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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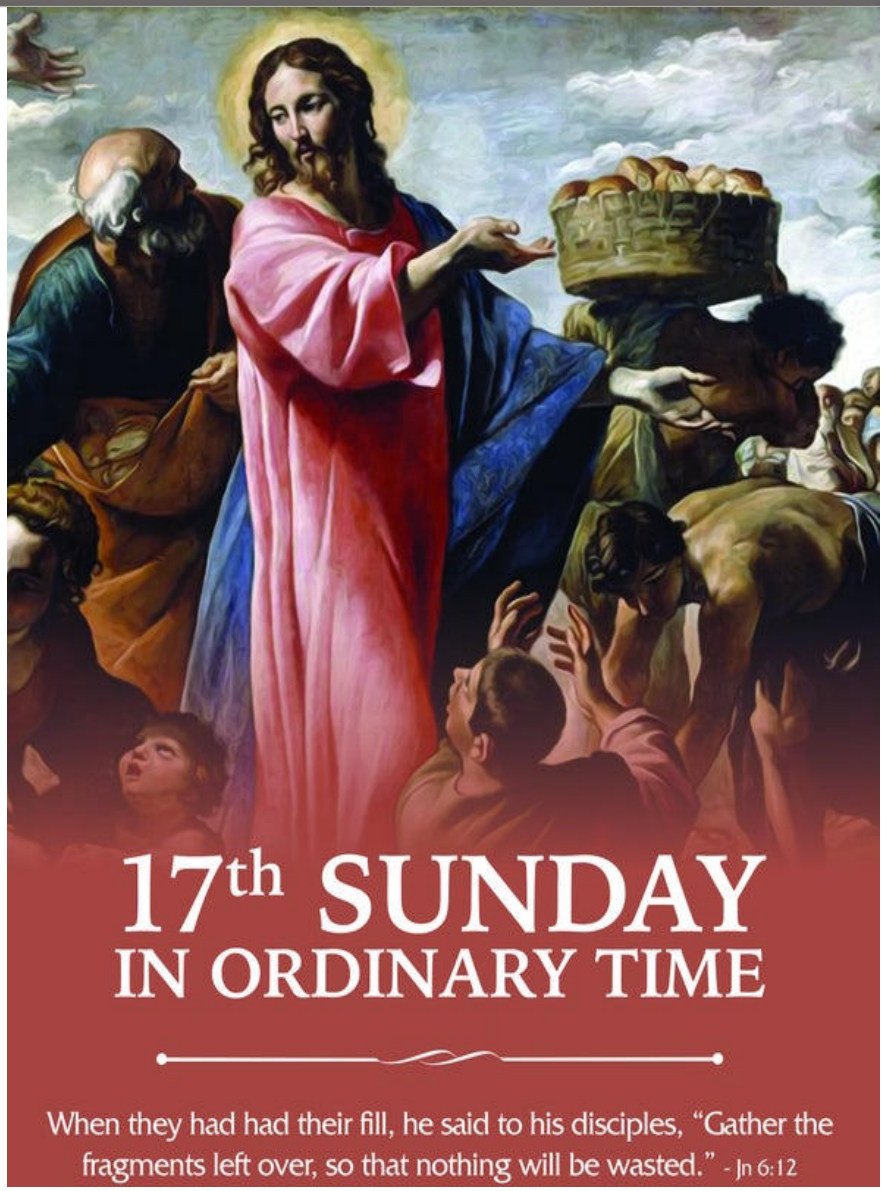

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." - Jn 6:12

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

Associate Pastor
Fr. Andrew Dawson
adawson@sjascs.org

Non-Resident Associate Pastor:
Fr. Rich Bartoszek

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Deacon Dom Pastore
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Athletic Director
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Office of Faith & Family Formation
Kristine Stewart Hass
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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 (adjacent to church)

Holy Hour
Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

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

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center for the Month of July is open
Monday - Thursday from 8:30am-5pm
Fridays in July – CLOSED

For mass intentions or any service we may be reached at 586-777-3670 during these hours.

For any urgent needs when we are not open, please call our after-hours emergency number: 586-777-1342.

Baptisms: Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out the Baptism request 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.

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, at this time please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone to get further information OR by calling us at 586-777-3670 during office hours.

Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Though we have returned to public masses we will continue our Live Stream Broadcasts of all celebrations.

- **Weekdays -7 am Mass - (Monday thru Friday)**
- **Saturdays - 4 pm and 6 pm Masses**
- **Sundays - 8 am, 10 am & 12 pm Masses**
- **Thursdays - 7 pm Holy Hour**

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

TALLer Tales

The Toolbox: As the "Bugarin Four," … aka the Bugarin children …, when we were growing up, I often wondered why our dad ALWAYS locked his toolbox. And even though we would search and search for the key, we could never find it. So if you were looking for a tool, you were better off searching for that tool someplace else in the house because Dad's workbench and tools were locked down tighter than Fort Knox.

Being "grown-up" now, I know why Dad always had his toolbox locked. I've discovered as a Pastor … a father … that tools, and many other things, tend to wander. I've often said around the parish that I needed my own electronic closet for all the stuff I depend on kept under lock and key. But, it's only at SJA that I truly began to appreciate why Dad locked his toolbox. And, given my life, when I go looking for things, it's ALWAYS at the "ninth hour," and people are waiting on me to start a video or do this or that.

Fast forward to today. My mom has been on a cleaning and "thinning" binge at the condo for the past two months. If she hasn't seen or touched something in two years, out it goes. I've been amazed by all the stuff stashed away. As I mentioned a few weeks ago, I still have things from Rome down in their basement. Remember, I lived in Rome from 1986 to 1991; all that stuff is WELL BEYOND the "two-year" touch policy.

On one of our recent cleaning days at the condo, I went downstairs and started to work on my dad's workbench. I began to clear out and organize the drawers before I started to tackle the workbench top itself. But up in the far left corner of his workbench sat THE TOOLBOX. It's the same toolbox that sat on this workbench when we were kids. That toolbox has almost become an iconic "thing" for me. And, as I stared at THE TOOLBOX, my eyes focused on THE LOCK. Now, I haven't paid much attention to THE TOOLBOX for eons because I've rarely needed to hunt down a tool in my dad's workroom. I carry my own tools in my car, so I always have what I need to work on things. People laugh at me because the entire cargo area of my Acadia is filled with toolboxes and bins so I can do a repair or fix something, electronic or otherwise, on-demand.

I somewhat froze as I looked at THE TOOLBOX … because it was THE TOOLBOX I tried breaking into hundreds of times as a kid and teenager. I tugged at the lock, and it was, of course, locked. I looked over my shoulder as if my dad was watching and then started to look for the key, as I did hundreds of times as a kid, teenager, and young adult. My dad has this stackable parts bin on his workbench filled with nuts, bolts, nails, golf tees, golf cleat pins, spare Christmas bulb parts, etc. I can't believe this, but I searched for the key through EVERY drawer of that stackable parts bin area. Things haven't changed in 50 years! That key had to be hidden downstairs, SOMEPLACE. I continued to look and look but found nothing. I became growingly convinced my dad took that key to his grave!

I then did the unthinkable! I found the hack saw on my dad's pegboard of tools and began to saw off the lock. As I was sawing away, I wondered if there was some treasure beyond tools sitting in that toolbox. It took a few minutes, but the toolbox was now free. All I could hear going off in my head was, "OH MY GOSH, you sawed off THE LOCK on THE TOOLBOX … wait 'til Dad finds out."

I cautiously opened the toolbox as if I was at the ultimate golden grail of treasure hunts. I felt like Indiana Jones, but in my own *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. The contents of THE TOOLBOX had always been a mystery. This can't be real, and I couldn't believe what I just did.

I opened THE TOOLBOX … and found nothing but a bunch of old tools … a treasure trove in their own right for my dad. But now I felt guilty. It felt like I had committed a mortal sin and I needed to go to confession! Yikes. Still stunned by my getting into THE TOOLBOX, I looked over my shoulder and almost expected my dad to come running down the stairs to catch me in the act and ground me for days. The mystery of the contents of THE TOOLBOX was now solved. But I still want to know where he hid that key. It was probably closer than we all realized, and my dad is probably having an absolute field day laughing at the whole experience.

The Sacrament of the Sick (Part FIVE): Human illness can and does teach us the virtue of patience! When we put it into the proper perspective, though, we realize that in the sufferings we endure (if we endure them properly and with faith), we are uniquely joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. If we adopt the "woe is me attitude" and turn in on ourselves, then we will never see the redemptive value of our human illness. However, if we realize there is a redemptive value in our suffering and graciously accept it as part of God's will for our life, then we can become those saints mentioned in the beautiful prayer I shared last week: "Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness, or disease realize that they are chosen to be saints, and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world …."

Sometimes children can realize this more readily than adults. "What you have hidden from the learned and the clever you have revealed to the childlike (*Matt.* 11:25)." I recall one SJA kid saying he felt it was better he had the terminal illness than his siblings. He knew God had given it to him for a reason. He was often found visiting other oncology pediatric patients while he was receiving chemotherapy. He wasn't focused on himself but looked for ways he could teach through his illness. He turned his cross into something redemptive for himself and those around him. I remember another SJA student who showed and encouraged his family and friends not to fear his illness or impending death. He taught us the gracious art of dying.

Yes, many times, we are given crosses we do not want. But as a people of faith, we have to accept that these crosses are given to us as a gift, a precious gift from God, a gentle kiss from Christ. We can be sour and ruin the lives of those around us, or we can accept the particular cross as part of God's will for us and then turn that cross into something redemptive. Everybody likes Easter Sunday, but few want to embrace Good Friday. Just remember, you cannot get to Easter Sunday unless you have lived through the pain of Good Friday and the emptiness of Holy Saturday. It is all a matter of perspective. It is all a matter of faith. It is what redemption is all about!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjascs.org

FORMED®

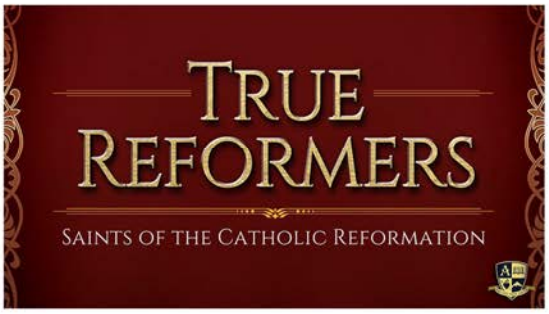
PICK OF THE WEEK

July 25, 2021

WATCH

SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA: SOLDIER FOR CHRIST

At the end of this week, we celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the "Soldier for Christ." While Martin Luther's interior troubles plunged Europe into a maelstrom of controversy, Ignatius of Loyola set out on an extraordinary interior pilgrimage of grace. Taught directly by God, Ignatius offered the Church a new spirituality of devoted service to Christ and founded a religious order dedicated to evangelization, the Jesuits.



LEARN

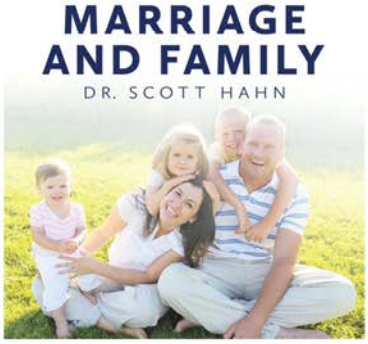
FORMED NOW! DOES FAITH TAKE A VACATION?

As many of us embark on sunny vacations, it's important to make sure our faith remains front and center in our lives. Since it's easy for us to be distracted by the excitement of the summer rhythm, Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger discuss what we can do to make sure we don't let the spiritual life take a back seat.

LISTEN

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: LOVE UNVEILED BY DR. SCOTT HAHN

Strong relationships and marriages are of vital importance to individuals, the Church, and society as a whole. In this focused presentation, Dr. Scott Hahn shares key principles that he has lived out in his own life. His advice is practical, challenging, and sometimes requires sacrifice, but it is sure to bear fruit and bring forth many blessings in your family. In honor of Sts. Joachim and Anne, please enjoy this powerful talk!



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

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT

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.

SJA Is Asking For Your SMILE!

Make all your Amazon purchases through Amazon Smile!

You can use your current Amazon account and search for St. Joan of Arc. Visit smile.amazon.com there are no additional fees and .5% of all sales will be donated back to our parish/school.

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You Shop. Amazon Gives.

Can Tab Recycling

We are back to recycling can tabs. All proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

How you can help: Spread the word! Let your family, friends, co-workers, and classmates know that their small pop tabs, food can tabs all can make a big difference for Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Donations can be dropped off in the buckets at church, brought to the Parish Center, or pick-up may be arranged by calling:

Frank Poeschel at 586-776-8746.

St. Vincent DePaul Critical Need

Calling all Vincentians! There is an unprecedented need at all SVDP retail locations for Volunteers.
We are asking for help with a variety of tasks such as sorting clothing and pricing wares.
Online registration is available at svdpdetroit.org.
If you have problems registering or have any questions please email Lynn Karnes@ lkarnes@svdpdetroit.org or call #313-393-3025.

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

A foundation of faith and excellence.
St. Joan of Arc
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
stjoan.net
Join our team!
Check out these opportunities at our school
• Middle school math teacher
• Spanish teacher
• Substitute teachers
• Afterschool band director
learn more at
stjoan.net/careers

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, July 26th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, July 27th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, July 28th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, July 29th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 pm Holy Hour (Silent Adoration) Live Streamed

Friday, July 30th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, July 31st

11:00 am Reconciliation

1:30 pm Baptism of Brady Forhan

4:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, August 1st

8:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 am Sunday Mass - Highschool Timothy Awards - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

Words on the Word

July 25, 2021 – Eyes on the Road

A 1980s-era television police procedural always began with an admonition to the team: "Let's be careful out there!"

It was a message from the sergeant to the officers heading out for their shift, but it might just as well apply today, to everyone heading out on the roads for trips near and far:

"Be careful out there!"

Road rage has been much in the news lately. A few weeks ago, as an example, local media reported on an incident that began, according to a story in *The Detroit News*, with "two cars that 'side-swiped each other' on the Interstate 94 service drive at Nine Mile then entered the freeway."

The story went on to say that, subsequently, someone from one of the cars proceeded to fire gunshots at the other car. No one was hurt, according to the story, and a suspect was in custody.

That event followed others, according to the story, including two incidents within 24 hours on the Southfield Freeway, an event on the Lodge Freeway, and the fatal shooting in Troy of a Detroit firefighter after what also was reported to have been a road rage incident.

Certainly driving is not always the most calming experience. And certainly others who make mistakes or are overly aggressive can elicit some anger, even among generally calm people.

But in such circumstances, perhaps we can take St. Paul's own admonition for humility to heart.

"I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received," St. Paul tells the Ephesians – and us – in today's second reading, "with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace."

In doing so, we'll all be on the road to a more peaceful life.

© 2021, Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday **July 26, 2021 Saints Jocachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary (White)**

7:00 a.m. Eric Ketelhut and Ann Stanglewicz

Tuesday **July 27, 2021 Weekday (Green/Red)**

7:00 a.m. Mark Pinchet and Lorraine Gonko

Wednesday July 28, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Hugo Calisi and Marie Terese Tobin

Thursday July 29, 2021 Saint Martha (White)

7:00 a.m. Theresa and Raymond Brazier

Friday **July 30, 2021 Weekday, Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Green/White)**

7:00 a.m. Marie Terese Tobin and Rose Norkus

Saturday **July 31, 2021 Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest (White)**

4:00 p.m. David Belloli, Bonnie Batche, April Cheesewright, Stephen McAvoy, David Cooley, Larry Rancilio and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family, the J. Champine Family and Madeline Valdez

6:00 p.m. A Special Intention for Angelo Ascione

Sunday **August 1, 2021 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)**

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

10:00 a.m. A Special Intention for Christine Bugarin

12:00 p.m. Cardinal John Frances Dearden, Marguerite Joseph, Mary Charrette, Daisy Marie Buena Vista, William Kiefer

Weekly Readings

Monday, July 26

Exodus 32:15-24
Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday, July 27

Exodus 33:7-11
Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday, July 28

Exodus 34:29-35
Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday, July 29

Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38
John 11:19-27

Friday, July 30

Leviticus 23:1, 4-11
Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday, July 31

Leviticus 25:1, 8-17
Matthew 14:1-12

Sunday, August 1

Exodus 16:2-4
Ephesians 4:17, 20-24
John 6:24-35

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."

Mary Hindle
Delphine Kirejczyk
George McCabe
Robert (Bobby) Root
(Son of Stephan and Ryna Karpuk)

"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

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 – 6:55 pm

We hope that you can join us!

Distractions: One of the things priests hear pretty often in confession is about people's distractions during prayer, so I wanted to address this here.

Probably not many of us ever think of the Catechism of the Catholic Church as a book to sit down and read like a great novel…. And it's not supposed to be that. It's a valuable resource, a reference book that defines the core truths of the Catholic faith as precisely as possible, often in some pretty technical language. But the section on Christian Prayer is different.

Several years ago, I was driving an old Chevy Beretta in northern Michigan and I heard a "clunk" sound. Looking in the rear-view mirror I saw a chunk of metal, so I stopped, picked it up and took it to a mechanic and asked what it was. He gave me a technical answer first, then, looking at my blank stare, told me what I needed to know with nothing hidden, "Okay, so if you park in tall grass (which I just had!), this piece stops the grass from catching fire!" "Okay," I said, "got it." The Catechism's section on prayer reminds me of this. It's such down-to-earth language. The Church "gets it". This is the "okay, I'll level with you, this is what you need to know" language that helps us to see that the Church understands that prayer can be a struggle. But it's a struggle worth engaging in because to pray is to let your heart gaze upon heaven and let God see your heart's wounds and scars, its hopes and desires. And guaranteed, if you have EVER prayed at all, to whatever degree, you will recognize yourself in what it has to tell you.

The scriptures regularly highlight our need for persistence in prayer. I strongly recommend taking a look at the Catechism, Part Four, Chapter 3 – "The Life of Prayer," beginning at paragraph number 2697. Here's a selection:

2725 Prayer is both a gift of grace and a determined response on our part. It always presupposes effort.…Prayer is a battle. Against whom? Against ourselves and against the wiles of the tempter who does all he can to turn man away from prayer, away from union with God.

2726 In the battle of prayer ….many Christians unconsciously regard prayer as an occupation that is incompatible with all the other things they have to do: they "don't have the time." Those who seek God by prayer are quickly discouraged because they do not know that prayer comes also from the Holy Spirit and not from themselves alone.

2728 Our battle has to confront what we experience as *failure in prayer: discouragement during periods of dryness; sadness, disappointment over not being heard according to our own will; wounded pride.…The conclusion is always the same: what good does it do to pray? …We must battle to gain humility, trust, and perseverance.*

2729 The habitual difficulty in prayer is *distraction. It can affect words and their meaning in vocal prayer; it can concern, more profoundly, him to whom we are praying, in vocal prayer (liturgical or personal), meditation, and contemplative prayer. To set about hunting down distractions would be to fall into their trap, when all that is necessary is to turn back to our heart…. Therein lies the battle, the choice of which master to serve.*

2730 In positive terms, the battle against the possessive and dominating self requires vigilance, sobriety of heart. When Jesus insists on *vigilance, he always relates it to himself, to his coming on the last day and every day: today. The bridegroom comes in the middle of the night; the light that must not be extinguished is that of faith: "'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!'"*

2731 …. Dryness [in prayer] … when the heart is separated from God, with no taste for thoughts, memories, and feelings, even spiritual ones. This is the moment of sheer faith clinging faithfully to Jesus in his agony and in his tomb…

2732 The most common yet most hidden temptation is our *lack of faith.… Sometimes we turn to the Lord as a last resort, but do we really believe he is? Sometimes we enlist the Lord as an ally, but our heart remains presumptuous. In each case, our lack of faith reveals that we do not yet share in the disposition of a humble heart: "Apart from me, you can do nothing."*

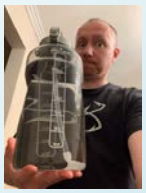
2733 Another temptation… is *acedia, …a form of depression due to lax ascetical practice, decreasing vigilance, carelessness of heart. "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." The greater the height, the harder the fall…. The humble are not surprised by their distress; it leads them to trust more, to hold fast in constancy.*

2744 *Prayer is a vital necessity…˙ How can the Holy Spirit be our life if our heart is far from him?*

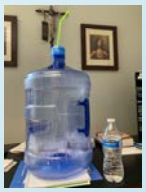
This Sunday we begin Jesus' Bread of Life teachings from the Gospel of John. We will hear from this section of the Gospel for a few Sundays. Jesus wants us to know that as we pray at mass, and always, we should never forget that He is present among us in the Eucharist. Never, ever forget that. And as we pray at mass, and after receiving Jesus, remember that He knows and understands everything you are experiencing, everything you brought with you to mass and everything that might be a cause of distraction to you. You couldn't be closer to Him at any moment than that moment of prayer after revceiving the Eucharist. Maybe He wants those distractions, which are clearly on your mind, to be brought to Him in your prayer at that time. Maybe rather than distractions from your prayer, they are in fact what Jesus wants to be the subject and content of your prayer. Take those distractions and tell Jesus about them.

Don't Mess with the Priest!: There has been somewhat of a competitive edge around the Parish Center lately. Much discussion has gone into who is staying hydrated this July. Somebody, for sake of argument let's say it was a business manager named Dina, had a weedy little 32oz bottle and was trumped by Rachael, our secretary's 64 oz bottle. So Dina then got herself a copycat bottle:

Just maybe I showed off my 128oz bottle:



Then somebody, let's say maybe it was someone named Dina thought it would be funny to leave this on my desk.



All I'm saying is, when you mess with the priest, know that you might end up in a homily or a bulletin article!

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

An Act of Spiritual Communion

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion which is a source of grace.

Spiritual Communion means uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass.

Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there
And unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

St. Joan of Arc

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 1

Reading One – Ex 16:2-4, 12-15

The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "Would that we had died at the LORD's hand in the land of Egypt, as we sat by our fleshpots and ate our fill of bread! But you had to lead us into this desert to make the whole community die of famine!"

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will now rain down bread from heaven for you. Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not.

"I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them: In the evening twilight you shall eat flesh, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread, so that you may know that I, the LORD, am your God."

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp. In the morning a dew lay all about the camp, and when the dew evaporated, there on the surface of the desert were fine flakes like hoarfrost on the ground. On seeing it, the Israelites asked one another, "What is this?" for they did not know what it was. But Moses told them, "This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

Responsorial Psalm 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54

R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.
What we have heard and know, and what our fathers have declared to us, we will declare to the generation to come the glorious deeds of the LORD and his strength and the wonders that he wrought.
R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.
He commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven; he rained manna upon them for food and gave them heavenly bread.
R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.
Man ate the bread of angels, food he sent them in abundance. And he brought them to his holy land, to the mountains his right hand had won.
R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Reading Two – Eph 4:17, 20-24

Brothers and sisters: I declare and testify in the Lord that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds; that is not how you learned Christ, assuming that you have heard of him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus, that you should put away the old self of your former way of life, corrupted through deceitful desires, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created in God's way in righteousness and holiness of truth.

Gospel – Jn 6:24-35

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. And when they found him across the sea they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus answered them and said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him the Father, God, has set his seal." So they said to him, "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent." So they said to him, "What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you? What can you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written: *He gave them bread from heaven to eat*." So Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

So they said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

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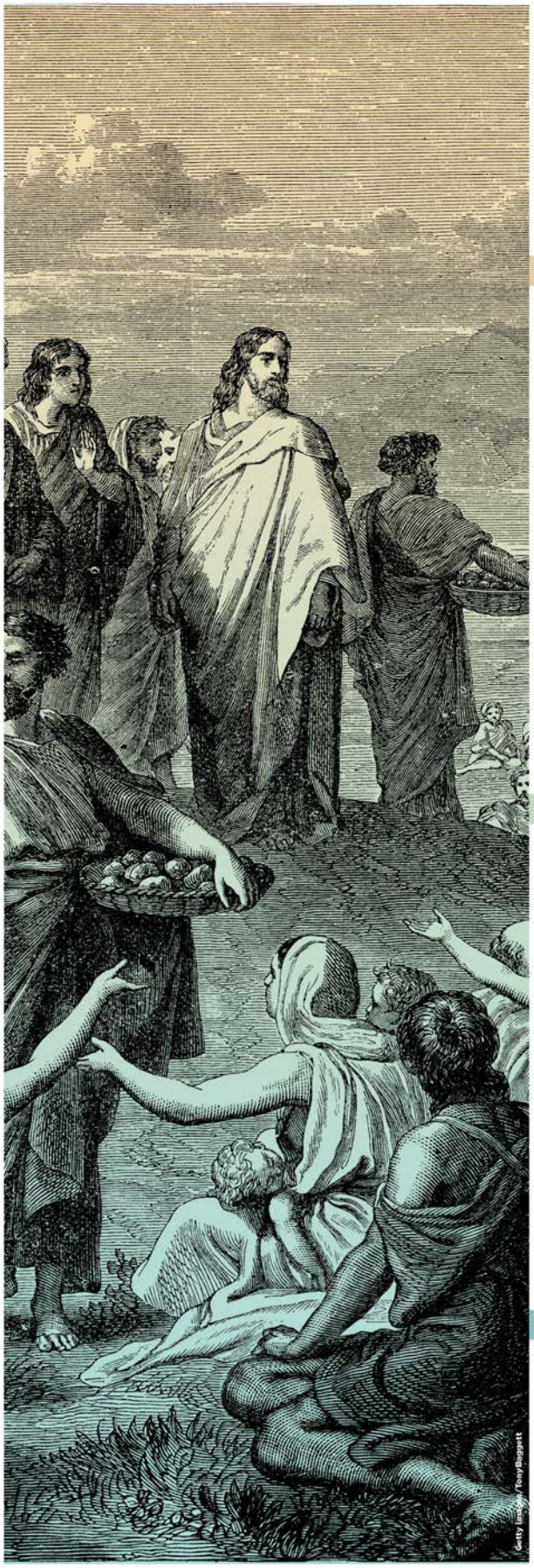


July 25, 2021

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

2 Kgs 4:42-44 | Eph 4:1-6 | Jn 6:1-15

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

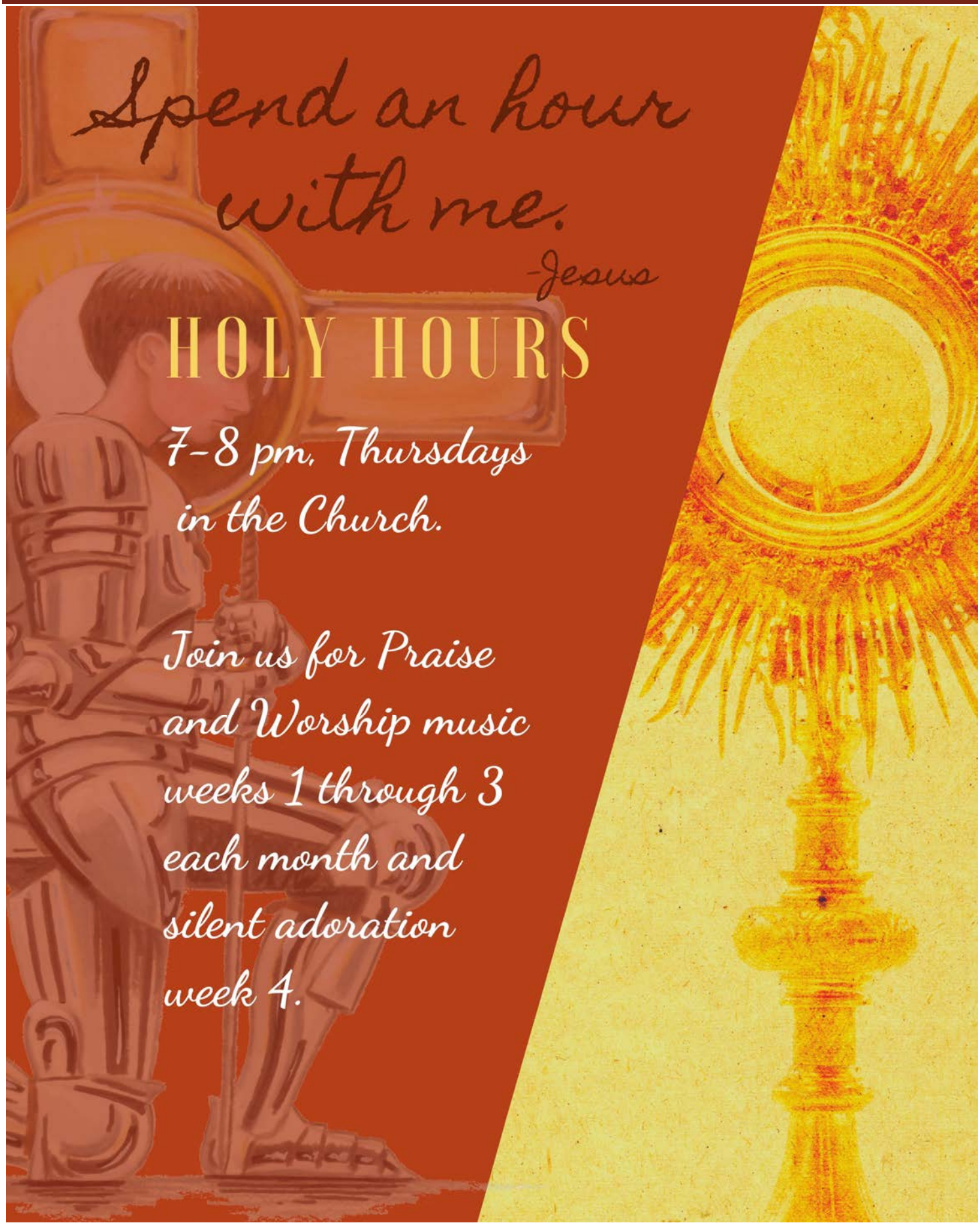
I once saw Tony Melendez, a musician born without arms, play his guitar for the pope – with his feet – and I knew I had witnessed something exceptional, something extraordinary. We may be feeling the same way about some of the Olympic performances taking place right now. But however amazed Tony Melendez or an Olympic medal performance might make us feel, it is hard to imagine what it must have been like to experience Jesus taking a few barley loaves and fish, blessing them, and somehow feeding more than 5,000 people. How Great Thou Art, indeed! Participating in this miracle was life-changing for those who realized what Jesus had done. They were convinced, on the spot, that Jesus was a prophet, and were ready to carry him away as a king. But Jesus did not come to be an earthly king, he came to give his life for us, that we might have life with him in abundance.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

One boy gives up his lunch and Jesus feeds thousands – and there were *twelve wicker baskets with fragments* left over! Think of how God can multiply *our* gifts. Perhaps there are times we fail to share what we have, thinking it is too small to make a difference; thinking that what we bring to feed others can't possibly be worth anything. Sure, what usually happens with us isn't on a scale like today's Gospel passage, and our offering may not be "Olympic" in nature. But in sharing our gifts as Jesus calls us to – to love our neighbor and to do "small things with great love" as St. Teresa of Calcutta is purported to have said – there is no such thing as a gift or talent too small. Ask the Holy Spirit for fortitude as you strive to share your gifts.

ACTION Perhaps it's time to contact someone who has been on your mind lately. A seemingly small gesture of concern may be just the support they need right now. With the help of the Holy Spirit, perhaps you may be a source of affirmation for them, providing a catalyst that helps them discern their path more clearly.


Spend an hour with me.
-Jesus
HOLY HOURS
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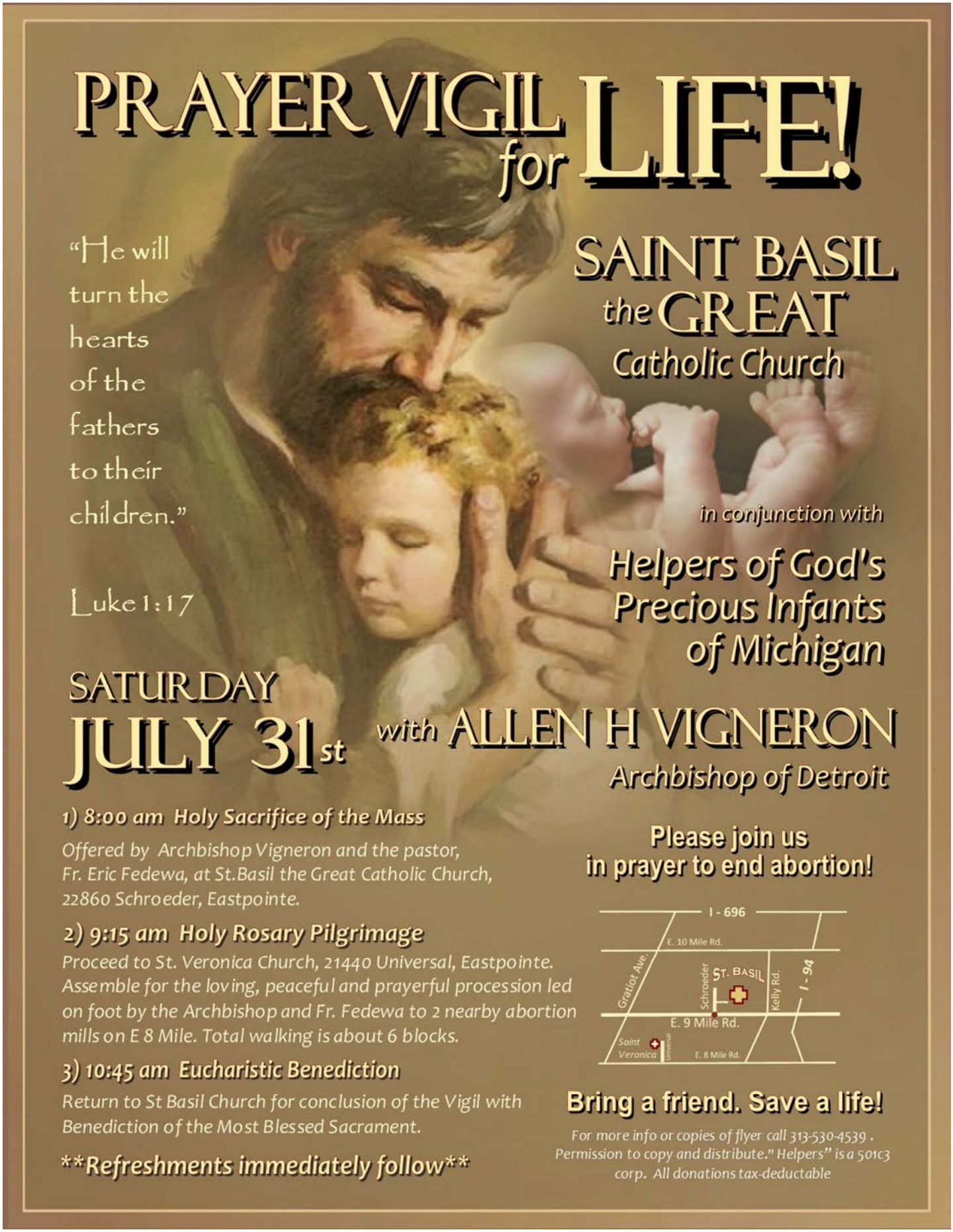
PRAYER VIGIL for LIFE!



"He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children."

Luke 1:17

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Offered by Archbishop Vigneron and the pastor, Fr. Eric Fedewa, at St.Basil the Great Catholic Church, 22860 Schroeder, Eastpointe.

2) 9:15 am Holy Rosary Pilgrimage

Proceed to St. Veronica Church, 21440 Universal, Eastpointe. Assemble for the loving, peaceful and prayerful procession led on foot by the Archbishop and Fr. Fedewa to 2 nearby abortion mills on E 8 Mile. Total walking is about 6 blocks.

3) 10:45 am Eucharistic Benediction

Return to St Basil Church for conclusion of the Vigil with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Refreshments immediately follow*

Please join us in prayer to end abortion!

Bring a friend. Save a life!

For more info or copies of flyer call 313-530-4539 . Permission to copy and distribute." Helpers" is a 501c3 corp. All donations tax-deductable

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK - PARISHIONERS

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Geraldine Atkeson
Ted Barthel
Atina Beaugrand
Geri Beaugrand
Theresa Bertelsen
Rose Marie Carroll
David Clinchoc
Ed Cole
Mary Ellen Cooper
Victoria Cornwell
James Czech
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
Joan Ireland
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
Dee Misuraca
Mark Moffitt
Jennie Mooney
Jessica Nehro
Margaret Obrzut
Mark Oumedian
Toni Pantano
Fern Pascany
Wayne Pepper
Sandra Pletos
Salvatore Promesso
Sr. Alice Riegel
Suzanne Roland
Jennifer Rose
Victoria Rydholm
Doreen Saur
Alex Scapini
John Smigels
Terri Smigels
Kathleen Smith
Cathy Spindler
Robert Stasak
Virginia Stieber
Beverly Taylor
James Thompson
Maxine Uniewski
Audrey VanBecelaere
Eileen Wallace
Audrey Weekley
William Woodruff
Chuck Wolschlager
Marion Zapytowski

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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Joseph R. Kozlinski
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Daniel Meagher
Kyle Richardson
Christopher Scholz
John C. Tramazzo
Dan Travis
Joseph VanDusen
David Weise
Edward Williams
Samantha Williams
Timothy L. Wilt III

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NAVY
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Bringing Home the Word

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
July 25, 2021

Gifts To Be Shared

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The multiplication of the loaves and fish was a scene commonly sculpted on the tombs of Christians in ancient Rome. These early Christians, an ocean away, not only heard the story but believed it and sealed their lives with it. What powerful message of life and death did they find?

Aside from being a symbol of the Eucharist, the center of early Christian worship then as today, this miracle is a call to generosity. By giving your life to Jesus, he can multiply it and raise it up to new life.

Jesus sees the hunger of the crowd and wants to satisfy them. He asks what provisions they have, and all they can muster is two fish and five loaves. Andrew questions what good that is for so many. Implicit is that it may be better to save what little there is for themselves.

Jesus sees things differently. He gives thanks for the little they have and has the apostles give it away. He knows the Father will multiply this generosity. Rather than look at what they have as a scarcity of goods, he sees them as gifts to share.

This is the radical change of heart that Jesus asks of us. Everything we have is a gift to be shared. When we live in love, and not in selfish fear of how to satisfy ourselves, then God multiplies what little we have and provides everything we need.

When the Gospel declares the apostles had collected twelve baskets of leftovers, the text shouts that God is a God of abundance, not of scarcity. +

The multiplication of the loaves and fish teaches us that everything we have is a gift to be shared.

Sunday Readings

2 Kings 4:42–44

[Elisha said,] "Thus says the LORD: You will eat and have some left over."

Ephesians 4:1–6

I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live…with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love.

John 6:1–15

Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining.

A Word from Pope Francis

[The Church] is not a fortress but a tent able to enlarge her space and give access to all. Either the Church "goes forth" or she is not a Church; either she is on a journey always widening her space so that everyone can enter, or she is not a Church.

—General Audience, October 23, 2019

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Am I generous with my time, treasure, and talent?
- Do I multiply what I have by giving it to God and others, allowing him to return it to me twelvefold?

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The Power of "I Don't Know"

By Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR

I would like to know how a text message gets from one cell phone to another. And how does it get there without getting mixed up with other text messages? Where do text messages go after they are deleted? Is there a "text message landfill" somewhere with old texts, emoticons, and selfies? Is text "air space" unlimited? Are billions of text messages responsible for global warming? The more I think about it, the more I am baffled by the whole thing. For me, this is like asking, "How many angels can stand on the head of pin?" It brings me to the point of saying what I never want to admit: *I don't know!*

The words of philosopher Maimonides are hard to swallow: "Teach thy tongue to say, 'I do not know,' and thou shalt progress." We do anything and everything to get around the words, "I don't know." We fake it, avoid it, pretend, tell lies, talk around it, and do anything but say it. Maybe the drive for power or the need for acceptance or the desire to feel safe keep us from admitting this simple fact. It could simply be the feeling that saying, "I don't know" is an admission of weakness, perhaps stupidity. No one wants to be seen as weak, lacking in experience or intelligence.

What power in just three words! Teachers have based educational techniques, programs, and plans on these words, helping learners understand that education begins when we get past the illusion that we know it all and surrender

to what we don't know. The truth is that there is a lot we don't know. In a world where everything appears to have an explanation or can at least be figured out to some extent, there is still so much more about ourselves, others, the world, and God that goes unexplained or is beyond explanation. So much remains a mystery.

When we surrender to the power of "I don't know," the unknown becomes accessible to us. Curiosity is awakened. Curiosity can lead to contemplation, contemplation to understanding, and understanding to mystical experience and the transcendent. Admitting and accepting that we don't know disposes us to an experience of mystery and the divine. It's easy to pray to the God we know and can understand, visualize, and imagine, the God we have grown comfortable with. It's heroic to admit that we don't know. This simple admission can unlock doors of knowledge and open us to the revelation of God still unknown. +

This simple admission can unlock doors of knowledge and open us to God.

PRAYER

Lord, you are the bread that satisfies hungry hearts. Remove the selfishness from my heart, that I may be generous to people in need.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

July 26–31

Monday, Sts. Joachim and Anne: Ex 32:15–24, 30–34 / Mt 13:31–35

Tuesday, Weekday: Ex 33:7–11; 34:5b–9, 28 / Mt 13:36–43

Wednesday, Weekday: Ex 34:29–35 / Mt 13:44–46

Thursday, St. Martha: Ex 40:16–21, 34–38 / Jn 11:19–27 or Lk 10:38–42

Friday, Weekday: Lv 23:1, 4–11, 15–16, 27, 34b–37 / Mt 13:54–58

Saturday, St. Ignatius of Loyola: Lv 25:1, 8–17 / Mt 14:1–12

Bringing Home the Word
July 25, 2021

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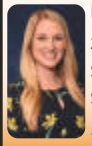
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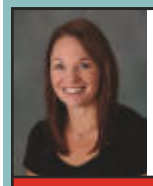
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