



SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

The members of St. Joan of Arc Parish are disciples of Jesus Christ, who recognize God's love for the world & are empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel to all people through joyful worship, life-long education, compassionate service, responsible stewardship, & active community living.

~ Mission Statement - Pentecost 1998 ~

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23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:33b-34

PARISH CENTER
22412 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528
Website: www.sjascscs.org
E-mail: sjainfo@sjascscs.org

SCHOOL
22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-775-8370
Fax: 586-447-3574
Website: www.stjoan.net
E-mail: info@stjoan.net

**FAITH AND FAMILY
FORMATION OFFICE**
22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-772-1282
Fax: 586-775-8374
E-mail: repopffice@sjascscs.org

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

Phone: 586-777-3670
Fax: 586-774-5528

School

Phone: 586-775-8370
Fax: 586-447-3574

Faith Formation

Phone: 586-772-1282
Fax: 586-775-8374

Pastor

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin
gmbugarin@sjascs.org

Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone
dciaffone@sjascs.org

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net

Associate Pastor

Fr. Andrew Dawson
adawson@sjascs.org

Principal

Amy Pattie
apattie@stjoan.net

Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
khass@sjascs.org

Non-Resident

Associate Pastor:
Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net

Exceptional Children
TBD

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz
tstrasz@sjascs.org

Music Director

Catherine Thomas
cthomas@sjascs.org

Youth Group

Linda Lietaert
llietaert@stjoan.net

Deacon Dom Pastore
dpastore@sjascs.org



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 pm

Holy Day Masses

Vigil Mass: (evening prior) 7:00 pm
7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Saturdays 11:00am-12:00pm
In the
Sister Carol Center

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7a mass
outside in the school courtyard
(weather permitting).

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center is open
Monday - Thursday from 8:30am-5pm
Friday from 8:30-4pm

Mass intentions and most services can be done in person or by
calling us at #586-777-3670 during these hours.

Our after-hours emergency number - #586-777-1342.

Baptisms: Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out
the Baptism request form. You will be contacted to make further
arrangements based on submission of that form.

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center
at least six months prior to the desired date. Pre-marriage series
required.

Registration: It is very important that every family and inde-
pendent adult be registered in the Church in order to keep our
records and mailings current. Please contact the Parish Office to
register at your earliest opportunity #586-777-3670.

RCIA: Please call the Parish Center #586-777-3670

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc,
please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone
OR

By calling us at #586-777-3670 during office hours.

Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Live Stream Broadcasts have become a standard part
of our celebrations at St Joan of Arc. This has in-
creased our mass participation at daily and weekend
masses. It has also allowed many of our parishioners to
stay in touch with their faith community remotely.

Weekdays - 7am Mass (Monday thru Friday)

Saturdays - 4pm & 6pm Masses

Sundays - 8am, 10am, 12pm Masses

Thursdays - 7pm Holy Hour

**Go to: livestream.stjoan.church to watch all live
streaming and to view archived celebrations.**



When Technology Backfires: As I've mentioned over the past several weeks, my family and I have spent the last month clearing out my

mom's condo so that some much-needed renovations could take place. My parents moved into the condo in the early nineties, and they haven't touched it or upgraded anything since then. SO, it was time to "freshen" it up a bit.

In anticipation of the work, we've been going through a bunch of junk in the basement and throwing out a ton of stuff. We thought a bit of clearing would be great, and then we only had to move things to the center of the rooms to get things ready for the renovation work. But then the contractor dropped a bombshell on us. He wanted us to empty the condo as best we could so they could come in and work unhindered. EMPTY. THE. CONDO? You've got to be kidding? UGH! Believe me, the EMPTY THE CONDO experience will generate a few TALLer Tales articles. This article is only ONE of those stories!

Emptying the condo and moving things into a storage unit has given us the chance to look through everything and toss a ton of stuff. It's also allowed my mom to give away a few things. One more prominent item leaving the condo was a curio cabinet that my sister Jackie said she would love to have at her house. So my mom told Jackie it was now hers.

Jackie was excited to be the new owner of this curio cabinet. She knew exactly where it would land in her house. She just had to figure out how to tell my brother-in-law Lonnie they were now the proud owners of a new curio cabinet. I've been around enough with a mom and my sisters, and then having an office filled with wives that "sneaking" things into a house can be a full-time challenge. But sneaking in a curio cabinet could prove to be quite complicated.

On the day all of this was taking place, Lonnie was out having dinner with some friends, so he wasn't at the condo to watch all this unfold ... so we thought. I told Jackie I would help load the curio cabinet into her car, and then she could break the news to Lonnie when she got home.

So Jackie, our niece McKenzie, and I gently maneuvered the curio cabinet out of the condo, through the garage and into the back of her car. I thought I had accurately measured the thing to make sure it fit, but I was off a bit. So, it took some time to move her front seat forward enough before we could push it into place and close the hatch. Eventually, it all worked, and the curio cabinet was now secure in Jackie's car.

As Jackie was pulling out of my mom's driveway, she got a call from Lonnie. He wanted to know what the big thing was we were putting into the back of her car. Jackie was stunned. "How in the world did you know we put something into the back of my car?" "Well," Lonnie answered, "I was waiting here at the restaurant for my buddies to show up and decided to check out mom's garage ring camera to see what was happening at the condo. That's when I saw you guys struggling to put something into the back of the car. So, what's coming to our house now?" Who would have thought he was watching all of this unfold. The timing was impeccable! We all had a good laugh over this one. I guess my technology backfired on me a bit. But at least Jackie didn't have to break the news now about the curio cabinet when she got home. So much for trying to sneak this one into the house.

"The devil loves noise; Christ looks for silence." I often have this quote on the front sign. The quote is attributed to St. Ambrose. Yes, the devil loves noise. With lots of noise, the devil is able to complicate or even cease our conversation with God. Christ looks for silence so he can enter into dialogue with us.

Silence has become somewhat of a lost reality in our lives. There is noise everywhere! Unfortunately, we have become so accustomed to noise, and lots of it, that we have grown uncomfortable with silence and even stillness, for that matter. Prayer, which is an essential ingredient to the Christian life, REQUIRES both silence and stillness. I believe that because we have grown so uncomfortable with silence and stillness, many have difficulties then entering into any form of prayer. It's not that they don't want to pray; they don't know how to deal with the silence and the stillness.

Cardinal Dolan, in his book *Advent Reflections*, quotes a Cistercian monk and spiritual writer, John Walgrave, who makes an interesting claim about our

modern society: "You must keep in mind that the contemporary world presents a conspiracy against the silence that is essential for the development of the interior life."

"Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10) the psalmist says. We also have the voice of God at the transfiguration telling us, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." As we enter into the fall with all the uptick in activity the fall brings, may we find time, schedule time, to be still in the presence of God, and do all that we can to listen to him! We will be better people because of that silence and stillness before God!

Are you interested in being baptized or converting to Catholicism? Are you an adult who needs to be confirmed? If your answer is YES to either question, please leave a message at the Parish Center (586-777-3670 or by email at rcia@sjascs.org) for information about our forthcoming RCIA classes. The RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. While the title would imply it's only for adults, a fair number of children go through the program too but on a different track designed for them.

One of the concerns people often raise is the time commitment. Don't worry about the time commitment. While we have a formal schedule, we know that special arrangements have to be made from time to time because of work or home obligations. So, if you are interested in learning more, please talk to a pastoral staff member before or after mass or call the Parish Center for more information.

Labor Day Mass: We will still have our usual 7 AM Mass on Monday morning. You also have the option of attending Mass at St. Lucy Parish at 9 AM with other parishioners from our parish, St. Lucy, and Our Lady Star of the Sea Parishes. Please join us as we pray that the labor we undertake "may bring progress in this life and by [God's] favor, advance the spread of the Kingdom of Christ (Collect, Mass for the Sanctification of Human Labor)."

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers. Happy Labor Day!

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

Sept 5, 2021

WATCH

NETWORK OF FREEDOM

Set in France at the beginning of World War II, this inspiring film narrates the heroic work of Sister Helene Studler, the Daughter of Charity who saved the lives of thousands of French refugees by preventing them from becoming prisoners of the Nazi forces, or freeing those who were captured. Among those she saved were many illustrious characters including the future Prime Minister of France, François de Mitterrand.



LEARN

FORMED NOW: THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

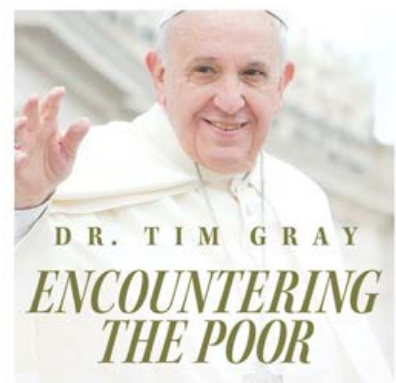


As we celebrate the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary this week, listen as Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn discuss the traditions surrounding Mary's life and how her life is a model of humility for Christians.

LISTEN

ENCOUNTERING THE POOR: BIBLICAL ROOTS FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING BY TIM GRAY

Dr. Gray expounds upon the teachings of the Catholic Church surrounding social justice in light of Sacred Scripture. Discover how social justice in regards to the poor is not one small piece in the puzzle, but instead frames the entire mosaic of Scripture.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

St. Joan of Arc
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**Silent and Live
Auction & Dinner**



THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE GALA THIS YEAR:

- We're returning to **LOCHMOOR CLUB** in **GPW!** And we've shifted this year's event to the Fall.
- The Gala is our largest fundraiser to benefit the school. **Attend or buy raffle tickets** to support this event.
- **We need your donations.** Contact the School or Parish Center to learn how to donate Silent and Live Auction items.
- **There's a spot for you.** Join the Gala Planning Committee or volunteer to help the night of the Gala.

CONTACT US:

Pam Graskewicz (pgraskewicz@hotmail.com) or Matt Wyszczelski (hfd75@aol.com)

We ENCOURAGE everyone to dress in your favorite Bavarian attire for this year's Gala...

BEST OUTFIT CONTEST!

Barrels of fun for 15 Years!!!

OCTOBER 16, 2021 @ LOCHMOOR CLUB



 **St. Joan^{of} Arc**

Proudly introduces

Family Faith Formation

**LEARN MORE
AND REGISTER**

at sjascs.org/faith-formation

*This new and exciting program
designed especially for families
starts the first week in October.*

**Contact Kristine Hass a khass@sjascs.org
or 586-772-1282 with questions**

**for all parish families with
children in grades K-8**

Blood Donors are Essential



St. Joan of Arc will be sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive next **Sunday, September 12th, from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm** in the Emmaus Hall.

If you are a regular donor, we thank you and hope to see you there. If you've never given before, it takes a little over an hour to donate and can save many lives.

The American Red Cross will **not** be taking walk-ins and you **must** have an appointment.

To make an appointment, log on to [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org)

(sponsor code: **stjoanblooddrive**) or call John Staper-fenne at 248-789-8274.

Please help save a life and become a Red Cross Blood Donor!

Thank you from St. Basil the Great



The St. Basil rummage sale committee wishes to thank all of those who helped to make our 2021 Rummage Sale a huge success!

This includes those who donated their items, including the parishioners of our surrounding parishes, the men who did the heavy lifting, our volunteers who worked tirelessly to organize and price everything, those who came to shop and mostly God for sending all of these wonderful people to help us in our efforts!

We were thankful to finally have a community event again and look forward to next year's sale!

Thank you again,

The St. Basil Rummage Sale Committee

Light of the Spirit Prayer Group



2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at

St Basil the Great
Community Room
22851 Lexington Avenue
Eastpointe, MI 48021

We pray the Rosary @ 6:30 pm, followed by a meeting at 7pm.

For those wanting individual prayers please be there between 6:30 – 6:55 pm

We hope that you can join us!



OUR LADY
STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL

GATHER UNDER THE STARS:
**FOOD TRUCKS +
RAFFLE**



- FOOD TRUCKS FROM THE METRO DETROIT AREA
- REFRESHMENTS
- FALL ACTIVITIES
- CATCH A LUCKY STAR RAFFLE

**OCTOBER 9
5:00 - 8:00 PM**

VISIT US AT [STARSCHOOLGROSSEPOINTE.ORG](https://www.STARSCHOOLGROSSEPOINTE.ORG)

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, September 6th



7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, September 7th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Faith Formation Core Team Mtg.

Wednesday, September 8th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Funeral for David Pochmara

Thursday, September 9th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 pm Holy Hour (Praise and Worship)
Live Streamed

Friday, September 10th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 am Funeral for Patricia Higgins

Saturday, September 11th

10:00 am Funeral for Susan Kafka

11:00 am Reconciliation

12:30 pm Baptism of Landon Michael Gadde

1:30 pm Baptism of Joseph Salvatore Imbrunnone

2:30 pm Baptism of Brooks M. Bates

4:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, September 12th

8:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

8:00 am American Red Cross Blood Drive

10:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

September 5, 2021 – A Fine Line

Jesus does a couple very interesting things in today's gospel – one miraculous, the other noteworthy.

First, he heals the deaf man with a speech impediment, just as he heals countless others throughout the gospel narratives.

Then, he gives those nearby who witnessed the miracle a directive:

“He ordered them not to tell anyone,” St. Mark writes. “But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished, and they said, ‘He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.’”

One might have been reminded of that gospel passage, coincidentally, a few weeks ago, when a tightrope – yes, a tightrope – made local headlines. A casino in West Michigan commemorated the opening of a second, 8-story hotel tower by bringing in a well-known tightrope walker to put on a show at the grand opening ceremony. The daredevil walked across a 450-foot-long tightrope that was suspended eight stories above the ground. A precarious display, to be sure.

Our spiritual lives might similarly offer situations in which we find ourselves walking a proverbial tightrope. Consider a circumstance, for example, in which a friend or family member might be considering making – or already has made – a morally compromised decision.

On the one hand, we might understandably be compelled to speak out, to offer direction, based in our faith, for what they should do.

On the other hand, we might also know their reflexive action will be to resist or reject that direction, believing that such a perspective is irrelevant to their circumstances.

Thus, the tightrope. The good news is that God is there, ready to help us speak and then hear, even if it might seem as if we're operating precariously, without a rope or a net.

© 2021 Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday September 6, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Douglas Borri and Violet Pare

Tuesday September 7, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Anna Maria Dolunt and the deceased members of the Calisi Family who died in the month of September

Wednesday September 8, 2021 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (White)

7:00 a.m. Donald Emmerich and a Special Intention for Joan Ireland

Thursday September 9, 2021 Saint Peter Claver, Priest (White)

7:00 a.m. Jesse F. Champine

Friday September 10, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Martha Gray

Saturday September 11, 2021 Weekday, BVM (Green/White)

4:00 p.m. Dennis Fleming, Joseph Cueter, Bonnie Batche, Joseph Regula, Gabriel Nehro, Souraya Nehro-Moses, Anna Maria Dolunt, David Henry Peacock and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family, the J. Champine Family, the Stefani and Rossi Families

6:00 p.m. Thomas Langlois

Sunday September 12, 2021 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

8:00 a.m. For the intentions of Saint Joan of Arc Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Joan Linden

12:00 p.m. James LeFevre, Ed Charistmon, George McCabe, Sal Ciaravino, Anna Maria Dolunt, the deceased members of the Lucy Zelenak Family, the deceased members of the Giroux & Carroll Families

Daily Readings

Monday, September 6

Colossians 1:24-2:3
Luke 6:6-11

Friday, September 10

I Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14
Luke 6:39-42

Tuesday, September 7

Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 6:12-19

Saturday, September 11

I Timothy 1:15-17
Luke 6:43-49

Wednesday, September 8 Sunday, September 12

Micah 5:1-4a
Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

Isaiah 50:4c-9a
James 2:14-18
Mark 8:27-35

Thursday, September 9

Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 6:27-38



I Am The Resurrection & The Life

“Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families.”



**David Pochmara
Susan Kafka**

**Donald Emmerich (Father of Peggy Venditti)
Fr. William Riegel (Brother of Sr. Alice Riegel)**

“I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. and he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way.”



Reporting Sexual Abuse

Individuals with knowledge of sexual abuse by clergy or other Church representatives are urged to contact local law enforcement and/or the Michigan Attorney General's Office at 844-324-3374 or aginvestigations@michigan.gov.

Individuals also may contact the Archdiocese of Detroit by visiting protect.aod.org calling the toll-free, 24/7 victim assistance line at 866-343-8055 or by emailing vac@aod.org. There are no time limits or restrictions on individuals wishing to report abuse.

Every complaint shared with the Archdiocese of Detroit, regardless of its source or the date of the alleged activity, is reported to civil authorities. No complaints are held back, pre-screened or disregarded.

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



New Beginnings: If Labor Day is the unofficial end of the summer, it must also be the start of something new. New school

year, new schedules, new responsibilities, new challenges, new opportunities.

What's changing for you? That might be an easy question to answer. But the real question ought to be what are you going to change? We are constantly being called by the Lord to a deeper conversion – and that means change. Some of us don't like change. We like comfortable, known, predictable experiences, we like things the way they've always been. Well, okay, we can keep it that way, do everything the same way and miss the newness of the season and the opportunities it brings. But then we shouldn't be surprised if the things we've always wished were better stay the same too. What might we be cutting ourselves off from? And in what ways are we limiting God from doing incredible things in us, through us and for us?

Today we live in a world that so values science. For every effect, there is a measurable cause. So applying the same scientific thinking to our spiritual life should not raise any surprises.

If we find ourselves constantly lacking peace in our lives, bothered by even the smallest incidents or comments; if we feel overwhelmed and overburdened by our workload and responsibilities, what might be the cause? Maybe it's not how much we're carrying, but that we're doing it all alone – that we've never invited the Lord to carry it. Maybe it never occurred to us to make that the subject of our prayer. Begin anew. Invite Him in. If you're finding mass to be "boring" or you're "not getting anything out of it," or "it's too long" what's the cause? Can a celebration that has existed in practically the same format for 2,000 years really be at fault here? Or could it be that you've missed something? What does our commitment look like? Do you arrive late and miss the chance for forgiveness of minor sins offered by the Penitential Rite at the beginning of the mass? Might those unforgiven sins that, as a result, still blemish our soul be the cause of our lack of our internal peace? Or do we leave early and miss God's blessings upon the up-coming week's challenges. Then no surprises if the week turns out to be far

more challenging that you'd hoped - cause and effect.

Do we only make it to mass every other Sunday, or once a month? Punching-in and punching-out doesn't allow us to develop a relationship with the Lord, so it's no wonder some people struggle to understand what we're doing at mass.

What we're doing is celebrating a relationship. Fundamentally, that's what underlies it all. But you can't celebrate a relationship if you've never worked on developing one. Try knocking on the door of a total stranger and when they answer hand them a balloon and a cake and tell them, "I'm here to celebrate our friendship!" Relationships take time and effort to develop. Being able to enjoy time spent celebrating that relationship is the result. No surprises - cause and effect.

The great gift God gives time and time again is the opportunity to begin anew. That gift starts with our baptism, continues with His graces offered in the mass and through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Every time, we begin again.

Let's be humble enough to recognize where a new beginning is needed in our spiritual life. Every day is a new opportunity to recommit, start over and grow, to search deeper within ourselves for the great beauty of the soul God wishes to animate. Today, this week, this new school year, really can be a new beginning. Re-commit to our faith, and our relationship with God, with family and friends and with the world. Do this and we will grow in ways we can hardly imagine. It's just cause and effect.

Lastly, in celebration of God permitting us to participate in His work of creation, rest is an essential ingredient. A barbeque and good company makes for a restful Labor Day and great enjoyment. It's just cause and effect!

New Season, New Programs: Speaking of the mass, one of the new programs to be offered this Fall is a wonderful offering from Ascension Press called, *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*. I was a participant in this program 10 years ago but it has been re-worked to be based around a beautiful video presentation that takes us through the different rites of the mass, from the opening sign of the cross to the closing blessing. The videos trace the origin of each of the rites from their foundation in the scriptural texts and

takes time to explain how what the biblical story tells us applies to what we are doing in that moment of the mass.

Taking this class myself in a parish gave me such a better understanding of the mass and even reviewing some of the material again as we considered running this program, I again was being reminded of things that are easy even for a priest to forget. I think about this every time I say "Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church" during the Eucharistic prayer. Honestly, I don't think I've ever used the word "oblation" outside of mass or a seminary class and I wonder if people are following what we are praying together.

I remember when I learned that the Responsorial Psalm we sing at mass is not simply called *Responsorial* because the cantor sings and we respond, but because the Psalm itself responds to the first reading. That was a revelation to me that helped me to often see the link between the readings, and the themes being spoken of by them. I mentioned last Sunday in my homily that we have to be careful that our devotions do not become robotic—that instead we learn to pray intentionally, reflecting about what we are doing and saying, so that our prayer comes from the heart and not simply from our mouths. If we don't understand the actions and the words of the mass, we run the risk of just saying words to God, and we never really "Lift up our hearts to the Lord." (heard that at mass?... it's from Lamentations 3:41).

This video series will begin this Fall (date to be announced) and run weekly for 5 weeks. The prep time for each session is probably 1 1/2 to 2 hours. If you find you are unable to do all the prep for a session, don't worry about it, but the doing the prep will allow you and others participating to benefit the most from each session.

The mass transcends time and space as it makes present to us the life, death, Resurrection and Ascension of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ. The mass is steeped in the Word of God throughout. Why would we not want to understand that more? Look out for details of the materials needed and dates for the sessions in the coming weeks.

You are in my prayers this week.
Fr. Andrew adawson@sjascs.org



IS THERE
MORE TO LIFE
THAN THIS

Alpha

ALPHA COMING THIS FALL

REGISTRATION OPEN

Alpha is a FREE series exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Everyone is welcome!

- Beginning Sept. 23 - Dec. 2
- 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Dinner Included!
- FREE

Contact our Faith Formation Director, Curtis Schuelke at c.schuelke@stargp.org or (313) 884-5554 to register.
OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH - GROSSE POINTE WOODS



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 12 B

Reading One – Is 50:5-9a

The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let that man confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?

Responsorial Psalm 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I love the LORD because he has heard my voice in supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me; I fell into distress and sorrow, and I called upon the name of the LORD, "O LORD, save my life!"

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful. The LORD keeps the little ones; I was brought low, and he saved me.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Reading Two – Jas 2:14-18

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that

faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

Alleluia – Gal 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia.

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Mk 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

Sept. 5, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 35:4-7a | Jas 2:1-5 | Mk 7:31-37

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Our oldest son is deaf. I vividly remember watching him notice sounds for the first time in the days after his cochlear implant was activated: the “caw” of a crow, a doorbell, the low rumble of the furnace kicking in. Our job as parents was to provide a running commentary to help him understand the meaning of each sound that so many of us take for granted: “See the birds? That is a crow!” “Your dad is home.” “The heat is coming on.” I’m reminded of those early days when I read Mark’s account of Jesus restoring hearing to the deaf man. While most of us can hear, so often we take the sounds all around us for granted or relegate them to background noise – including the Scripture we hear at Mass each week. As Bishop Robert Barron writes, “This deaf man stands for all of us who do not hear the word of God, who have grown oblivious to it.” As we listen to today’s readings, we can ask Jesus to open our ears and our hearts to the word of God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Mark spares no detail in describing Jesus’ encounter with the deaf man who had a speech impediment. Jesus places a finger in his ear and spits, touching his tongue, then utters the word “*Ephphatha!*” (“Be opened”) Immediately, the man can hear and speak clearly. When listening to this reading, I often focus on the man’s hearing. But Jesus also cured the man’s speech impediment, which I think indicates we’re not supposed to just hear God’s word, we are to speak to it, and speak of it. Once we allow Jesus to open our ears and hearts to the Good News, sharing it will begin to come naturally. There may still be times when our Catholic tongues feel tied, but “Be strong, fear not!” Jesus will give us the words.

ACTIONS Next time you take a drive, listen to the day’s Scripture readings. Ask Jesus to open your ears and hearts to his words and show you how best to share them with others. And most teachers would agree: The more senses we engage, the more we take in. If you have trouble following the readings at Mass, open your missalette and read along silently.



JESUS CURING A DEAF MAN

Getty Images/Christina Schaefer

*Spend an hour
with me.*

-Jesus

HOLY HOURS

*7-8 pm, Thursdays
in the Church.*

*Join us for Praise
and Worship music
weeks 1 through 3
each month and
silent adoration
week 4.*

Prayers Needed

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Audrey VanBecelaere
Eileen Wallace
Audrey Weekley
Marilyn Wicker
William Woodruff
Chuck Wolschlager

Pray for the Sick List: Please note that we regularly clear the "Pray for the Sick List" because the list grows beyond our space allocation and we don't always hear from people when they've gotten better. If you would like to add a person please call the Parish Center front desk at 586.777.3670 or send an email to our general inbox at info@sjascs.org.

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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

September 5, 2021

A Church of and for the Poor

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The book of James is one of the hardest hitting in the New Testament. He is a tell-it-like-it-is apostle, warning the early Church not to show partiality to the rich and powerful. This is always a danger, especially in a Church that relies on donations. While gratitude to donors is understandable and proper, it's easy for gratitude to become preference, partiality, and a different moral standard. James warns the Church against this.

Jesus warns us, too. He talks about inviting the poor to a party rather than those who can repay us. He tells us that

when we give, that the left hand should not know what the right is doing. He warns the rich that the path to heaven is narrow.

Jesus' call to salvation was for all, but his pastoral focus was certainly with the poor. So, he dedicated much of his time reaching out to those who could give nothing in return: the blind, deaf, lame, and lepers. And his attention didn't stop at the materially poor but extended to sinners and those thought to be impure.

This love for the weak was a sign of the Messiah as proclaimed by many prophets, including Isaiah. The Anointed of God would come to vindicate the poor, orphaned, widowed, sick, and oppressed.

Jesus did exactly that, and it was this solicitude and miraculous power that began convincing Galileans, and eventually those in Jerusalem, that he was the long-awaited One. Pope Francis said he longed for a Church of the poor, for the poor. It seems Jesus did, too. +

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to the fearful of heart:
Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.

James 2:1-5

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 7:31-37

And [immediately] the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.

*While gratitude to donors
is understandable,
it's easy for it to become
partiality and a different
moral standard.*

A Word from Pope Francis

Remember that story about the poor widow lady...Her husband had committed suicide; he jumped from the bridge into the river. And she wept. She said, "I am a sinner, a poor woman. But my poor husband! He is in hell."...And the Curé of Ars said, "But wait a moment, ma'am, because between the bridge and the river, there is the mercy of God."

—Homily, March 18, 2019



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION REFLECTION

- Do I have a heart for the poor as Jesus did?
- How can I express that real preference in practical ways?

Want to Be in That Number?

By Kathleen M. Basi

When I was a child, I had a book about saints that I loved. It was filled with color pictures and heroic, larger-than-life stories. I spent hours trying to decide whether I liked Catherine of Siena or Catherine of Alexandria better. I felt as if I ought to like Siena better for cutting her hair off and being a nun and all, but Alexandria's picture was prettier.

It was years before I realized most of these people weren't the golden-haired northern Europeans portrayed in my book. It was later still before I realized that by focusing on legends and miracles, I had turned sainthood into something reserved for a select few—something far beyond the reach of an ordinary mortal like me.

These days, I prefer to think of the saints as real people, flawed and fragile, representing every country and culture on earth. Yet for all their diversity, each of them sought exactly what I seek: discernment and courage to walk in the footsteps of Christ in a way that is authentic both to his example and to the time and place in which I live.

Now, my favorite stories speak not of miracles, but of extraordinary courage in ordinary situations—like Elizabeth Ann Seton, who, as an impoverished widow, founded the first parochial school in this country, along with a new order of religious—all while raising her own children.

They speak of deeply practical courage



in extraordinary circumstances—like Maximilian Kolbe, who willingly starved to death in place of a fellow concentration-camp prisoner in Auschwitz. In my opinion, that would be even harder than volunteering for a firing squad, where at least the end would come quickly.

And then there are figures with checkered pasts, like Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton—those who don't have feast days in the Church calendar but whose words and actions have reverberated like an earthquake, reshaping the foundation of my faith.

Real people. Real lives. People stumbling through their world in all its messiness, trying to find the path to holiness amid chaos and to identify their

individual purpose for why God placed them on this earth. Those people give me hope. If they managed to find their purpose, maybe I can, too.

It's no longer enough for me to read a paragraph or two about the legendary exploits of those whose names begin with "Saint." I want to know how the real people behind those legends lived. How they learned to mirror God while surrounded by cranky kids and clueless coworkers and spouses who insist on using dish towels to wipe dirty mouths. Because that is the path I need illuminated. +

Saints are real people with real lives seeking the discernment and courage to exemplify Christ.

PRAYER

Lord, I am grateful for your faithfulness. Teach me to bring the comfort of your loving presence to those who are afraid.

—From *Grateful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 6–11

Monday, Weekday:
Col 1:24–2:3 / Lk 6:6–11


Tuesday, Weekday:
Col 2:6–15 / Lk 6:12–19

Wednesday, The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mt 5:1–4a or Rom 8:28–30 / Mt 1:1–16, 18–23, or 1:18–23

Thursday, St. Peter Claver:
Col 3:12–17 / Lk 6:27–38

Friday, Weekday:
1 Tm 1:1–2, 12–14 / Lk 6:39–42

Saturday, Weekday:
1 Tm 1:15–17 / Lk 6:43–49

Bringing Home
the Word 
September 5, 2021

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