  
**Potluck**  
BRING A DISH TO PASS  
Noon  
St Roch Social Hall

Flat Rock City Wide Garage Sale  
**Saturday & Sunday**  
**May 17th & 18th 9am-4pm**  
Rain or shine; each residence/household must purchase a permit at City Hall; St. Vincent DePaul trucks available for donations both days or until full

Celebration of Marriage

Jessica Martin and Frank Webb warmly invite their St. Roch Parish Family to share in the joy of their wedding ceremony  
**Mass on Saturday, June 14th at 1:30 PM.**  
Your presence would be a true blessing as they begin their life together.

**5th Sunday of Easter / May 18, 2025<sup>o</sup>**

**First Reading:**

And when they arrived, they called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. (Acts 14:27)

**Psalm:**

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (Ps 145)

Or: Alleluia.

**Second Reading:**

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God." (Rv 21:4)

**Gospel:**

I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. (Jn 13:34)

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

The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPi

**Fifth Sunday of Easter (May 17/18)**

In today's Gospel from the evangelist St. John, Jesus presents a new directive to His followers: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. Jesus further declares that everyone will know His disciples because of their love for one another. The Scripture passages from the Acts of the Apostles and Book of Revelation affirm God's presence in the lives of disciples who face trials for practicing their faith. Full discipleship in the Lord requires a total sacrificial love for others. In Unleash the Gospel, Archbishop Vigneron emphasizes: Growing as his disciples demands a daily surrender to the one who loved us and gave his life for us: "I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me" (Gal 2:20) (Read, Unleash the Gospel, Marker 9.2, Grow. <https://www.unleashthegospel.org>). In a spirit of evangelization, disciples who center their lives in Christ give their God-given gifts of prayer, service, and generosity to their parish and their neighbors in need. When determining their weekly financial sacrificial offering to God, faithful stewards give back their "first fruits" to the Lord — not just what remains after their monthly expenses are paid. Remember, God's generosity is never outdone.

**LEST WE FORGET**

Lord, may we remember in prayer, our loved ones. Support them with your Holy Spirit and grant us the courage and grace to embrace your loving ways. With all our heart, strength and love grant them divine consolation and eternal rest.

- David Vecchioni – May 18, 2004*
- Irene Kotula – May 18, 2012*
- Gerald Menard – May 19, 2009*
- Mary Ann Forgach – May 19, 2012*
- Edgar Pierce, II – May 20, 2006*
- Edward Sedliar- May 22, 1995*
- Robert St. Peter- May 22, 1998*
- Peter Gallagher- May 23, 1999*
- Camiel DeWitte, Sr.- May 23, 2002*
- Mary Laverty – May 23, 2010*
- Quinn Wiedbrauk - May 23, 2013*
- Eugene Shabinaw – May 23, 2013*
- Roseann Keenan - May 23, 2022*
- William Blackstone – May 24, 2004*
- William Hebert – May 24, 2005*
- Darren Player – May 24, 2014*

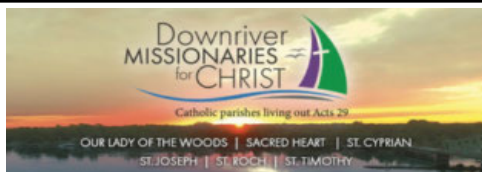
*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen*

**LIVE THE LITURGY -  
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

If you love like me, Jesus tells his disciples, they will know you are mine. We shouldn't leave any room for doubt in the minds of each and every person we encounter. Let the whole world know: we love like Christ, and we belong to Christ. ©LPi

**Readings for the week of May 18, 2025**

- Sunday:** Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (see 1)/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
- Monday:** Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
- Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
- Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8
- Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
- Friday:** Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17
- Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
- Next Sunday:** Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29



**Go Make of All Disciples**

Wow! A Pope from the United States! Although Pope Leo XIV is from Chicago, he has spent much of his life in Peru as a missionary and in other parts of the world. It was wild for me to hear his first homily in the Sistine Chapel beginning in English. He echoed the responsorial Psalm: I will sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done marvelous things. The Lord continues to work marvels in his Church and in the world. Let us see this moment as the Lord working. As our new pope was a missionary in Peru, let us be reminded that we don't have to go to far away lands to be a missionary. To be a missionary is to spread the Gospel. The mission fields are in our family gatherings, in our workplaces and neighborhoods, in our schools, and yes even in our Churches. It's not once evangelized, always evangelized. This new pope is already reminding me of that reality. I myself need to be continually renewed in my faith, in my commitment to follow Jesus. I remind myself so I can remind others. Let us set out in our mission fields, but also pray for the one here on earth that leads and guides us in that mission, the Vicar of Christ, Pope Leo XIV. Please pray this prayer for him:

O God, who in your providential design willed that your Church be built upon blessed Peter, whom you set over the other Apostles, look with favor on our new Pope Leo XIV and grant that he, whom you have made Peter's successor, may be for your people a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and of communion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.  
God bless,  
Sean Calvin  
Director of Discipleship Formation



**OLOW Rosary Makers**

We invite you to join us for fun & fellowship. We meet 2nd Mon of month from 1-3 pm in social hall room #2. Not creative, that's ok. You can also help by: Cutting string, sorting beads, gluing & bagging. Any questions, contact Susanne at (734) 558-6087. Look forward to seeing you there!

To the best of our ability we try to create a flawless bulletin for your enjoyment and to keep you up to date of the happenings of the parish. Being human and with time limitations, we know some mistakes have been and will be made: we trust that you will understand and forgive.

COLLECTION 05-04-25	
Registered Families	594
Sunday Envelopes	117
Envelopes	\$ 6,379.00
Online ()	\$
Loose	\$ 2,083.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,462.00</b>
Supplemental Income	
Easter	\$ 50.00
Maintenance	\$ 226.00
Online ()	\$ .00
Miscellaneous	
(Votives/Masses/Funerals)	\$ 250.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 10.00
Christmas	\$ 5.00
Ascension	\$ 10.00
<b>Total Sunday &amp; Suplm't</b>	<b>\$ 9,033.00</b>
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$ 7,740.00</b>
<b>(Under) Over Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,100.01</b>
St. Vincent DePaul (45)	\$ 1,008.50
On-line ()	\$
Peter's Pence	\$ 20.00
<b>THANK YOU!</b>	

**Are you a Parishioner?**  
 This time of year, we frequently get calls from people who have been asked to be a confirmation sponsor or a godparent. If you are not receiving mail from us, you are not a registered parishioner. In addition to envelopes we do full parish mailing for Lent and Advent. If you do not use envelopes for over a year, and do not notify us of the reason, we have to believe you are no longer attending. This is NOT about money. You can turn in an empty envelope, they are recorded in the system to show us you are coming to Mass. If you know someone who is homebound or shut-in, please have them contact the parish office so we can make that notation in our data base and possibly set up home visits for them. If you have a child living at home that is 21 or older, they should be registered on their own and using their own envelopes. Attending Sunday Mass is both our privilege and an obligation of the Catholic faith.

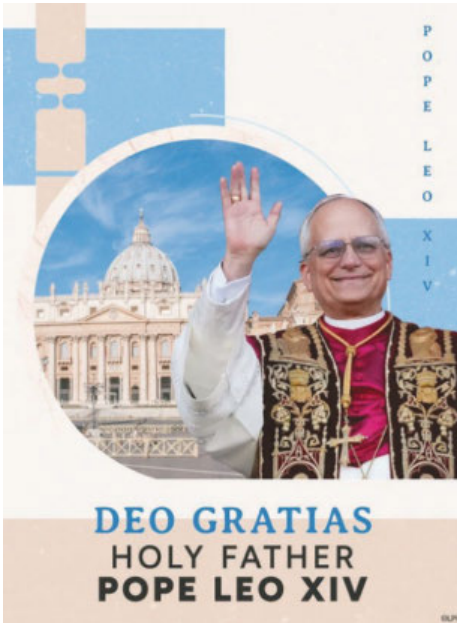
Mass Schedule	
<b>Saturday, May 17th 2025</b>	
Armed Forces Day	
2:30 pm	Reconciliation
<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Nancy Forbes</b>
Req. by	Paula Kennedy
<b>Sunday, May 18th, 2025</b>	
<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Ruth Mangin</b>
Req. by	Mike & Mary Bousamra
Calendar of Events	
<b>Monday, May 19th, 2025</b>	
Meals on Wheels	
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Deceased Member of St. Roch Parish Family</b>
	Intercessory Prayer Group
5-8 pm	Quilters
<b>Tuesday, May 20th, 2025</b>	
St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest	
Meals on Wheels	
<b>Wednesday, May 21st, 2025</b>	
St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs	
Meals on Wheels	
1-3 pm	Bible Study & Sharing
5-7 pm	Flat Rock Community Meals
<b>Thursday, May 22nd, 2025</b>	
St. Rita of Cascia, Religious	
Meals on Wheels	
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Deceased Members of St. Roch Parish Family</b>
Noon	Senior Luncheon
1-3:00 pm	Planning
6:30 pm	FOP Stephen Ministries
<b>Friday, May 23rd, 2025</b>	
<b>Office Closed</b>	
7:30 pm	AA
Mass Schedule	
<b>Saturday, May 24th 2025</b>	
2:30 pm	Reconciliation
<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Virginia Wegienka</b>
Req. by:	Tim
	<b>Gordon &amp; Sylvia Cook</b>
Req. by:	Daughter
<b>Sunday, May 25th, 2025</b>	
<b>6th Sunday of Easter</b>	
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Josephine Zmuda</b>
Req. by	Family

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?**  
**CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**  
**Good and Evil**

**Question:**  
 If God is good, why is there evil in the world?

**Answer:**  
 The problem of evil is perplexing. If God is all-powerful and all-good, why doesn't He stop bad things from happening? He must either not be all-powerful, or perhaps He's not very good after all. Human beings have faced the possibility of evil since the very beginning of our existence. In granting us free will, God gives us the ability to make free choices. God does not force us into moral perfection. We are not forced to love Him or to love our neighbor. We must make the decision ourselves. This means, of course, that we have the ability to choose against love.

One small decision of selfishness, jealousy, or pride may not seem so bad. But every decision — good or bad — is like a stone dropped into a still pond. The ripples extend much farther than the original stone. When decisions against love begin to compound, they affect families, neighborhoods, and nations. This is all the more reason for Christians to be faithful to our baptismal call to love one another as Christ has loved us! ©LPi



**DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED! –**  
**CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH**

**Hail Mary – May 18, 2025**  
**Hail Mary, Explained**  
 The words of the Hail Mary — undoubtedly the most recognizable Catholic prayer after the Lord's Prayer — are deeply rooted in scripture. The opening lines of the prayer are taken from the words of the angel Gabriel at the Annunciation — "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee." This line is known as the Angelic Salutation. The following words — "Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus" — echo the sentiments expressed by Elizabeth at the Visitation.

The Angelic Salutation is regarded as the earliest devotional prayer to Mary, since it forms the very first words spoken to her as the Mother of God, but Catholics did not begin to utilize the Hail Mary prayer in its current form until around the 11th century.

An in-depth explanation of each line of this prayer is provided in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2676-2677. ©LPi

Are you thinking of becoming a Catholic?

Order of Christian Initiation

Call Pat Butler at  
 Our Lady of the Woods  
 671-5101 x102

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Paul Adams	Mary Ellen Maley
Molly Assad	Dcn John Malloy
Ashley Bogin	Isabel Metty
Krista Bonesteel	Michael Michalak
Amy Bowling	Jack McCrary
Carla Brown	Elaine Nasal
Noni Bulman	Pat Nenswitz
Thomas Camarda	Harold Peterson
David Coffey	Nick Peterson
Dorothy Comorski	Barb Pierce
Carol Cooper	Barbara Pietrzak
Aaron Deskins	Eileen Przybylo
Joyce Downey	Dorothy Ransford
Marlene Elwell	Paul Ransford
Christopher M. Fashing	Jerry Rodzewicz
	Brenda Roll
Lori Ferguson	Kevin Rzeppa
Sharon Fletcher	Meghan Salter
Rick Fournier	Pamela Sanderson
Paul Gagne	Donna Scollack
Carol Gavin	Tanya Setser
Diane Griffith	Hunter Simadon
Louise Griffiths	Jaxon Sladich
Rev. Rick Hartmann	Rick Spears
Michael Janis	Margaret Stamper
Raymond Kay	Bruce Stevenson
Cheryl Knapp	Carol Stoughton
Cathleen Kornacki	Tom & Susan Strong
Peter Kronk	
Doris Lafferty	Shirley Stuba
Ryan Lafferty	Joshua Tate
Tony Lloyd	Greg Tinsler
Barbara Leanord	Pam Wegienka
Judy Lucido	Mary Wellman
Frank & Linda Mackay	Ron Zarenski
	David Zurawski, Sr.

... and the men and women in "blue"

**PRAYER FOR MILITARY**

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

Please keep in prayer ALL the men & women serving in the military & coast-guard. Especially these members of our Parish Community:

**Airman 1st Class Ethan Cooper;  
Mark Cordovado, First Lieutenant,  
Yahir Macias, Donald Puruleski,  
Army.**

Please let us know of current personnel in the Armed Services.

TIME	LECTOR/EM
<b>MAY 3</b> 4:00 pm	<b>SATURDAY</b> Dan Harnum, Pat Kehoe/ Paula Puruleski, Mary Kehoe, Pat Vassel
<b>MAY 4</b> 10:00 am	<b>SUNDAY</b> Mike Hojnowski, Ed Suchyta/Jane & Joel Arredondo, Tony Figuera
<b>MAY 10</b> 4:00 pm	<b>SATURDAY</b> Pam Munroe, Chris Snow /Virginia Brown, Donna Bock, Debbie Weise
<b>MAY 11</b> 10:00 am	<b>SUNDAY</b> Kevin Martin, Tim Stokes/ Lilli & Jessica Martin, Val Peterson
<b>MAY 17</b> 4:00 pm	<b>SATURDAY</b> Chris Hensley, Mike Holtschlag/Sue Holtschlag Pam Munroe, David Kiluk
<b>MAY 18</b> 10:00 am	<b>SUNDAY</b> Lana Cooper, Joan Kowalski /Greg & Sara Tackett, <b>Volunteer</b>
<b>MAY 24</b> 4:00 pm	<b>SATURDAY</b> Pat Kehoe, Dan Harnum/Theresa McElroy, Mary Kehoe, Pat Vassel
<b>MAY 25</b> 10:00 am	<b>SUNDAY</b> Rich Duzzi, Gabe Tamburino/Ed Suchyta, Tony Figuera, Val Peterson
<b>MAY 31</b> 4:00 pm	<b>SATURDAY</b> Gayle Malloy, Chris Snow/Paula Puruleski, Jason McElroy, David Kiluk
<b>JUNE 1</b> 10:00 am	<b>SUNDAY</b> Jessica Phillips, Mike Hojnowski/Fio & Virg Valmassoi, Janet Villag

**Calling All Campers Ages 8 to 14, St Roch St. Vincent de Paul Conference** is



blessed to share an opportunity with families struggling financially or suffering some other hardship, with children between the age of 8 and 14.

If this applies, we'd like to offer your child (ren) the opportunity to attend Camp Ozanam this summer for free. Camp Ozanam, located on the shores of Lake Huron just north of Lexington, MI, provides children the chance to experience a free week of summer residential camping. Children will enjoy the great outdoors, making new friends and life-long memories this summer at Camp Ozanam!

Please leave a message for Larry Has-sell at 734-778-2998 and we will return your call with more information. Thank you and God Bless.

**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

**1st Reading Question:**

Despite facing many hardships, Paul and Barnabas succeeded in preaching the good news of Jesus crucified and risen from the dead. How do you work through personal setbacks?

**2nd Reading Question:**

At the start of his final vision, John sees the age to come in which God comes to dwell with his people on earth and all tears, pain and even death itself is gone. Who in your life needs to hear this incredible message of hope?

**Gospel:**

Jesus modeled for his disciples how to love one another. Do you have friends or co-workers who show you how to love others? ©LPi



Attention Plarners and Plarner wanna be: We are meeting on **Thursday** afternoons from 1-3pm in the Education Center. We could really use your help!

**Stephen Ministry** is a high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties. Some difficulties include death of a loved one, loss of job, divorce, etc. To inquire or begin receiving pastoral care from a Stephen Minister, please email fopstephenministry@gmail.com or call 734-818-3005 and one of our Stephen Leaders will get back to you.

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC  
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR  
ORDINARY MOMENTS ©LPi**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Mini Reflection:** When we love someone, we want to be associated with them. We want to be recognized as theirs somehow. And if we love Christ, we should want to be known as belonging to him. We should want those who see us to know we are his.

**Resembling Jesus**

I once wrote an article about several women residents of a local nursing home. In researching the piece, I discovered that they had grown up in the same neighborhood as my grandmother, and that one of the women was, in fact, my grandmother's dearest childhood friend.

When I visited this woman to take her photograph, she took a long look at my face, and I could see in her eyes that she was reaching back in her memory across the years.

She said: "You resemble her."

I wept on the way home.

My grandmother died when I was nine, and for the last several years of her life she suffered from Alzheimer's disease. I have always deeply grieved the time we lost, the relationship we could have had. I have hazy fragments of memory from before her illness that lead me to believe we loved each other very much.

Being told I look like my grandmother by someone who knew her well — being identified as belonging to her in some way — was one of the more beautiful things to happen to me.

When we love someone, we want to be associated with them. We want to be recognized as theirs somehow. And if we love Christ, we should want to be known as belonging to him. We should want those who see us to know we are his.

The only way we can resemble Jesus is through love. It is his most recognizable quality, his most famous trait. This is how all will know that you are my disciples.

As Catholics, we are always talking about finding ways to live our faith boldly, unapologetically, publicly. Good — we should! But if we want people to know we are Catholic, we should love them. Bravely. Recklessly. Sacrificially.

As he loves us. ©LPi

**YOU ARE  
Welcome Here**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOUR-  
AGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING  
OF SCRIPTURE -**

**May 18, 2025**

**5th Sunday of Easter**

**John 13:31-35**

I've always found it amazing that Jesus never says to his disciples the straightforward and bumper stickery words "I love you" or "I will always love you" (a la Dolly Parton's song). Why doesn't Jesus say, "I love you"?

Well, actually he does, but in particular ways. He says, "As the Father loves me, so I love you" (John 15:9) thereby rooting his love for us in the space of the Holy Trinity. This week he commands, "Love another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). He presents his love for us as a completed action which continues into the present moment. How has he loved us? By becoming one of us, one with us, and finally giving his life for us in his suffering on the cross. We weren't there when he did that, but neither were his Apostles (except one). Still, that action is his great "I love you" to us.

His love is also hedged in a command: "Love one another." So how can we practically follow it? The great St. John XXIII wrote in his diary that each day he followed this rule: "Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it." The hidden nature of a good deed is a sign that it is truly loving. This week, take on St. John XXIII's practical method of following Jesus' great commandment of love. It's a splendid way to say, "I love you."

— Father John Muir ©LPi

**Prayer of Christian Love**

Fill our hearts, O Lord, with Your love, the deepest, richest, purest love any of us has ever known. May Your love be our standard for love. May Your love be what we bring and communicate to the world. May Your love define us as Christians, made in Your image and likeness. Amen. ©LPi

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

In the Gospel today, Jesus says "I give you a new commandment: love one another... This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you show that you have love for one another, especially those suffering and poor, and that indeed you are the disciple of Jesus.

Are you a family who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. St. Roch's Conference number is 734-778-2998.

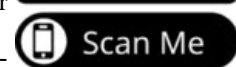
**"Stitching Love and  
Prayers: Join Our  
Prayer Quilt Ministry.**

**Monday, May 19th  
5-8 pm**



The St. Roch Prayer Quilt Ministry invites you to visit the website address or scan the QR code below to request a quilt for someone who is sick, struggling, or in need of comfort and prayer. When you see a prayer quilt in the gathering space, please pause for a moment to say a prayer and tie a knot—each knot is a symbol of love and support for the person receiving the quilt. <https://forms.gle/eY5NEnFoBTDXzBHG9>

We need quilters, of course, but we also need individuals who can hand sew, help lay out quilt pieces, or assist with typing and computer tasks. No matter your experience, we'll find a meaningful role for you!



If you're interested in learning more, email Judi at [JudiPershing@yahoo.com](mailto:JudiPershing@yahoo.com).

Come be part of something beautiful—stitching love, hope, and prayer into every quilt!

**Father Solanus Casey Guild**

The last Holy Family Circle of the Father Solanus Guild meeting before summer break will be on Wednesday, May 28, at 7pm at Our Lady of the Scapular Social Hall, 2609 Tenth St., Wyandotte. We say the rosary, have a brief meeting and enjoy refreshments.

Our Father Solanus Prayer Circle still needs more "pray-ers". Our Circle is organized into small groups, and we pray when our individual group captain calls us in response to a request for prayers. We have all probably asked others to pray for our intentions, of course. As a prayer group, however, we ask Blessed Solanus, who stands before God, to pray for our intentions as well. For more information or to request prayers, please call the Prayer Circle Captain, Pam Munroe, 734.778.1417.

"Save the Date" -- Solanus Guild Annual Tour and Day of Reflection / Confirmed date is Wednesday, June 25, 2025 / 9am – 3pm. Members of Guild / \$35. Non-members of Guild / \$45. Carpooling will be available. Please call Rosalie Shimkus for reservations – 734.281.8520.

**SOUTHERN DOWNRIVER VICARIATE PARISHES WITHIN A FAMILY #3**

FR. MARC GAWRONSKI, MODERATOR, [fathermarc@me.com](mailto:fathermarc@me.com)

Church	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Our Lady of the Woods	9 am & 11 am	9 am	9 am			9 am	4 pm
Sacred Heart	11 am & 5 pm	12 pm		8:30 am (chapel)		12 pm (First Friday)	
St. Cyprian	9 am		9 am		9 am		5 pm
St. Joseph	8:30 am & 10:30 am		8:30 am			8:30 am	4:30 pm
St. Roch	10:00 am	9 am			9 am		4 pm

**Our Lady of the Woods** – 21892 Gudith Rd, Woodhaven, 734-671-5101; Rev. Bob Johnson  
**Sacred Heart** – 21599 Parke Lane, Grosse Ile, 734-676-1378; **Sue Biedlingmaier, Director of Mission Support**, [sue@sacredheartgi.com](mailto:sue@sacredheartgi.com)  
**St. Cyprian** – 13249 Pennsylvania Rd, Riverview, 734-283-1366  
**St. Joseph** – 2565 Third St., Trenton, 734-676-9082; **Sean Calvin, Director of Discipleship**, [scalvin@stjosephstrenton.com](mailto:scalvin@stjosephstrenton.com)  
**St. Roch** – 25022 Gibraltar Rd., Flat Rock, 734-782-4471

PARISH STAFF (734 782-4471) Office Hours M-F 9-12 and 1-4

mail: [stroch@strochflatrock.com](mailto:stroch@strochflatrock.com) Facebook.com/strochflatrock; web page [strochflatrock.com](http://strochflatrock.com)

Priest in Solidum: Rev. Bob Johnson, SVD

Weekend Help—Rev. Gregory Banazak

Office Manager/Bookkeeper/Bulletin Editor:

Mrs. Theresa Blevins; [griffint@strochflatrock.com](mailto:griffint@strochflatrock.com)

Faith Formation: Julie Dzanbazzoff

[faithformation@strochflatrock.com](mailto:faithformation@strochflatrock.com)

Minister of Music: Mr. Christian Fisher

Maintenance: Mr. Eric Crock

**ST ROCH FINANCE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Connie Gladhill; Rolland Cooper; Kathy Tomaszewski

**ST ROCH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Diane Hepner; 284-379-5112 ; Val Peterson; 734-787-1611

**CHRISTIAN SERVICE** - Mark Hepner - 248-219-1323

**OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

St. Vincent DePaul—734-778-2998

Meals on Wheels—734-789-7161

Stephen Ministries—[fopstephenministry@gmail.com](mailto:fopstephenministry@gmail.com)

Sponsor of the Week: **PT Nails & Spa**

This bulletin is a very integral part of our Parish. It comes to us cost free because of those generous people who advertise on the business page on the back. Please show your support by patronizing these businesses.

**PROTECTION YOU CAN DEPEND ON**  
 Cheryl Cybulla Savage  
**KSP Insurance Agency, Inc.**  
 1420 Ford Ave., Wyandotte  
**734-285-5600**  
[www.kspinsurance.com](http://www.kspinsurance.com)

**catholicmatch**<sup>®</sup>  
 Michigan  
[CatholicMatch.com/MI](http://CatholicMatch.com/MI)



**FREE AD DESIGN**  
 with purchase of this space  
**CALL 800-477-4574**



**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust  
**833-287-3502**

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



**SIBLEY GARDENS**  
 Downrivers Favorite Italian Steakhouse  
**734-285-1707**  
 916 West Jefferson Trenton, MI 48183



**WE'RE HIRING!**  
 AD SALES EXECUTIVES  
 BE YOURSELF.  
 BRING YOUR PASSION.  
 WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community


Contact us at [careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com) or [www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)




**SUPPORT OUR PARISH**



**WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!**  
 They allow us to print this bulletin. Thank you!



**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
 Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Sherri Fischhaber**

[fischhaber@4LPi.com](mailto:fischhaber@4LPi.com) • (800) 477-4574 x6553



**GEE & ISSLER** Est. 1949  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.  
734-284-1224  
744 VINEWOOD • WYANDOTTE, MI 48192  
www.geeandmissler.com



26307 Huron River Dr.  
Flat Rock, MI 48134  
734-782-2755

**BOBCEAN**  
FUNERAL HOME

FUNERALS • CREMATION SERVICES • MONUMENTS

BobceanFuneralHome.com • bobceanfth@gmail.com



1142 Monroe Ave.  
Carleton, MI 48117  
734-654-2000

**JABRO**  
CARPET ONE  
FLOOR & HOME®

Carpet | Hardwood

Waterproof Vinyl | Area Rugs

13460 Northline Rd | Southgate

734-285-0110

JabroCarpetOne.com

Financing ALWAYS Available

Ask us about Parishioner Discounts

- Short Term Rehab -



Downriver's 5 Star  
Medicare Facility!  
5 consecutive years

Great Staff!  
Great Care!



**Belle Fountain**  
Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Drop in anytime and meet our staff!  
www.bellefountain.com

Cardiac | Respiratory | Orthopedic Rehab  
18591 Quarry | Riverview | MI 48193

734.282.2100

you might not know  
we have life, home,  
auto and business  
insurance. now you do.  
simple human sense

**MERCURE**  
INSURANCE  
ROCKWOOD  
mercureagency.com  
**Auto-Owners**  
INSURANCE  
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**

**Expo Nails Complete Nail Care**  
• Acrylic Nails • Shellac Manicure  
• Pink & White Nails • Spa Pedicure  
• Gel Nails • Waxing  
Parishioner (734) 782-2203  
Mon.-Fri. 9:30am - 7:30pm • Sat. 9:30am - 7pm  
Sun. 11:30 am - 5pm • Walk-ins Welcome  
26606 Telegraph Rd., Flat Rock

**EDWARD J. NYKIEL**  
GENERAL PRACTICE ATTORNEY

Drunk Driving & License Restoration  
All Criminal & Traffic • Divorce & Custody  
Elder Law & Probate • Business & Real Estate  
Personal Injury • Trusts & Wills

Former District Court Judge  
734-775-5990

2836 W. Jefferson Ave., Trenton, MI 48183



**Dr. Roseanne Rayyan**  
21969 Huron River Dr. #1  
Rockwood, MI 48173  
ROCKWOOD DENTAL Welcoming  
New Patients!  
734-379-9322  
rockwoodfamilydental.com

Place Your Ad Here and  
Support our Parish!

Instantly create and  
purchase an ad with

AD  
CREATOR  
STUDIO



4lpi.com/adcreator

**Want \$100?**

Become a member today!!

Apply and be approved for a Michigan Legacy CU

Credit Card\* or a \$5,000 loan

and we will give you \$100 - it's that easy!  
Apply Today!

www.michiganlegacycu.org  
call 800-552-8643  
text 248-409-3150



\*Credit card must be activated and remain open  
for six (6) months to qualify.  
This offer is available for new members only.



**Molnar**  
FUNERAL HOMES

SOUTHGATE CHAPEL - BROWNSTOWN CHAPEL - NIXON CHAPEL - THE THON CENTER  
734-692-1515

**THE ON-SITE CREMATORY**

A SUBSIDIARY OF ISA CREMATION, INC.  
LOCATED IN MOLNAR FUNERAL HOMES - BROWNSTOWN CHAPEL

YOU WILL HAVE PEACE OF MIND KNOWING THAT

YOUR LOVED ONE WILL NEVER LEAVE OUR CARE

MOLNARFUNERALHOMES.COM

Celebrate the life Cherish the memories.



(734) 671-5400

• Allen Park • Trenton  
• Rockwood • Monroe

martenson.com



**mClean LAUNDRY**  
Laundromat & Drop Off Services

32157 Fort Rd, Rockwood  
Open 24 Hours, 7 Days a Week

28365 Telegraph Rd, Flat Rock

Drop-Off Service \$1.79/lb this Location Only

**Cleanest Laundromats  
Downriver**

(734) 627-6008

mcleanlaundry.com

¿QUIERES PROTECCIÓN,  
PERMISO Y PAPELES®?



¡Yo quiero que el próximo  
MILAGRO SEA EL TUYO!™

ESCANEA y AGENDA  
tu consulta.

Los resultados varían. Se requiere una consulta para determinar si  
su caso califica. Esto tiene finalidad meramente informativa y no  
constituye asesoría legal. El uso de la palabra milagro no garantiza,  
promete, ni garantiza el resultado de su caso, ni implica que la abogada  
Alexandra pueda realmente hacer milagros.

Abogada Alexandra  
Abogada de Inmigración

LLAMA AHORA AL  
(269) 476 4040

**FREEMAN'S**  
734-284-6013  
Lawn & Landscaping LLC

Complete Lawn Care - Fertilization Program - Maintenance Packages  
www.freemanslawn.com

**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL

Our Lady of Victory Council • #5446

Serving St. Mary OLTA and St. Roch

Consider joining today

Email us at MD5446@mikofc.org



**KRZYSKE  
BROTHERS  
COMPANY, INC.**

Waltz - Carleton - Flat Rock  
Hardware - Lumber - Propane - Feed

734-654-2200  
www.krzyskebrothers.com



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

15-0705