



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 ~

WHAT'S INSIDE

Parish Directory.....	Page 2
Liturgy Schedule and Information	Page 2
TALLer Tales	Page 3
FORMED Pick of the Week	Page 4
Gala Save the Date	Page 5
Gala Donor Form	Page 6
Gala Ad Form	Page 7
Calendar of Events	Page 8
Words on the Word.....	Page 8
Those Who Have Recently Died.....	Page 9
Daily Readings.....	Page 9
Mass Intentions.....	Page 9
Tire Tracks in d'Arc.....	Page 10
Family Faith Formation News	Page 11
Readings for 23rd Sunday.....	Page 12
Grow + Go	Page 13
Holy Hours	Page 14
Prayers for the Sick & Military.....	Page 15
Bringing Home the Word.....	Page 16



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." - Mk 7:14-15

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: repoprofice@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@sjasc.org

Associate Pastor

Fr. Andrew Dawson
adawson@sjasc.org

Non-Resident

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz
tstrasz@sjasc.org

Deacon Dom Pastore
dpastore@sjasc.org

Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone
dciaffone@sjasc.org

Principal

Amy Pattie
apattie@stjoan.net

Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net

Music Director

Catherine Thomas
cthomas@sjasc.org

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net

Office of Faith &

Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
khass@sjasc.org

Exceptional Children

TBD

Youth Group

Linda Lietaert
llietaert@stjoan.net



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 independent 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 increased 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.



Sticking to the Day Job: One day, I'll learn to stick to my day job! It's when I wander off into these other territories that I often get myself in trouble! But

then again, it gives me "food" for my bulletin articles.

I've been on the hunt for some FireKing fireproof lateral filing cabinets for my AOD job. I had my nephew J.J. scour Facebook Marketplace to see if he could find anyone in the area that had some to sell. J.J. is my Facebook Marketplace guru. Eventually, we found three of these filing cabinets at a warehouse in Livonia. When new, these FireKing filing cabinets cost about \$4,000 each, which doesn't include an extra delivery charge of maybe \$500. Because they are fireproof filing cabinets, they are extremely heavy and cumbersome to move.

Well, my nephew found a place with THREE of these filing cabinets, and they were willing to give me all three for \$750!! Talk about a massive deal. So I jumped on this one right away. First, we tried to get a moving company to help, but that didn't work out. So, I did the next best thing: I decided we would rent a U-Haul and do it ourselves. I didn't want to accomplish what I was supposed to be doing, so a little "field trip" to get three 970 pound filing cabinets sounded like a fabulous afternoon excursion!

I then had to drop the bombshell news to my "cohorts in crime," Deacon Tom and Tony Latarski (who works on our AOD Team at the Parish Center), that "WE" were going to get these ourselves. God bless them. They're ALWAYS willing to do "OTHER DUTIES" as assigned. Deacon Tom got the U-Haul all worked out, and we made arrangements with Tony to meet us at this warehouse in Livonia, which was close to where he lives.

When we arrived at the warehouse, Deacon Tom and I pulled the U-Haul up to the loading dock. Tony eventually found us and joined in on the fun. Just as we got out of our trucks and were trying to figure out which loading dock door to use, a torrential rainstorm hit. We finally decided on this particular loading dock bay, and I started maneuvering the U-Haul into position. Because I couldn't hear Deacon Tom or Tony yelling at me about how far down this ramp I could go, I kept getting in

and out of the truck to see things for myself. With all of the rain, I was getting mighty wet.

Eventually, I got the truck positioned correctly in the loading dock bay. Thankfully, the three filing cabinets were on dollies, so "WE" thought this would be easy. With the help of Deacon Tom and Tony (let's just call them the Strasz and Latarski Logistics Firm), we carefully positioned the truck's ramp on the edge of the loading dock. We now had a straight path from the loading dock to the truck, but at an incline that was quite precarious because of the heavy rain. Even on a dolly, moving a 970-pound item down a ramp wasn't going to be easy. So, with the help of the warehouse employee where we bought the cabinets, the three amigos started to maneuver the first filing cabinet down the ramp. I wish we had a video of our work. We were doing fine until we hit a solid indented line on the loading dock floor, which brought the dolly to a screeching halt but almost sent the filing cabinet on a trajectory to crash onto the ramp. This wasn't getting any easier. By this point, I looked like I had been standing out in a torrential rainstorm for about a half-hour, only because I HAD BEEN standing out in a torrential rainstorm for about a half hour. I was also hungry and was running out of ideas of how this was going to work. I figured that since I came up with the brilliant idea to do this ourselves and was doing all the driving, it was up to Strasz and Latarski Logistics to figure out the rest of it.

By the time we got this first cabinet onto the truck, we still had two others behind it waiting to be moved. By this time, I was already starting to "check out" on the solution-generating part of this field trip and just wanted to get it over with! Deacon Tom and Tony were now scouring the warehouse for wood or cardboard we could use to get our dolly beyond the indentation so we could continue moving the filing cabinet down the ramp and onto the truck. We FINALLY had it rolling, and then we hit ANOTHER indentation where the ramp intersects with the truck. UGH! I was now wetter than wet and just wanted to go home! But, Strasz and Latarski Logistics weren't giving up. We moved more heavy cardboard into place, gave the dolly another running start, and it finally made its way onto the truck. One down, two to go, and no one got hurt!

We eventually got all three cabinets on the truck, and I'm sure the employee of this warehouse was happy to see us leave.

She was very kind and was also helping us, but it was now almost an hour since we had arrived. With all three of these filing cabinets now on the truck, we used a bunch of ratchet straps to secure them into place. Strasz and Latarski Logistics decided that Bugarin Trucking ought to return to SJA by way of 8 Mile Road rather than I-96 to prevent any catastrophe with the potential of one of these cabinets moving or falling over inside the back of our U-Haul. I was now thoroughly soaked, hungry, and totally "checked out." I didn't care HOW we were going to get home. I just wanted to go home.

So, my soaking wet self hopped into the driver's seat, and Deacon Tom joined me up in the passenger's seat. We sent Tony home because we got word to Dina at the Parish Center that we would need help upon our return. She got on it right away.

Now, we had some new problems. First, we had to figure out how to get these filing cabinets OFF the truck and into Deacon Tom's office. With the help of Jason Gerard, who came over to help, and Father Andrew, we maneuvered each of them off the truck and into close proximity of where they would finally land. THEN, we had to figure out HOW we would tip these filing cabinets off their dolly and have them land in the exact place they would finally rest. I was brain dead and out of ideas (remember, I checked out long before); I just wanted to go home and get out of the soaking wet clothes I was now in for about two and a half hours. We tried to use a hydraulic jack to help us, but that kept slipping. Thankfully, I was running out of time and had to run off to another appointment, so I left the mess and said, "SEE YA, send me pictures when it's all done!" Strasz Logistics then employed Dawson, Gerard, Ruvolo, and Zeppelin Labor and Engineering to finish the task! They got it all done. And Father Andrew dutifully sent me pictures of the finished product. What an afternoon!

As I was leaving (escaping), I passed by Dina's office, who watched this entire event unfold from start to finish. As I was running out the door, I heard her proclaim, "Maybe next time we should upgrade to something more than just 'Three Grandpas and a Truck.'"

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjasc.org



PICK OF THE WEEK

August 29, 2021

WATCH

INTO THE BREACH – EPISODE 3: LEADERSHIP

Among many other things, Pope St. Gregory the Great is known for his incredible pastoral presence and servant leadership. In honor of this magnanimous Saint, enjoy this episode of Into the Breach! Although primarily targeted at men, this video and its emphasis on service will be fruitful to anyone who desires sanctity and self-mastery!



LEARN

FORMED NOW: POPE SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT



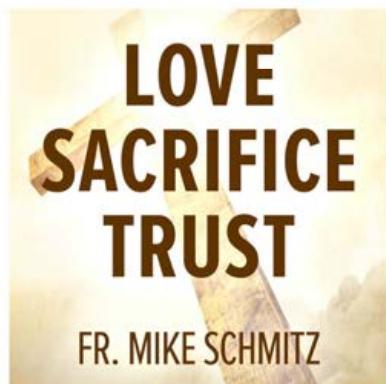
Throughout her life, St. Monica constantly prayed for the conversion of Augustine, her beloved son.

In a moment of desperation, she even asked for the bishop's help. In response, he said, "the son of those tears surely will not perish." Truly, as this bishop remarked, Monica's tearful prayers helped build her son into the Doctor of Grace. In this video, join Dr. Gray and Dr. Sehorn as they discuss more about this great Saint.

LISTEN

LOVE, SACRIFICE, TRUST: HE SHOWED US THE WAY BY FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

In this talk, Fr. Mike Schmitz shares with us the need to pick up our crosses and embrace Christ in our own suffering. He reminds us that love often means sacrifice!



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



Gala Donor Form



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

auction items

One of the greatest sources of revenue for the Gala event comes from items that are auctioned. These items are donated by local businesses as well as from private individuals, many of whom are families of St. Joan of Arc School. If you would like to donate an auction item, or know of somebody that you can ask... this would go a long way to helping this year's auction be especially successful.

grand-prize raffle tickets

Our grand prize raffle is the backbone of this fundraiser. Only with steady sales of tickets for this raffle over several months can the Gala committee bring you the Gala dinner and auction event. For ticket sales information, check with the Parish and School offices. Help by buying tickets or becoming a ticket agent, selling them to friends, family or coworkers.

dinner & auction tickets

Come to the Gala event on Oct. 16, 2021. Party with your friends and members of the School and Parish community. Enjoy a gourmet dinner, open bar, live entertainment, live and silent auctions, raffles and much more. The event will be held at the prestigious Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods.



advertise

Advertise your product or service in our keepsake Gala Auction item catalog.

volunteer

Join our 100% volunteer committee that plans and works this event.

The Gala committee meets once per month. Meeting dates as well as general information about this SJA event can be found on the Gala website:

www.sjauction.org



OCT
16
2021

Silent Auction & Dinner

CONTRIBUTOR FORM

Our Annual Gala event has grown to become an important source of funds for St. Joan of Arc School. Help us continue supporting the children, faculty and families of our school.

DUE DATE: Oct. 1, 2021

Donor: Please print clearly so we may accurately acknowledge your company in our

Name: _____ Date: _____

Company Name: _____ Phone# _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Auction Item/Cash Donation: Please include any restrictions and expiration dates.

Donation Description: _____

Total Donor Value: \$_____ Gift certificate included_____ Event committee to create_____

Contact Matt Wyszczelski at 313-683-1972 or hfd75@aol.com for donation pick-up or event questions.

Program Ad: Please attach business card or email camera ready ad to Gala@stjoan.net

_____ Back Cover Ad in Full Color \$1,000	_____ ½ Page Ad (B & W) \$150
_____ Inside Cover Ads in Full Color \$500	_____ Business Card (B & W) \$75
_____ Full Page Ad (B & W) \$250	

Contact Matt Wyszczelski at 313-683-1972 for any questions regarding advertising in the program booklet.

Event Tickets: \$100.00/ea (Sold online. Available in 2020, check sjauction.org for details)

Please make all checks payable to St. Joan of Arc School. Please submit donations and ads no later than October 1, 2021 to ensure recognitions in the Gala program. The Gala committee reserves the right to hold any item received after the deadline for the 2022 Gala.

GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE

\$5,000 in prizes: one(1) \$3000, one (1) \$1000 and two (2) \$500 cash prizes. Tickets are available for \$20 each or six for \$100.

22415 Overlake Street, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
Office: 586-775-8370 Website: www.sjauction.org

TAX ID NO: 38-1420316



OCT
16
2021

Auction Program

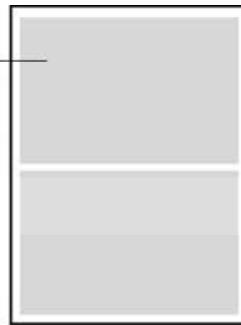
ADVERTISING SPECIFICATIONS

→ ORDER DUE DATE: October 1, 2021

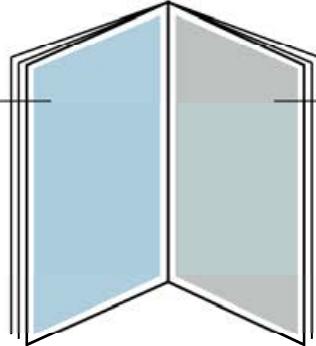
Back Cover Ad
Color: Full Color
Size: 8" x 10.5"
Cost: \$1,000



1/2 Page
Color: Black & White
Size: 8" x 5.125"
Cost: \$150

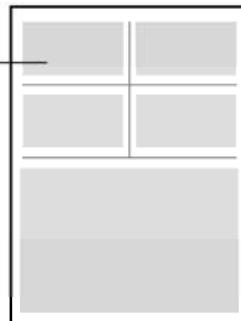


Full Page Color
Color: Full Color
Size: 8" x 10.5"
Cost: \$500



Full Page B&W
Color: Black & White
Size: 8" x 10.5"
Cost: \$250

Business Card Ad
Color: Black & White
Size: 3.5" x 2"
Cost: \$75



Ad Order:

Back Cover Ad in Full Color \$1,000

1/2 Page Ad (B & W) \$150

Full Page Ad (Color) \$500

Business Card (B & W) \$75

Full Page Ad (B & W) \$250

Name: _____ Date: _____

Company Name: _____ Phone# _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Publication Notes:

The program trims to 8.5" x 11". The entire booklet is no-bleed and will carry a 1/4-inch margin throughout.

DUE DATE:
October 1, 2021

Digital camera-ready artwork can be sent via email attachment to gala@stjoan.net

Contact: Matt Wyszczelski, 313-683-1972, hfd75@aol.com

Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, August 30th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, August 31st

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, September 1st

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, September 2nd

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

8:00am All School Mass Blessing of the Backpacks

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

Friday, September 3rd

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, September 4th

11:00 am Reconciliation

4:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, September 5th

8:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

August 29, 2021 – Food for the Hungry

When capitalism and neighborly outreach come together, the result can be a beautiful thing.

The Detroit News reported a few weeks ago on the efforts of a woman and her niece to operate a vegan-based “mobile café.” But the business model for this particular food truck is not typical; here, they charge those who can afford to pay for their fare, in order to make money that can be used to prepare food for those who cannot afford to pay.

“I come from outreach ministry,” the entrepreneur/Samaritan is quoted in the story as saying, “so charging for food was weird to me and it took a minute for me to ascertain my worth.

“But people in the suburbs and stuff, they can afford the elite veganism that I offer. So we sell it to them, and we feed the people in the city of Detroit, or wherever. We don’t discriminate.”

What a unique and refreshing perspective; one that creates a win for everyone involved. Those with the means can purchase outstanding food. Those without the means can benefit from receiving the same outstanding food.

“I’m not trying to get rich,” the woman went on to say. “I just want to feed people. Yes, we sell food, but each plate we serve has a purpose...it’s to give back to somebody who can’t afford to pay.”

That admonition to help our neighbors is within each of us, we’re reminded in today’s second reading.

“Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls,” St. James writes. “Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.”

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions		Daily Readings	
Monday	August 30, 2021 Weekday (Green)	Monday, August 30	Friday, September 3
7:00 a.m.	A Special Intention for G. Michael Bugarin	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Luke 4:16-30	Colossians 1:15-20 Luke 5:33-39
Tuesday	August 31, 2021 Saint Bartholomew, Apostle (Green)	Tuesday, August 31	Saturday, September 4
7:00 a.m.	Anna Maria Dolunt	1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11 Luke 4:31-37	Colossians 1:21-23 Luke 6:1-5
Wednesday September 1, 2021 Weekday (Green)		Wednesday, September 1	Sunday, September 5
7:00 a.m.	Raymond Cichoracki	Colossians 1:1-8 Luke 4:38-44	Isaiah 35:4-7a James 2:1-5 Mark 7:3-37
Thursday September 2, 2021 Weekday (Green)		Thursday, September 2	
7:00 a.m.	Bill & Pat Hendrick and Jim & Phyllis Nolan	Colossians 1:9-14 Luke 5:1-11	
Friday	September 3, 2021 Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church (White)	I Am The Resurrection & The Life	
7:00 a.m.	Robert Fannon and a Special Intention for Rose Nagy	“Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families.”	
Saturday	September 4, 2021 Weekday, BVM (Green/White)	Bill Bagnasco Dr. Donald Brosky	
4:00 p.m.	Thomas McGrane, Michele McGrane, Todd Kohlere, Donald & Edith Ludeman, Thomas Wise, Robert & Virginia Goodman, Rita Pomante, Sophie Rupinski, Bonnie Batche, the deceased members of the Walsh Family, Nick & Carmelina Caruso, Vincent Weingartz, Anna Maria Dolunt and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family and the J. Champine Family and Prayerful appreciation for the Priests and Staff of St. Joan of Arc	“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.”	
6:00 p.m.	Joan Weber	Minnie Louise Haskins	
Sunday	September 5, 2021 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)		
8:00 a.m.	For the intentions of Saint Joan of Arc Parishioners	Reporting Sexual Abuse	
10:00 a.m.	Anne Marie Palazzo Keskonis	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.	
12:00 p.m.	Joseph & Florence Semany, the deceased members of the Lucy Zelenak Family, Robert Emidio Olivier, Anna Maria Dolunt, Stephen & Nancy Fattore	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			

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



Dad Takes One for the Team:

Last Sunday afternoon after we were done with masses, I called my parents. Sunday afternoon is most typically the time I

call, and when I'm most likely to find them home. By then, it's evening in the UK. My mom loves her Sunday BBC period dramas on TV (which I usually interrupt) and my dad is rarely away from home around a meal time! On this occasion, my dad answered the phone, as he usually does. We talked for a while about this and that. He mentioned that he's seen an increase in attendance at his church lately as the covid situation improves.... "We're back up to 13 now!" he said.... Yes, it's a very small church! One Sunday service, 13 people. My dad usually passes the time of day and then pretty quickly passes the phone off to my mom, always asking, "well, do you want to speak to your mother?" (as if I'm ever going to say *no*!) My dad's not much of a talker. This has been especially true lately and he and my mom have been cooped-up at home and there isn't really much news to share. But on this call, I was noticing that my dad seemed quite conversational. We'd been talking for about 15 minutes and he still hadn't handed the phone over to mom. Then the truth came out. "Well, your mother's not home. She's visiting." They live in a retirement community of apartments now and my mom was visiting a neighbor.

My dad went on, "She went to see a neighbor. She'd been gone an hour and a half now! I'm going to call her and ask what's for tea (my dad's reference to dinner – ever led by his stomach.) He continued: "Y' know, that lady (the neighbor) came to see her (my mom) the other day, but she wasn't home. But she stayed anyway and talked to me. She talked to me for hours! I just kept saying the same thing over and over! She didn't seem to mind. I didn't know what else to say! So now she (mom) has gone to visit her (the neighbor)... and I'm hungry. We bought some tea-cakes (Yorkshire-speak for bread buns with raisins) the other day. I think I'm going to toast those. I hope they're not moldy." ... Sometimes talking to my dad by phone is like listening to a *Seinfeld* episode on tape.

All I could do was laugh and commiserate my poor dad and his aching stomach. Now keep in mind that we had just

finished the 12pm mass and St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians was still on my mind, "Husbands, love your wives... a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." At this point, all I could do was to say, "Dad, I wish we'd had this conversation before today's masses. There's no doubt... you married your wife's friends! You just might have to make your own dinner!"

Doctor's Orders: I met with a lady at the Parish Center on Monday who was struggling with a couple of difficult situations in her life. It was all very unfair to her, but life is often that way. We talked for a while and I did what I often do at first in these situations, not dissimilar to talking to my dad. I just listened. I let her talk. That is often a good part of what people need. They are struggling with something and just an opportunity to express it and let someone else know that they are struggling with this. But after a while I commended her for her attitude. As she described these two different situations, she also laughed about them. "What else can you do?" she asked, rhetorically. We talked for a little while, and since I had a notepad and pen in front of me, so I said, like a doctor I'm going to write you a prescription. "Oh, I don't like drugs," she said. "It's not drugs," I replied, and I scribbled a note for her, folded it in half and pushed it across the desk. She read it and started laughing. The note was nothing original. I've told many people the same thing. It was a phrase the late Bishop Morlino of Madison, Wisconsin used to say to himself every morning when he woke-up, before his feet even hit the floor: "Everybody I meet today is crazy; and I am *not* the Messiah!" I told the lady to "read this with food 1x every day."

There's a lot of freedom to be found in realizing that the world is not fair, people will not always think, speak and act rationally. At some point in your day someone may make an unreasonable or even irrational or impossible demand for your time, abilities or generosity. None of us are Jesus and none of us is able to satisfy all these unreasonable demands all the time or should even expect ourselves to be able to. Accept this, laugh at the ridiculousness of the demands and expectations, and then go about doing your best, knowing that *that* is all Christ asks of us. The degree to which you cannot fulfill those demands, well, defer those things to Jesus, pray for the person

and move on. And just as importantly, "find the funny" in the unreasonableness of it. Replace the frustration with the funny! If it was a reasonable demand, that's one thing, but if it's not, don't allow it to derail you.

Zoom-zoom: This week I heard a priest recounting a zoom meeting he had had with a parish group. He was the youngest participant by a long way, so the group made him the host and he handled the technology. An older gentleman had a question during the meeting, but his microphone was on mute. The priest told him, "we can't hear you." So the man repeated his question, still muted, now with hand gestures. Same result. He tried again, now shouting and red in the face. Repeatedly he was told that he needed to unmute himself as he couldn't be heard. So finally the man leaned into the camera, super close and yelled once more. Still inaudible, he stood-up and walked away from the meeting. No doubt the man was frustrated, but the group found light relief in the moment and the priest concluded... "dialog is good, but silence is golden."

What's Wrong With My Squirrel?: I seem to have a ridiculous number of squirrels in my back yard. It feels like a war zone whenever I walk under the oak tree, which overhangs most of the yard: "Bombs away!" as the squirrel throw acorns down. I've worked out the hours that the squirrel keep. Peak squirreling happens around 5pm. By 7pm, they are mostly gone wherever squirrels go for the evening. I was sitting out there early Sunday evening and saw a peculiar squirrel going to great lengths to bridge the gap from the oak tree to the trees at the back. Most of them run through the canopy or across the lawn or across the top of the fence, but this squirrel was clinging to the vertical boards of the fence, in and out of the posts and electrical conduit, scrambling across 25 ft of fence before jumping onto the mulch under the tree. I wondered if it was overthinking it. Wouldn't running across the lawn be easier? Grass allergy? A friend of mine decided it was a good analogy—it took the longest path, it wasn't the easiest way, but it got there. We do that with God sometimes, she said. We make it hard for ourselves.... But get there!

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



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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPT 5

Reading One – Is 35:4-7a

Thus says the LORD:

Say to those whose hearts are frightened:
Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense
he comes to save you.
Then will the eyes of the blind be opened,
the ears of the deaf be cleared;
then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the mute will sing.
Streams will burst forth in the desert,
and rivers in the steppe.
The burning sands will become pools,
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The God of Jacob keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed,
gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets captives free.
R. Praise the Lord, my soul!
The LORD gives sight to the blind;
the LORD raises up those who were bowed down.
The LORD loves the just;
the LORD protects strangers.
R. Praise the Lord, my soul!
The fatherless and the widow the LORD sustains,
but the way of the wicked he thwarts.
The LORD shall reign forever;
your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.
R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

Reading Two – Jas 2:1-5

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. For if a man with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here, please," while you say to the poor one, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil designs? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Mk 7:31-37

Again Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. 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!" — And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. 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."



**“Be doers of
the word and not
hearers only.”**

James 1:22

August 29, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 | Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 | Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

As I began reading the Gospel for today, I initially thought, “Here we go - those hypocritical Pharisees are at it again! They are always questioning Jesus, always judging others, and always looking for ways to make themselves look ‘holier’ than everyone else.” Uh oh; then I realized that I was feeling pretty smug as I judged the Pharisees! Sadly, it can be easy for me to fall into a “Pharisee attitude,” thinking I “walk blamelessly and do justice” when really I am just deluding myself. While Jesus uses this encounter to point out the hypocrisy of the Pharisees, he also calls the crowd to a greater understanding of the source of evil in their lives, “From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts.” Maybe I need to hear these words, too, and examine my own thoughts and actions before judging others.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

St. James provides an answer to combating the evil we discover in our hearts: “Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls.” The Word, Jesus, came to us and has given us the way to free ourselves from the evil within. Our relationship with him is the key. We know we are to “be doers of the word and not hearers only.” We have the Holy Spirit to help us stay close to him and access his saving power that transforms our hearts to reflect his goodness and truth. It requires us to humbly assess and own the things we need to change; and to turn to him for guidance so that we may have nothing within us — no evil thoughts, greed, malice, envy or arrogance (etc.) — to defile us. Only then are we most free in Christ — truly free to “care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.”

PRAY The Daily Examen, created by St. Ignatius of Loyola, is an ideal way for growing closer to Jesus and seeking his guidance. Suggested for the day's end, this prayerful reflection helps you recognize God's presence in the day's events, assess your thoughts and behavior, ask for his help in growing in goodness, and discern his plans for you.

*Spend an hour
with me.*

-Jesus

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Prayers Needed

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Patricia Barr
Geri Beaugrand
Theresa Bertelsen
Rose Marie Carroll
David Clinchoc
Ed Cole
Mary Ellen Cooper
Victoria Cornwell
James Czech
Steven D'Arca
Joan DeDene
Catherine DeRose
Nick DiCresce
Julie Doty

Marie DuPont
Donald Emmerich
Susan Federoff
Louise Fetherolf
Taylor Fisher
Nora Anne Francis
Sylvia Gentile
Mary and Don Godfrey
Jane Gora
Larry Graham
Geoffrey Greve
James Gutowski
Rich Hanselman
Alleyn Hunt
James Kammer
Bruce Kaselitz

Marilyn Kiefer
Pat Kohlitz
Catherine Konen
Edward Krappmann
Al Kraska
Concetta Leone
Dotty Lubinski
Janet Malaski
Christopher Manning
Joan Mannino
Lee Majewski
Ed Marosso
Karen McMahon
Charlotte Miller
Dee Misuraca
Mark Moffitt

Rosemary Monaghan
Jennie Mooney
Jessica Nehro
Toni Pantano
Fern Pascany
Wayne Pepper
David Pochmara
Salvatore Promesso
Larry Rybicki
Sr. Alice Riegel
Suzanne Roland
Jennifer Rose
Victoria Rydholm
Doreen Saur
Alex Scapini
Terri Smigels

Kathleen Smith
Cathy Spindler
Robert Stasak
Virginia Stieber
Beverly Taylor
James Thompson
Maxine Uniewski
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@sjacs.org.

PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
August 29, 2021

Human Rules and God's Rule

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The Old Testament tells of a golden calf, produced by the Israelites when Moses disappeared up the mountain to receive God's law (see Exodus 32). Since Moses delayed, they melted gold brought from Egypt, made their own god, and began worshiping it. This is the essence of idolatry: We create a god to worship, but since it is our creation, we are really worshiping ourselves.

Jesus accused the Pharisees of falling into a similar trap. They slavishly revered human traditions that didn't reflect the heart of God. They hid behind laws created in the name of religion to serve themselves and their desire for power.

Sunday Readings

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

What great nation has statutes and ordinances that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?

James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

[Jesus said,] "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition."

Jesus overturns the tables of their self-justifications. He quotes the prophet as an accusation: "This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me" (Mark 7:6).

Before pointing an accusatory finger, realize that the same can happen to us. We can cling to human traditions and laws while disregarding God's basic commands of love and mercy. We can hide behind those laws and traditions to justify our self-righteousness and look down on others who are not as pious as us, as noted by James: "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deluding yourselves" (James 1:22).

Pope Francis makes a special effort to remind the Church, especially the clergy, of this truth: "Dangerous as it was then for the Pharisees, so too is it for us to consider ourselves acceptable, or even worse, better than others simply for observing the rules...even though we do not love our neighbor, we are hard of heart, we are arrogant and proud." +

We can hide behind laws and traditions to justify our self-righteousness and look down on others.

A Word from Pope Francis

Let us try asking ourselves: Am I open to the action of the Holy Spirit?...This is a prayer we must pray every day: "Holy Spirit, make my heart open to the word of God, make my heart open to goodness, make my heart open to the beauty of God every day."

—General audience, May 15, 2013



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do I look down on others who are not as generous and faithful as I?
- Is there a subtle division in my heart between those who deserve my love and those who do not?

A Profound Connection

By Kathleen M. Basi

I was young when my great-grandparents passed away. I remember being afraid of them. I was intimidated by their vast age and had difficulty communicating with them.

So, it has been a beautiful thing for me to see my children developing relationships with their great-grandmothers—relationships that cross the boundaries of this world. They prayed for my grandmother before she died, and they pray for her now, two years after her death.

In a world that depends on the tangible and measurable, even people of faith sometimes shy away from praying for the dead. What, really, is the point? They're dead! Yet popular inspirational culture is peppered with stories of people who sense that their loved ones are still with them.

As Catholics, we have inherited a beautifully holistic approach to death and resurrection. Believing in eternal life means those we love are dead only in the body. They're still able to care about us... and it is still worth praying for them.

Our Catholic faith also gives us a realistic perspective on holiness. We know how few of us are really worthy of the kingdom when we die—yet we also believe that God is too merciful to condemn us for all eternity. Just as we prayed for those we love in life, so we pray for them in death.

Even more beautifully, we can ask them to pray for us. That's a pretty



wonderful thing. Those who formed us in faith—not only family members but also teachers and mentors—are still in our lives. We talk a lot about the role of saints as inspiration for daily living, but it's those we knew in person who influence us most. We find ourselves repeating our fathers' wisdom, our mothers' mannerisms, and ~~repeating~~ ^{repeating} the life philosophy of the grandmother whose sugar jar we dip into while making cookies.

I'm not saying anything new here, but it bears repeating. Catholics may not suffer from overt discrimination these days, but we are still very aware of the ways in which our beliefs don't quite jibe with those of the broader Christian

culture. We can be hesitant to embrace the profound connection between us and the communion of saints—both the big "S" and the little "s" varieties.

Today is as good a time as any to reconnect with those who have gone before—to remember what they taught us, to imagine them standing by our side at our toughest moments, whispering the advice we treasured (or perhaps didn't treasure enough) when they were here in the flesh. This month, try to remember—and we will be better Christians because of it. +

As Catholics, we have inherited a beautifully holistic approach to death and resurrection.



Lord, you come from the heart of the Trinity. Give me a pure heart, that I may reflect goodness and love.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 30–
September 4

Monday, Weekday:
1 Thes 4:13–18 / Lk 4:16–30

Tuesday, Weekday:
1 Thes 5:1–6, 9–11 / Lk 4:31–37

Wednesday, Weekday:
Col 1:1–8 / Lk 4:38–44

Thursday, Weekday:
Col 1:9–14 / Lk 5:1–11

Friday, St. Gregory the Great:
Col 1:15–20 / Lk 5:33–39

Saturday, Weekday:
Col 1:21–23 / Lk 6:1–5



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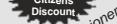
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