



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 & General Information Page 2

TALLer Tales Page 3

FORMED Pick of the Week Page 4

Miscellaneous Announcements..... Page 5

Respect Life Month Reflections Page 6

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

A Walk Through the Mass Series Page 11

Readings for 31th Sunday..... Page 12

Grow + Go Page 13

Holy Hours Page 14

Prayers for the Sick & our Military Page 15

Bringing Home the Word..... Page 16



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way. - Mk 10:51-52

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

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PARISH CENTER
22412 Overlake
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FAITH AND FAMILY
FORMATION OFFICE
22415 Overlake
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Phone: 586-772-1282
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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 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.



Another Sign the Pastor is getting OLD:

Every day seems to present many opportunities to remind your pastor that he is getting old. Even young Father

Andrew is starting to feel those dreaded aches and pains that age brings on (like when he tried to play soccer with the 5th graders during our School's Red and White Day and hurt his knee ... I told him afterward, "Wait until you hit the BIG 50!"). I laugh as I type this because I remember many funny conversations with Michaeline Hrabonz, our oldest parishioner before she died at the beautiful age of 104 in 2020. I remember talking to her at her 100th birthday party while she was dancing away to the sounds of her favorite polka. I suggested she should slow down a bit. She quickly responded, "Monsignor! It doesn't matter at this point. I made it to 100. So if the Lord took me now while I'm dancing, that's fine. I MADE IT!"

There were many times I would go up to her after the 4:00 PM mass, place both of my hands on her shoulders, and while looking at her square in the face, say, "Michaeline, I feel SOOOO OLD." She would gently tap me on the face, smile, and say, "Monsignor. You're a KID. You're like half my age. I'M OLD."

Every year for the Gala, I'm responsible for buying several items for the electronics' table. I usually use Black Friday shopping days as opportunities to find some great deals for the Gala and the parish. I'm one of those rare people who likes going out on Black Friday morning to shop. However, when the Gala was moved to October this year and not knowing last November if our Gala would still go on as planned, I didn't do my usual Gala shopping spree. So, I waited until the beginning of October to buy a few things. One of the items on my watch list was a Microsoft Surface Pro Tablet.

As the Gala was quickly approaching, I got a few "gentle reminders" from the Gala team wondering if I had purchased the big-ticket item yet. By the time I got to order it, it was Sunday evening of Gala week. When I got home that evening, I settled in my big comfy La-Z-Boy chair and started checking out my options for a Surface Pro at Best Buy. I scoured a few sites to see if I could find a better deal but settled on

Best Buy because it was \$400 off the regular price. I got everything in my cart, put in my credit card, and checked the delivery options. I was at peace because the delivery date was on Wednesday, well ahead of my deadline and in advance enough for me to find another option if something went wrong.

Wednesday evening came and went, and I remembered thinking something was odd because my Best Buy package didn't arrive. On Thursday evening, I inquired if anyone saw my package, thinking that maybe it was delivered and someone brought it up to the Gala room. By Friday afternoon, I was concerned. The package was nowhere to be found. I finally went onto my Best Buy account. As soon as I got onto my account, I saw four items in my shopping cart. I was confused because I couldn't imagine what would have been in my cart. I then opened the cart and found the Microsoft Surface Pro Tablet and all the accessories I had my eyes on. "That's weird," I thought to myself. "Did I accidentally put two of everything in my cart?" I then drilled down to my recent orders to get the tracking information I needed and saw no order for the Surface had been placed! I was even more confused. Then it dawned on me. I must have fallen asleep in my comfy La-Z-Boy chair before I even had the chance to hit the BUY button to complete the order. UGH! And, here I was blaming Best Buy! So close and yet so far. Yes, I'm old! NO. Wait a minute. It's clearly the chair's fault!

World Mission Sunday: This Sunday is World Mission Sunday, a special day when we unite ourselves with Catholics throughout the world to pray and sacrifice for the missionary efforts of the Church.

Every year the needs of the Catholic Church in the Missions grow – as new dioceses are formed, as new seminaries are opened because of the growing number of young men hearing Christ's call to follow Him as priests, as areas devastated by war or natural disaster are rebuilt, and as other areas, long suppressed, are opening up to hear the message of Christ and His Church.

Mission dioceses – about 1,110 at this time – receive regular annual assistance from the funds collected this weekend. In addition, these mission dioceses submit requests to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples for assistance, among other needs, for catechetical programs, seminaries, the work of

Religious Communities, for communication and transportation needs, and the building of chapels, churches, orphanages, and schools. These needs are matched with the funds gathered each year. The world's national directors of the Propagation of the Faith vote on these requests, matching the funds available with the greatest needs. These funds are then distributed, in their entirety, to mission dioceses throughout the world.

Our gifts go a LONG way in these mission dioceses. A donation of \$25 helps support a catechist for a MONTH in remote Latin America. A donation of \$75 provides for the work of religious sisters caring for orphaned children in Africa. Much like us in the United States, these mission dioceses have also relied heavily on technology to keep their communities together during the COVID crisis. All of these efforts take money.

Our donations help approximately 1,200 schools by helping to educate children in some of the poorest parts of the world, they help some 9,000 religious sisters and brothers in formation programs and some 30,000 seminarians preparing for the priesthood! These are indeed impressive numbers and show how our donations go a long way!

Special envelopes were available in Church this weekend for our World Mission Sunday Collection. Please be generous in supporting the Pontifical Mission Society. This annual collection is the Church's principal means for supporting missionary activity throughout the world. If you were not prepared to donate at Church this weekend, you can always bring your gift next weekend or drop it off at the Parish Center. You can donate online by going to mission.stjoan.church OR you can text to give by sending a text to 586-788-1334. Your text should be your gift, followed by the word "mission." So, for example, if you wanted to give \$20, text "20 mission" to 586-788-1334.

Please keep the missionary efforts of the Church in your prayers so that the Gospel may continue to be heard even to the remotest parts of the earth!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org



PICK OF THE WEEK

Oct 24, 2021

WATCH WITH GOD IN RUSSIA

Well known for his heroic story of surviving 24 years in Russian prison camps, this film about the great Jesuit Fr. Walter Ciszek traces his incredible endurance and struggle for survival. It highlights his tremendous faith in God, and the remarkable impact his life has had on the resurgence of Catholicism in Russia, as seen with on location footage from around the world.



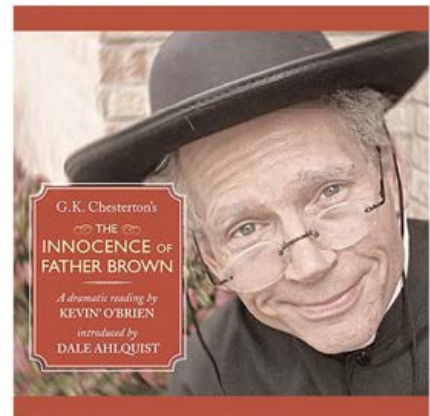
LEARN THE CONFESSIONS OF ST. AUGUSTINE, SIX-PART SERIES



Dr. Elizabeth Klein and Dr. John Sehorn, professors at the Augustine Institute, walk through the culture shaping, famous work of The Confessions of Saint Augustine. This classic of western literature has shaped thought for over 1,500 years and is a spiritual masterpiece reflecting man's relationship with God.

LISTEN THE INNOCENCE OF FATHER BROWN AUDIO BOOK BY G.K. CHESTERTON

One of the most memorable sleuths in the canon of detective fiction has to be Father Brown, the small priest with "a face as round and dull as a Norfolk dumpling", but who nevertheless outwits the greatest criminal minds with his wisdom regarding human nature. Brought to life here by actor Kevin O'Brien in a series of dramatic readings.



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

St. Joan of Arc Pilgrimage

June 17-26, 2022

Stay in Monasteries while visiting St. Joan's 'Deep France'

God willing, next June we will again lead a St. Joan of Arc pilgrimage/retreat to France. This will be our thirteenth opportunity for taking a group on this fascinating journey. Our travel philosophy remains the same - one of going back to the essentials, of simplicity, of quality time in some places instead of 'rush-rush' in many. Although we will indeed see and do much, we hope to travel first of all as spiritual travelers, rather than as consumers. Consequently, we will again purposely remain a small group. Each day we will gather for some combination of the following: prayer/meditation, information on activities of the day, addressing questions, *Question du Jour* discussions. Come and experience many of the places where St. Joan lived, visited, and prayed.

Sites will include: Orléans, Troyes, Domrémy-la-Pucelle, Vaucouleurs, and Reims, with quiet stays at monasteries in the heart of France. Please visit our website, with more information and photos: www.pilgrimwitnesses.com.

For any questions, feel free to contact us by phone or email:

Chris & Catherine Snidow
Phone: (214) 327-4579
Email: cowrind@sbcglobal.net
Website:
www.pilgrimwitnesses.com

St. Joan of Arc parishioner:
Darryl Bryk
Email: brykd@hotmail.com



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Visit smile.amazon.com there are no additional fees and .5% of all sales will be donated back to our parish/school.



Light of the Spirit Prayer Group



8th Grade Can and Bottle Drive

The Class of 2022 is now responsible for the can and bottle drive.

This is an important fundraiser that helps defray the cost of their graduation events.

Bring your returnables in bags to the Parish Center - West SIDE DOOR - (near Father Andrew's House) please. There is a large plastic bin with a lid that they can be placed in..

Or you can arrange a pick-up by calling or texting Matt at 313-683-1972.

The Class of 2022



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!



CARING FOR LOVED ONES AT LIFE'S END

Surround them with love, support, and companionship that are “anchored in unconditional respect for their human dignity, beginning with respect for the inherent value of their lives.”

To Live Each Day with Dignity, USCCB

- @uscbbprolife
- @ProjectRachel
- fb.com/peopleoflife

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

View, download, or order the U.S. bishops' pro-life materials!

www.usccb.org/respectlife



An old Irish proverb says, “It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.” Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. But when family members or friends approach life’s end, we may not know how best to “shelter” them. Here are some concrete ways we can compassionately care for them.

1. Invite God In

Pope Francis has said that “praying in difficult situations is like opening the door to the Lord, in order that he might enter.”¹ The dying process is a sacred time—a final season to seek closure in this life and prepare for the next in the hope of sharing in Christ’s Resurrection. As you enter into this season with your friend or family member, ask God to accompany both of you.

2. Listen

Try to discover your loved one’s values and how best to honor his or her wishes. This requires true empathy. It can be hard not to assume he or she wants the same thing you *think* you would want if you were in the same situation. Listen with a non-judgmental ear so your loved one feels free to speak openly.

3. Inform Yourself

Be aware that a person’s wishes for refusing ordinary or proportionate treatment²—or for pursuing assisted suicide—are usually rooted in fears of dependency, helplessness, or pain. Make yourself available to discuss these or any concerns. Know that hospice care focuses on alleviating pain and other symptoms, meeting basic needs, and providing comfort. Seek to understand the Catholic Church’s teaching on end-of-life care, which can help you provide authentically loving support that respects life.*

4. Be Steadfast in Compassion

As Pope Francis reminds us, “Compassion means ‘suffer with.’”³ Your friend or family member will likely face ups and downs. Recognize these as part of a natural process. Surround him or her with love, support, and companionship that are “anchored in unconditional respect for their human dignity, beginning with respect for the inherent value of their lives.”⁴ The patient’s suffering can be alleviated by your empathy, as well as by quality hospice care by medical personnel.

5. Help Them Achieve Closure

Help your family member or friend define the unfinished personal projects, financial concerns, unresolved relationships, or other matters that occupy his or her mind. Due to changing circumstances, some goals may need to be reframed. Creating and accomplishing this list of unfinished business can help the person discover a sense of purpose and feel more at peace.

6. Provide Opportunities for Resolution

Ira Byock, a hospice medical director, illustrates in his book *The 4 Most Important Things*** how saying “I love you,” “I’m sorry,” “I forgive you,” and “Thank you” can promote much-needed healing during the dying process. You can help ensure a peaceful transition for your loved one by facilitating opportunities for reconciliation with others and for mutual expressions of love and gratitude. Consider offering to invite a priest to hear his or her confession and to administer the Eucharist as viaticum⁵ and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, all of which heal the soul and prepare us to meet the Lord.

7. Reminisce

Our appetites may diminish as our bodies experience a decreased need for food and fluids when we near life’s end. Provide smaller amounts of your family member or friend’s favorite foods. Even if unable to eat them, he or she may still enjoy the aromas and reminisce with you about special memories they evoke. Think of other small comforts you can provide that would spark meaningful memories, like special photos or mementos.

8. Provide a Peaceful Presence

There comes a time of natural withdrawal from surroundings when dying persons may lose interest in many activities that used to be enjoyable. Your own quiet, patient presence can provide important support as your loved one prepares emotionally and spiritually for his or her passing. Hearing can become very acute, so placing the phone in another room, playing favorite music, reading a favorite passage, praying together, or simply sitting quietly with him or her can all be very soothing.

9. Show Tenderness

Those who are dying remain in need of the tenderness of personal human contact. Ask if you might gently brush your loved one’s hair, apply lotion to her hands or feet, or simply hold his hand. Tell stories, laugh, and share memories to reassure the person he or she is a cherished gift, not a burden in any way.

10. Bear Their Transition Patiently

Transition, the time immediately preceding death, may bring rapid physical changes, such as in breathing patterns, as well as changes in mental or emotional states. Try to be patient, and allow the “how” and “when” of death to be between God and your loved one. Ask God for the wisdom to know what final words to say—if any—and when. As you are able, give your loved one permission to make the transition. For example, you might say, “I love you. It’s okay to go home now.”

Accompanying a loved one in his or her last days is enormously important, but we do not need to fear our own limitations. Pope Francis tells us, “[God] comes to assist us in our weakness. And his help consists in helping us accept his presence and closeness to us. Day after day, touched by his compassion, we also can become compassionate towards others.”⁶

⁵As our bishops teach, “Respect for life does not demand that we attempt to prolong life by using medical treatments that are ineffective or unduly burdensome.”⁷ At the same time, intentionally hastening death—whether through drugs or deliberate neglect of basic care—offends our God-given dignity and is never morally permissible. More information: www.usccb.org/ToLiveEachDay

⁶References do not indicate endorsement.

¹Pope Francis, *Morning Meditation in the Chapel of the Dormus Sanctae Marthae: Choosing the Better Part*, 8 October 2013, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2013).

²More information: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services*, 5th ed. (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2009). United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *To Live Each Day with Dignity: A Statement on Physician-Assisted Suicide* (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2011).

³Pope Francis, *General Audience, Wednesday, April 27, 2016*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2016).

⁴United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *To Live Each Day with Dignity: A Statement on Physician-Assisted Suicide*, 10.

⁵Viaticum is “the Eucharist received by a dying person. It is the spiritual food for one’s ‘passing over’ to the Father from this world. With Penance and the Anointing

of the Sick, the reception of Holy Communion as Viaticum constitute the ‘last sacraments’ of the Christian.” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, Glossary*). See also *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1331, 1392, 1517, 1524-25.

⁶Pope Francis, *Misericordiae vultus*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2015), no. 14.

⁷United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *To Live Each Day with Dignity: A Statement on Physician-Assisted Suicide*, 10.

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Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, October 25th

- 7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed
6:15 pm Faith Formation for 7th & 8th Graders

Tuesday, October 26th

- 7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed
10:00 am Funeral for Margaret Demartelaere

Wednesday, October 27th

- 7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 pm Baptism of Kennedy Reagan Raymo

Thursday, October 28th

- 7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed
7:00 pm Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, October 22nd

- 7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, October 23rd

- 10:00 am Funeral for Mark Brys
11:00 am Reconciliation
1:00 pm Pulcer/Hoyt Wedding
2:45 pm Baptisms of Frederick & Tucker Julian
4:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed
6:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, October 24th

- 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

October 24, 2021 – Finding a Home

Anyone who has ever been away from home for a period of time, unplanned, knows how disconcerting the experience can be.

Maybe it was due to an unexpected weather event. Or a loss of power. Or a family medical emergency of some kind. Regardless, the departure from a normal routine, and a separation from the normal “stuff” we use on a day-to-day basis can cause disruption.

Heck, even when we’ve been away on vacation – which is clearly something undertaken by choice – there is always a certain sense of relief in getting back into the normal flow. “It’s nice to go away,” people often say, “but it’s nice to get back home, too.”

So it is certainly with a certain sense of empathy that we read stories of foreign refugees who, in the most dramatic and difficult circumstances, have been forced from their homes and are attempting to find a new sense of normalcy.

The M-Live news portal a few weeks ago reported that “refugee resettlement agencies expect more Afghan refugees will come to Michigan during the next few months than in the last decade combined.”

That number, the story said, could be up to 1,300 people displaced by the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

It’s a terribly difficult situation with no quick answer, to be sure. But those displaced people – and all of us – might take solace in knowing that God has been down roads like this before, and he’ll see them through.

“Behold I will bring them back from the land of the north,” we hear God say of his people Israel in today’s first reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

“I will gather them from the ends of the world, with the blind and the lame in their midst, the mothers and those with child; they shall return as an immense throng. They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them.

© 2021 Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday October 25, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. May Ferguson and Jim Plath

Tuesday October 26, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Alice Long and Joan Linden - In Remembrance on her Birthday

Wednesday October 27, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Christopher Toenjes and Hugo Plath

Thursday October 28, 2020 Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles (Red)

7:00 a.m. Hugo Calisi

Friday October 29, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Alice Plath and Julian Ross

Saturday October 30, 2021 Weekday BVM (Green/White)

4:00 p.m. Tom Toenjes, George Rupinski, Bonnie Batche, Alice Czekaj, Marguerite Krapp, Anna Maria Dolunt, Josie Dehelean, Rosalie Reiter, Dick Reiter, Jerry Bodendistel, Peter & Louisa Sarra, Joan Linden, Sam & Grace Valenti, Roger Rheaume, and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family, the J. Champine Family and Humberto Sandoval.

6:00 p.m. Juanita and Entice Amancio

Sunday October 31, 2021 Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

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

10:00 a.m. Anna Maria Dolunt

12:00 p.m. Sr. Marie Houle, OP, George J. Bugarin, Sr. Mary Pippis, the deceased members of the Salvatore & Antonieta Urso Family, Eddie Long, Terry McManus, Bob Fannon, Salvatore Ciaravino, Rebeca Sandoval, Fr. Leo Ramer, Robert & Mary Fannon, Primitivo & Rebeca Sandoval, Larry Vargo, Jill Miller, Beth Scrivo

Daily Readings

Monday, October 25

Romans 8:12-17
Luke 13:10-17

Friday, October 29

Romans 9:1-5
Luke 14:1-6

Tuesday, October 26

Romans 8:18-25
Luke 13:18-21

Saturday, October 30

Romans 11:1-2a
Luke 14:1, 7-11

Wednesday, October 27

Romans 8:26-30
Luke 13:22-30

Sunday, October 31

Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 12:28b-34

Thursday, October 28

Ephesians 2:19-22
Luke 6:12-16



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.”

Joel Vandebussche
Gary Kamlay
Margaret Demartelaere
Mary Phelen
Margaret Patt



“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.”

Minnie Louise Haskins



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,



“I Believe... There’s A Crocodile on the Veranda...”:

My mom was born and lived in West Africa and her childhood

was filled with stories I often heard of her time there. One particular story I heard so often and would re-tell often. But somehow it got lost in translation. The story I knew was that a neighbor had woken up one day to find a crocodile on the veranda of their house. I thought it was pretty amazing—how can a crocodile climb to the second floor? But still, I would re-tell this amazing story. One day, after years of telling it like this, I happened to remind my mom of this story, and she looked at me like I was crazy. “The veranda??!” she said, “who said there was a crocodile on the veranda?!” “You did!” I protested. “I said on the porch! The crocodile was on the porch. How could a crocodile get onto a veranda?” Familiarity breeds contempt, they say, and maybe it’s not always deliberate, but when we’ve heard something a million times over, there’s a danger that we stop listening to the words, even if we’re the ones saying them.

I thought, since I mentioned it last week, this might be a chance to take a little closer look at the Creed, which we each profess at mass every weekend. Are we really listening to what we are each telling each other that “I believe” or has it become a “zone-out” time before we get to sit down again? During the Eucharistic prayer, at every mass, we ask God to “look not upon our sins, but on the faith of your Church.” That kind of plea means little if “the faith of our Church” is not something we share because we don’t know *what* the Church teaches. How can we subscribe to something we don’t even know? And yet we say the words every Sunday! Today we live in a world where everyone wants to have their beliefs heard and people cherish their opinions and guard them so closely. But on Sundays, are we freely telling those in the pews what we believe without even thinking about what we’re saying? Like the trusty reminder apps on our smart phones, the Nicene Creed reminds us why we go to mass each week and try to live a Christ-like life once we leave the doors of the church. It’s a handy, summary of everything we believe in. If you want to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith, there might be no more conveniently packaged set of teachings to begin with

than to study the Nicene Creed. It’s a summary of the faith passed down through the ages and is a statement of Revelation, set-up in 3 parts, proclaiming our Trinitarian God to be Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three persons in one God. While fads come and go, this simple, profession of faith is still relevant today as it was nearly 1,700 years ago. Just as in Emperor Constantine’s time, we are still surrounded by people who say the Catholic teachings are far-fetched, disputable, or don’t make sense. In a world where it’s easy to idolize celebrities and athletes, we need the Nicene Creed to bring us back to the roots of our faith. So let’s break it down line by line. What do we believe?:

“I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.”

We are proclaiming that we believe in one God, who is almighty—having absolute power over all—who is the creator of everything in existence, on heaven and earth and things that are visible to the eye and things that are not, such as angels.

“Jesus is the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father.”

Here, the Church is making clear the divinity of Jesus, that He was not made or created by the Father, but that He always existed “before all ages.” There was never a time when Jesus did not exist. It helps to understand this line further by defining certain words. Merriam-Webster defines *begotten* as: “to produce especially as an effect or outgrowth,” and *consubstantial* as: “of the same substance.” Jesus therefore, is of the same substance of God the Father, and both are one in the same. Christ was generated or brought forth from something that already existed; He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, but not created by God.

“Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.”

This is the core of our faith: Jesus became human and walked the same earth we do to save us from death. Unlike us, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and was both fully divine and fully human. The Virgin

Mary is also referenced to remind us of her role in our salvation.

“For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.”

As Jesus foretold, He suffered, died, and rose again three days later to give us the gift of eternal life. Forty days after His resurrection, He left the physical world and ascended into heaven. As believers we’re reminded that Jesus will come a second time to judge all the living and the dead, and those worthy will enjoy eternal peace in God’s eternal kingdom.

“I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.”

In the final lines, we “confess” or “believe” that through our baptism we have been rid of original sin, and that we, along with all those who die, will one day enjoy unending eternal bliss with God. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity and as the Creed states, should be adored and glorified, because the Holy Spirit is God. As Scripture shows us, there were instances when the prophets reveal that the Holy Spirit spoke through them. For instance, Isaiah says: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted...” (Isaiah 61:1).

“I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.”

We are a “catholic” (universal) faith handed on by “apostolic succession,” that is, by the successors of Jesus’ Apostles. In the final lines, we “confess” that through our baptism we have been rid of original sin, and that we confirm our hope to one day enjoy unending bliss with God, along with all those who have gone before us.

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew adawson@sjascs.org

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THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 31 B

Reading One – Dt 6:2-6

Moses spoke to the people, saying: "Fear the LORD, your God, and keep, throughout the days of your lives, all his statutes and commandments which I enjoin on you, and thus have long life. Hear then, Israel, and be careful to observe them, that you may grow and prosper the more, in keeping with the promise of the LORD, the God of your fathers, to give you a land flowing with milk and honey.

"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone! Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. Take to heart these words which I enjoin on you today."

Responsorial Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, O LORD, my strength, O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

My God, my rock of refuge, my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold! Praised be the LORD, I exclaim, and I am safe from my enemies.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

The LORD lives! And blessed be my rock! Extolled be God my savior. You who gave great victories to your king and showed kindness to your anointed.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

Reading Two – Heb 7:23-28

Brothers and sisters: The levitical priests were many because they were prevented by death from remaining in office, but Jesus, because he remains forever, has a priesthood that does not pass away. Therefore, he is always able to save those who approach God through him, since he lives forever to make intercession for them.

It was fitting that we should have such a high priest: holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, higher than the heavens. He has no need, as did the high priests, to offer sacrifice day after day, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did that once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints men subject to weakness to be high priests, but the word of the oath, which was taken after the law, appoints a son, who has been made perfect forever.

Alleluia – Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord; and my father will love him and we will come to him.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Mk 12:28b-34

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "The first is this: *Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* The second is this: *You shall love your neighbor as yourself.* There is no other commandment greater than these." The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, 'He is One and there is no other than he.' And 'to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself' is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

October 24, 2021

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 31:7-9 | Heb 5:1-6 | Mk 10:46-52

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

How often do we pray with abandon? Perhaps when turbulence makes us wonder if our plane's going down, when a friend or loved one faces a difficult diagnosis or life-threatening injury, when we face a setback, a major decision, or a heartbreak. On some days, though, have we been guilty of just going through the motions when we pray? Not so for Bartimaeus. "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me," he repeatedly implores, ignoring the shushing of the crowd. When Jesus asks him what he wants, the blind man doesn't beat around the bush. "I want to see." Recognizing his faith, Jesus heals him. Bartimaeus could not see, yet he had recognized Jesus as the Messiah and persisted in prayer. His example reminds us to be persistent in prayer, holding nothing back from Jesus who desires to make us whole.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

While Bartimaeus faced physical blindness, this did not prevent him from recognizing Jesus as the Son of David, the Messiah. In our modern-day world so filled with distractions, we can become blind to the face of Jesus, or simply take his abundant love for us for granted. As the psalmist reminds us, "The Lord has done great things for us. We are filled with joy." Looking back on our lives, we can probably see a few miracles - the birth of a child, the stunning beauty of a sunrise over the mountains or the arborvitae in our backyards, the friends who walk alongside us through each chapter of life. Today's readings encourage us to open our eyes to the face of Jesus in our lives, and in turn to reflect his steadfast love to those we encounter.

PRAY Read today's psalm response: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." Reflect on experiences and people who have brought you closer to God - friends, family, or your parish priest. Write them a note or say a prayer of thanksgiving.



*Spend an hour
with me.*

-Jesus

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silent adoration
week 4.*

Prayers Needed

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Sharon Deller	Rich Hanselman	Charlotte Miller	Terri Smigels	
Catherine DeRose	Alleyn Hunt	Dee Misuraca	Kathleen Smith	

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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
October 24, 2021

Boldly Believe!

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

It rarely does any good to follow the crowd. Most people follow the path of least resistance, just floating along. Jesus said the path to heaven is narrow and few follow it. Dare to believe in eternal truths, in Jesus, and swim against the current.

Just look at what happened to blind Bartimaeus. He wanted the impossible, to be healed by Jesus, but he was at a big disadvantage. He couldn't see Jesus in order to find him. So, what did he do? He started by using his only strength—his loud voice. He couldn't run after Jesus but could only sit and call out.

Lesson one: Use whatever talent you have to reach Jesus. Don't focus on what you lack but on what you have.

The crowd told him to be quiet and polite, not upsetting the moment. Bartimaeus "kept calling out all the more" (Mark 10:48). Lesson two: Ignore the crowd if they keep you from Jesus and your dreams.

Jesus hears his cry and calls for Bartimaeus, who springs up with a newfound joy because Jesus reached out to him. He stumbles toward him, directed by the crowd. Lesson three: Go to Jesus with your weakness! It doesn't bother him. It attracts him.

Jesus asks what he wants, and blind Bartimaeus boldly asks for the impossible: to see. Impossible, unless he believed Jesus was in fact the Son of David, the Messiah, the miracle worker. Jesus gives him exactly what his faith merited. Lesson four: Boldly believe and pursue the impossible. Jesus wants to give it to you! +

*Dare to believe
in eternal truths,
in Jesus,
and swim against
the current.*

A Word from Pope Francis

In the biblical tradition, the Son of Man is the one who receives from God "dominion, glory, and kingship" (Daniel 7:14). Jesus fills this image with new meaning. He shows us that he enjoys dominion because he is a servant, glory because he is capable of abasement, kingship because he is fully prepared to lay down his life.

Homily, October 18, 2015



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What do you need Jesus to fill?
- Are you the answer to how Jesus wants to fill someone's need?

Sunday Readings

Jeremiah 31:7-9

I will lead them to streams of water, / on a level road, without stumbling.

Hebrews 5:1-6

Every high priest is taken from among men...He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness.

Mark 10:46-52

[Bartimaeus] threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.... "Master, I want to see."

A Tough Language

By Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, CSSR

I've been a student of the Spanish language for many years, and I've bitten my tongue (literally) more times than I can count trying to say tongue-twisting words and phrases. It's tough to learn a new language. Think back to when you studied a language that was new to you in high school or college. Or maybe you took a crash course in Italian in anticipation of a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Rome. Or it could be that in the world of international business and your travel for work, you had to learn words in Chinese or Korean.

Nouns, verbs, pronouns, conjugations, and declensions are all mind-expanding, headache-inducing, and not at all easy to remember. Plus, it's tough trying to get your mouth coordinated for the pronunciation of consonants and vowels you never heard of and tuning your ears to sounds that are unfamiliar and indecipherable. While learning a new language can be challenging, the process can be made a bit easier—or should I say, more palatable—with help.

Like learning a new language, learning to pray can be tough! It can be very much like taking Spanish 101. I'm not talking about learning Aramaic, the language Jesus likely spoke, or even speaking in tongues. I'm talking about learning to converse freely and familiarly with our Savior, Jesus Christ, who came from heaven, returned there, and who desperately wants us to end up there one day.



The good news is many of the tools that are helpful in learning languages are transferable. They can also be helpful in building a prayer life. For example, repeating words over and over and committing them to memory creates a structure to build on when learning other new words. Repetition teaches the muscles in your mouth and face new patterns of movement and your ears new sounds.

A mentor can encourage, correct, model conversation and proper pronunciation, and teach dialogue. And help you laugh at yourself. Have a sense of humor, be willing to embarrass yourself, and don't take yourself too seriously.

Time—maybe months and years—is required. Some courses promise proficiency in weeks. Impossible! Only time, and lots of it, can get mind and mouth in sync so that you can one day achieve fluency. So much can get lost in translation.

“In the beginning was the Word,” says the Scriptures (John 1:1). At Christmas we will celebrate the day when God in Christ Jesus came to earth. He then learned to speak human words so we might learn to speak heavenly words and someday fully comprehend the Word that was spoken at the beginning of time. To learn the language of heaven, take the Gospels seriously. Repeating Jesus' words expands our minds and hearts. Find a mentor, someone well-versed in prayer, and take time—lots of it—to practice. Who wants to get to heaven and find out they don't speak the language? It's time to learn a second language! +

A prayer mentor might be just the ticket for you.



Lord, I am grateful you came to heal the brokenhearted. Help me to trust in you when I am in trouble.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

October 25–30

Monday, Weekday:
Rom 8:12–17 / Lk 13:10–17

Tuesday, Weekday:
Rom 8:18–25 / Lk 13:18–21

Wednesday, Weekday:
Rom 8:26–30 / Lk 13:22–30

Thursday, Sts. Simon and Jude:
Eph 2:19–22 / Lk 6:12–16

Friday, Weekday:
Rom 9:1–5 / Lk 14:1–6

Saturday, Weekday:
Rom 11:1–2a, 11–12, 25–29 / Lk 14:1, 7–11

Bringing Home
the Word 
October 24, 2021

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