



# 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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## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again.'" - Lk 15:21-22a, 23b-24a

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

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**PARISH CENTER**  
**22412 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-777-3670  
Fax: 586-774-5528  
Website: [www.sjascscs.org](http://www.sjascscs.org)  
E-mail: [sjainfo@sjascscs.org](mailto:sjainfo@sjascscs.org)

**SCHOOL**  
**22415 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-775-8370  
Fax: 586-447-3574  
Website: [www.stjoan.net](http://www.stjoan.net)  
E-mail: [info@stjoan.net](mailto:info@stjoan.net)

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

## Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

### ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

#### Parish Center

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

#### School

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

#### Faith Formation

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

#### Pastor

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin  
gmbugarin@sjascs.org

#### Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone  
dciaffone@sjascs.org

#### Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser  
ckaiser@stjoan.net

#### Associate Pastor

Fr. Andrew Dawson  
adawson@sjascs.org

#### Principal

Amy Pattie  
apattie@stjoan.net

#### Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass  
khass@sjascs.org

#### Non-Resident

Associate Pastor:  
Fr. Rich Bartoszek

#### Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser  
ckaiser@stjoan.net

Exceptional Children  
Michelle Russo

#### 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 7am mass

### 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](http://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](http://livestream.stjoan.church) to watch all live streaming and to view archived celebrations.**





## 'Tis Nothing Like a Visit from Mom:

Years ago (and I have to emphasize years ago), I remember when my office and house were usually in order.

I had the time to organize stuff and put things away where they needed to go. As I have gotten busier and busier, the tidiness part of my life has gone out the window. It got worse when the pandemic hit and when we had to go through a reduction in staff. That meant the remaining people were also doing the jobs and tasks of others. At the same time, however, the pandemic opened new opportunities, which brought about additional tasks. The streaming, the Sunday emails, and mailing the bulletin every week would be new things that we started since the pandemic. They have been great additions to our evangelization efforts, but they also require time to complete. I'm now at the point where I walk from one event, liturgy, or meeting, drop what I have in my hands, and then run off to the next thing. There's only one issue with my "drop and run" methodology ... the piles of "stuff" stay in piles, and they never seem to "disappear." My office and my house have become piles of piles. I wish there were a real Samantha Stephens (from the late 60s sitcom *Bewitched*) who could simply wiggle her nose and make all those piles disappear! And even though I try to attack those piles regularly, new piles just appear.

As I've written here before, since my dad's death, my mom has been living at my sister Cindy's house in Allenton. As my mom says, we packed her up and "whisked" her away two days after the funeral. She's been there ever since. But her stay in Allenton even pre-dates my dad's death because they both were "whisked" away to Allenton at the start of the pandemic with a few intermittent returns to the condo that coincided with the ups and downs of stay-at-home orders or worsening COVID statistics. But we are in the home stretch of the condo renovation project, and my mom's goal is to return to the condo by Palm Sunday weekend. That's the weekend our immediate family celebrates Easter, and we've always had our gathering at the condo, so this is an important milestone and date for my mom. Only a few of us gather on Easter Sunday so that people don't have to split time to celebrate with in-laws, etc.

With Allenton being an hour away from our neck of the woods, my mom has spent a few weekends with me. It started when she got pretty sick before Christmas, and it was easier for her to be here and closer to her doctors than up in Allenton. Having Mom spend a weekend or a few days is easy. The nightmare is trying to tidy up my house and attack the piles.

The first time Mom spent the night was immediately after a hospital run. Given that we were leaving the hospital close to midnight that night, we certainly weren't going to drive an hour up to Allenton. So, we decided to head to my house. Given the unexpected events, I never had time to straighten up my house. I remember panicking on my way home from the hospital; half of my brain was trying to process what my mom was talking about and communicating with my sisters about our plan of action, and the other half was trying to analyze how I was going to make a mad dash to attack some of the piles and get things tidied up. It was somewhat "passable" but by no means "mom-approved." I remember helping my mom get into the house and up to the spare bedroom, and I then made this mad dash to straighten up as much as possible. Suddenly I had the speed of Chuck Jones' most famous cartoon character, the Roadrunner. Mom never said a word, but I was conscious that it wasn't up to my standards.

My mom has since spent a few weekends with me, and I enjoy the time with her. But the panic always sets in a few days before her visits about cleaning and attacking the piles from all my "drop and run" tactics. I used to have a whole box of bankers boxes tucked away to help me organize all of my parents' paperwork. Well, those bankers boxes have become handy storage containers for hiding my "piles." While I have great intentions to clean sections of my house at a time throughout the week, I have found myself throwing things in closets and those bankers boxes after Holy Hours on the Thursdays before her visits (I'm sure I'm not the only one who does stuff like this).

On my mom's most recent visit, as we were getting home after spending the whole day at the condo getting things put back together, I mentioned to my mom that I had absolutely no time at all to even try to make my house look presentable. So, I was apologizing ahead of time that I ran out of bankers boxes and just didn't have time to dust or vacuum. 'Tis nothing like having a visit from Mom to even think

about getting these tasks done. My mom assured me she doesn't pay attention to any of that; she's just grateful for the hospitality. And then she "comforted" me with these words, "Don't worry, it couldn't be any worse than the night I came home from the hospital." UGH! It was so late, I didn't think she saw the mess. Who am I kidding ... Moms see EVERYTHING ... even when they're sick!

**Halfway through Lent:** Believe it or not folks, we've passed the halfway point of our Lenten Journey. If the realization that Lent is practically half over hasn't jolted you, the thought that the start of Spring is behind us should bring it home too.

As we mark this halfway point on our Lenten journey, we need to ask ourselves: How are we doing with our Lenten retreat? What about all of those Lenten resolutions? I am sure many of you have faithfully fulfilled those resolutions. Others may be in my camp where you have fallen a little (or a lot). No matter what side you're on, this is the time to start anew if needed.

If you've fallen way behind on your Lenten resolution(s), then start anew by spending a little more time in prayer for the rest of Lent. Prayer is such an essential aspect of a Christian's life. Yet, the busy lives so many of us lead can often pull us away from the good intentions to be people of prayer. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us that prayer in the events of each day and each moment is one of the secrets of the kingdom.... It is right and good to pray so that the coming of the kingdom of justice and peace may influence the march of history, but it is just as important to bring the help of prayer into humble, everyday situations; all forms of prayer can be the leaven to which the Lord compares the kingdom (CCC, 2659-2660)."

If you have 15 minutes, then give those 15 minutes to prayer. If you only have 5 minutes, give those 5 minutes to prayer. If you have an hour, then, by all means, spend that time in prayer. Your day will be greatly blessed, as will your Lenten journey! Don't let the day's activities become an excuse for not spending SOME time ... even 10 minutes ... with the Lord!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb  
gmb@sjascs.org

# PALM WEAVING WORKSHOPS



Saturday, April 2nd 1-3 pm

Wednesday, April 6th 6-8 pm

**All classes are in the SJA Sr. Carol Center Emmaus  
Fellowship Hall**

Price: \$18.00 per person/per session

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend this Day: \_\_\_\_\_ at this Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Sandra Markielewicz and return this form with your check as soon as possible  
to reserve a place to 22441 Edmunton, St Clair Shores, MI 48080 (586) 777-6659

visit [palmweaving.net](http://palmweaving.net) for examples

Workshop Objectives: This workshop is two (2) hours long. Participants will learn through hands-on experience the weaving of crosses, leaves, and bells also known as artichokes. Class size is limited to 10 people. Attendees need to bring a pair of sharp scissors.



## Misc. Announcements

### St. Joan of Arc SVDP Lenten Folders



The Lenten Folders with Quarter Coin slots are available starting this weekend at all Church entrances and exits and at the Parish Center.

All proceeds go directly to the SJA Chapter of St. Vincent DePaul to serve the needy in our area.

This is an easy way to donate \$10 - to SVD during Lent -one Quarter per day!

Folders can be returned in the collection boxes at Church and at the Parish Center.

Thank you for your generosity!

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### 8th Grade Can and Bottle Drive

The Class of 2023 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 Erin at 586-321-0667.

The Class of 2023



### St. Joan of Arc Knitting Group

The SJA Knitting Group will begin meeting the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

The group will meet from 12pm - 3pm in the Mother of Mary Conference room in Church.

April meetings will be on the 13th and the 27th all knitters are welcome.

If you are interested in joining or have questions please call:

Marie Byrski @ 586-943-0240.



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### SJA Senior Card Club

The Senior Card Club is trying to determine interest in regular monthly play.

The group will start with monthly games the first Tuesday of the month from 11:30 am –1:30pm.

April's Card Club date is April 5th.  
The Club will meet in the St. Peregrine.

If you have questions please call Denise at #248-431-6406.



*Coming to.....*

ST. FABIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
32200 WEST 12 MILE RD., FARMINGTON HILLS, MI  
248-553-4610 STFABIAN.ORG



DIVINE MERCY  
FOR  
TROUBLED TIMES

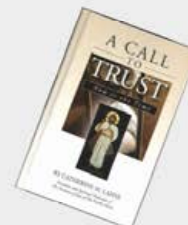
*Thursday*  
**March 31, 2022**  
**7:00PM**

Catherine Lanni, is a Catholic speaker, author, and the foundress of The Servants of Jesus of The Divine Mercy, and the Women of Jesus' Merciful Passion in Clinton Township. The center was designated as an Archdiocesan shrine by Archbishop Allen Vigneron on March 26, 2021.

Catherine will speak about Divine Mercy in today's world as well as her experience and the power of Jesus' Divine Mercy and Love. Her story is amazing and one you will not want to miss!



Light refreshments will be served following Catherine's talk.  
Catherine will also be available for book signing.  
Free will donations accepted



The Shrine of Jesus of the Divine Mercy is open Monday through Friday 10:00am to 4:00pm  
and  
on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:00pm to 8:30pm.  
Located at 33826 Beaconsfield, Clinton Twp., MI 48035  
[www.SJDivineMercy.org](http://www.SJDivineMercy.org)





# Healing the pain of Abortion One Weekend at a Time

**Rachel's Vineyard**  
**Retreat Weekend - May 13-15, 2022**



**Where:** The Augustine Retreat Center in Conway, Michigan.

The weekend is a chance to get away from daily pressures to focus on buried emotions of the past and walls that have limited our lives due to the effects of abortion.

Rachel's Vineyard provides a confidential, non-judgmental, safe, and caring environment for *men and women* seeking healing, restoration, and renewal. The weekend will help your soul find a voice, and transform the pain of the past into hope and love. The cost for the weekend is \$160 per participant, which includes two-night accommodations, meals, and retreat material.

**To register or if you have questions, contact:**

Jane O'Brien: 231-675-1715 or [jobrien4611@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jobrien4611@sbcglobal.net)

Kristyn Lent: 231-838-8383 or [klent@charter.net](mailto:klent@charter.net)

### Weekly Calendar of Events

#### Monday, March 28th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
12:30-2pm Confessions - Family & Youth Center

#### Tuesday, March 29th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
5:30-7pm Confessions—Family & Youth Center

#### Wednesday, March 30th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

#### Thursday, March 31st

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

#### Friday, April 1st

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross - Faith Formation

#### Saturday, April 2nd

10:00 am Funeral for Catherine Flynn  
11:00 am Reconciliation  
1:30 pm Baptism of Benjamin D. Mastay  
2:30 pm Baptism of Everett William Jody  
4:00 pm Vigil Mass - Live Streamed  
6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

#### Sunday, April 3rd

8:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed  
8:00 am American Red Cross Blood Drive  
10:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed  
12:00 pm Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

### Words on the Word

#### *March 27, 2022 – The Bright Side*

There is enough stress and gloominess in the world, heaven knows. But in the truest and most profound sense, there is also light at the end of the tunnel, which should make everything else easier to bear.

A recent study found that “looking on the bright side of life may actually help you age more gracefully,” according to a report on a web portal that summarizes research findings.

This study, according to the report, examined the effect of optimism on participants’ health and found “staying positive helps people interpret stressful situations differently.” The study summary explained that optimistic participants “interpreted fewer events as being stressful to them personally,” and, consequently, they were less impacted by things like rapid aging, inflammation, and diseases such as dementia.

Further detail, it said, will appear in the *Journals of Gerontology*.

That’s the good news in the light of all the bad news with which we are bombarded.

And how might we maintain that level of optimism? Perhaps one answer can be found in the psalm and second reading from one set of choices for today:

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul,” we say in the psalm. “Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.”

Need more? Consider this insight from the second reading:

“You once were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord,” St. Paul writes to the Ephesians. “Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth.”

Light for today. And eternal light for tomorrow.

© 2022, Words on the Word



## Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

### Mass Intentions

<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 28, 2022 Lenten Weekday (Purple)</b>
7:00 a.m.	Hugo Calisi and James & Florence Gillette
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 29, 2022 Lenten Weekday (Purple)</b>
7:00 a.m.	Paul LeFevre and a Special Intention for Katelyn Tomasello
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 30, 2022 Lenten Weekday (Purple)</b>
7:00 a.m.	Dave Curcuru and a Special Intention for Katelyn Tomasello
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 31, 2022 Lenten Weekday (Purple)</b>
7:00 a.m.	Phyllis Zanotti
<b>Friday</b>	<b>April 1, 2022 Lenten Weekday (Purple)</b>
7:00 a.m.	A. Joseph Rademacher and a Special Intention for Monsignor G. Michael Bugarin
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>April 2, 2022 Fifth Sunday of Lent – Vigil, Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit (Purple)</b>
4:00 p.m.	The deceased members of the Walsh Family, Sam & Grace Valenti, Rachel Hollern, Bonnie Batche, Ray Johnson, the deceased members of the Sloan Family, Catherine Boles, Edward and Henry Blind, Special Intentions for the Thomas Family, the J. Champine Family and Prayerful appreciation for the work of the Priests and Staff of St. Joan of Arc
6:00 p.m.	Charlotte McQuillan
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 3, 2022 The Fifth Sunday in Lent (Purple)</b>
8:00 a.m.	For the Intentions of Saint Joan of Arc Parishioners
10:00 a.m.	Bob Ziolkowski
12:00 p.m.	Salvatore Ciaravino, Jerome Rogier, James Forrester, Denise Lukanowski, Joseph Calus, Frank Bradley, and a Special Intention for the Mordovanakis Family

### Daily Readings

#### Monday, March 28

Isaiah 65:17-21  
John 4:43-54

#### Tuesday, March 29

Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12  
John 5:1-16

#### Wednesday, March 30

Isaiah 49:8-15  
John 5:17-30

#### Thursday, March 31

Exodus 32:7-14  
John 5:31-47

#### Friday, April 1

Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22  
John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

#### Saturday, April 2

Jeremiah 11:18-20  
John 7:40-53

#### Sunday, April 3

Isaiah 43:16-21  
Philippians 3:8-14  
John 8:1-11



### 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.”

**George Francis**  
**Deacon Fredrick F. Burrell**  
**Nicodemus Krawczyk**



“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*



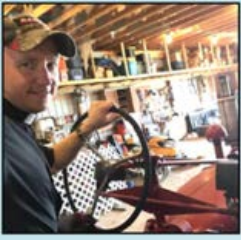
### Reporting Sexual Abuse

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](mailto:aginvestigations@michigan.gov).

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

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

## Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



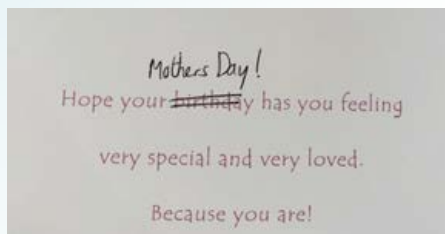
### Hallmark Hallucinations:

As you may recall, last year I lamented about my Mother's Day woes. Mother's Day is in March in England, today in fact, when

nobody here is talking about it yet so I get no reminders and there are no card in the stores. This year, I thought I was way ahead of the game. From memory, I had forgotten to buy a card last May, when they were in the stores, which I try to do so that I can save it 10 months until I need it. So I had a plan—I was going to make a card myself. That would be extra special, I thought, and it would disguise my forgetful incompetence. But before I got around to making one, I needed another card. I do have a box of "emergency cards" so I pulled one from there. As I was exploring the box, what did I find? Not one, but *TWO* Mother's Day cards! It's a miracle! Maybe I was less forgetful than I thought. I took one of the cards, but before taking it out of the plastic wrapper, I changed my mind—the other card was nicer, so I switched cards and put the other back in the box.

It was early March, I was way ahead of the game. I wrote a note in the card, addressed the envelope and put an international stamp on it. I'm ready!

Then I saw it...



Cue, palm to my face... Yes, I should have paid more attention to what the card said, not just the picture on the front. I guess I'd been seeing things. All it said on the front was "Mom." What kind of clue is that that this is not a Mother's Day card?! This card industry needs better regulation!

So, for a moment I was resigned to getting the other card from the box again. But I would never remember where I'd put this card, or that I already had one ready when my mom's birthday arrives in December. And, I'm my father's son.... I had already stamped the envelope and I only had one more international stamp and I need that soon for my dad's birthday. If I stamp the

"second" Mother's Day card and don't get around to making it to the Post Office to get more international stamps before my dad's birthday, I'll have to double-up/ triple-up on forever stamps and end-up wasting money, which my dad would NEVER approve of.

So I opted for solution number 2: change the occasion of the card! Sadly, this is not my first rodeo... I made the same mistake on Father's Day last year! One day I'll have this whole Hallmark issue resolved, but until then, life remains so complicated! As mom always said, "It's always better if you make it yourself." Well, mom, I kind of did!

**Unbound:** I wanted to mention an opportunity to give alms this Lent in a really meaningful way. It's a program I have participated in over the last 3 years that I really value and that I'm happy to be a part of.

I once had the chance to hear a priest from an organization named *Unbound* speak at mass. He had been involved in the charity for decades and had visited literally thousands of different parishes across the USA to speak about the program. Unbound is an international nonprofit, founded by lay Catholics, grounded in the Gospel, called to put the needs of the marginalized and vulnerable first. Four Catholic missionaries, while working in Latin America, witnessed the devastating effects of poverty on families struggling heroically to make better lives for their children. Guided by faith and rooted in Catholic social teaching, the founders envisioned a program that would invite people to partner with families to support, encourage and empower them.

On that weekend visit, the priest brought folders with information and photos of young people from across South and Central America and by the end of the weekend, 46 families had received sponsors from the parish.

Unbound is a 501-c-3 charity that has to date assisted over 300,000 children and elders, providing them with basic essentials and the tools to prosper in society, with cumulative donations of over a \$1 billion.

I signed-up to sponsor Axel, a 10 year-old boy from Guatemala and his family. Axel had a mischievous look on his face and that was enough to convince me to sponsor him! Unbound works with the families to help them plan how to use the funds they receive, which are deposited into their accounts monthly.

Unbound also helps to coordinate communication between sponsors and benefactors. I receive periodic letters from

Axel and his parents and I write to them through the Unbound website. Unbound has translators who translate the letter for the recipients, so I receive an email link to read my letters when the family writes. Here's part of what I received recently:

*Dear Fr. Andrew, Hello, I am greeting you hoping that you are doing well and being blessed along with your loved ones. Let me tell you that we are all in good health here, thank God. This year, I will be in the fifth grade. The school year has not started yet, but my mother was told that it will begin by the middle of this month, and I will go to school only twice a week wearing a mask and in smaller groups. Everything is very difficult due to the pandemic. In the mornings, I help my mother as much as I can along with my siblings. After lunch, I like to go to a carpenter's shop to learn that job because the carpenter is a friend of my family. When I grow up, I would like to be a mechanic, and I know that I will achieve that with God's help and all of those who are supporting me. I was very sad last year because my father was severely sick, and he had a bad infection in his lung, but God healed him, and he is doing well now. We are very thankful to you for the support that you give us every month because my mother can buy food supplies with it, and sometimes she buys shoes and clothes. My parents saved the funds for some time to get the flooring for our home. Thank you! We pray for you every night that God continues blessing and keeping you safe from harm. I would like to know how you have been doing. I bid you farewell for now, and I am sending you a big hug, Axel.*

The letters I receive warm my heart. They never say, "We bought video games," or "We went on vacation." Axel's family live in a corrugated metal house with a dirt floor. They farm the land and Axel spends his afternoons gathering firewood so his mother can cook for the family. We have so much. We are so blessed. Something as "My parents saved the funds for some time to get the flooring for our home," a few dollars a month to me—a daily coffee—makes a world of difference to Axel's family - I can't tell you how much it meant to me to hear that. I can't think of anything I'd rather do with that money.

If you'd like to know more about Unbound, or would like to consider becoming a sponsor, please take a look at their website: [www.unbound.org](http://www.unbound.org)

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew

[adawson@sjascs.org](mailto:adawson@sjascs.org)



# FORMED<sup>®</sup>

## PICK OF THE WEEK

March 27, 2022

WATCH

### TRIDUUM: A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

In Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, the viewer is brought deeper into the story, landscape, and reality of Holy Week. It draws those with open hearts and minds toward a deeper understanding of Christ's victory while offering rich meditations for the pilgrimage of daily life.



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### Jesus' Descent into Hell

Holy Saturday  
April 11th, 2020

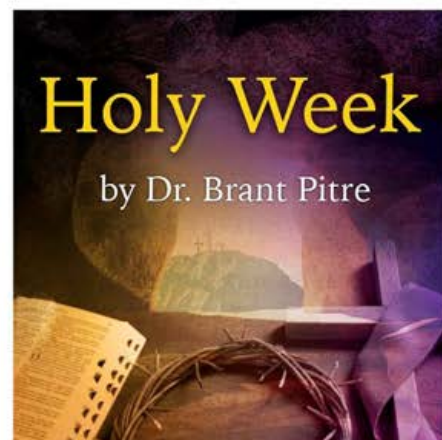
### FORMED NOW! HOLY SATURDAY— JESUS' DESCENT INTO HELL

What do we mean when we profess that Jesus descended into Hell? Join Drs. Tim Gray and Michael Barber as they discuss this mysterious event of Holy Saturday.

LISTEN

### HOLY WEEK BY DR. BRANT PITRE

Join Dr. Brant Pitre, author and Scripture scholar, as he walks us through the events of Holy Week. Pitre's insights and clarity allow the listener to enter into a deeper appreciation of the most important events of Christ's earthly ministry.



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## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 6 C

### Reading One – Dt 26:4-10

Moses spoke to the people, saying: "The priest shall receive the basket from you and shall set it in front of the altar of the LORD, your God. Then you shall declare before the Lord, your God, 'My father was a wandering Aramean who went down to Egypt with a small household and lived there as an alien. But there he became a nation great, strong, and numerous. When the Egyptians maltreated and oppressed us, imposing hard labor upon us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and he heard our cry and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. He brought us out of Egypt with his strong hand and outstretched arm, with terrifying power, with signs and wonders; and bringing us into this country, he gave us this land flowing with milk and honey. Therefore, I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O LORD, have given me.' And having set them before the LORD, your God, you shall bow down in his presence."

### Responsorial Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15.

#### **R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress, my God in whom I trust."

#### **R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.**

No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent, for to his angels he has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways.

#### **R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.**

Upon their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the asp and the viper; you shall trample down the lion and the dragon.

#### **R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.**

Because he clings to me, I will deliver him; I will set him on high because he acknowledges my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in distress; I will deliver him and glorify him.

#### **R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.**

### Reading Two – Rom 10:8-13

Brothers and sisters: What does Scripture say? *The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart* — that is, the word of faith that we preach — for, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. For the Scripture says, *No one who believes in him will be put to shame*. For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, enriching all who call upon him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

### Verse Before The Gospel – Mt 4:4b

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

### Gospel – Lk 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, *One does not live on bread alone*." Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish. All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written, *You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve*." Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: *He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you, and: With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone*." Jesus said to him in reply, "It also says, *You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test*." When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.





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## There is freedom in following Christ, Archbishop Vigneron says on Ash Wednesday

BY DANIEL MELOY

The archbishop celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass on March 2 at St. Aloysius Parish in downtown Detroit during a time of great political tension, both abroad and at home. People are questioning what it means to be free, Archbishop Vigneron acknowledged, especially in light of the week-old crisis in Ukraine. Following Christ over the next 40 days of Lent is a great statement of freedom, he said, because it brings about a freedom from the power of death.



SCAN TO WATCH



## War in Ukraine becomes a real-life lesson for students

BY DANIEL MELOY

Irina Curran is a social studies teacher at University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy. She wanted to set up a Zoom call between her class and Irina, a 31-year-old Kyiv resident and a former foreign exchange student who lived with a U of D Jesuit family while attending Grosse Pointe South High School for her senior year. Curran was hoping Irina could tell her class about the real-world experiences of the now weeklong Russian invasion of Ukraine.



SCAN TO READ



## Candidates, catechumens say yes to 'momentous act' during Rite of Election

BY GABRIELLA PATTI

574 candidates and catechumens will enter the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Detroit at Easter. "You are here, candidates, catechumens, responding to Christ's invitation. You have heard him invite you to receive from him his self-sacrificial love and his invitation to you to reciprocate, to be his friends, to be his beloved. This is a momentous act," said Archbishop Vigneron, who led one of four Rite of Election celebrations over the weekend, along with Auxiliary Bishops Arturo Cepeda, Gerard W. Battersby and Donald F. Hanchon.



SCAN TO READ

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March 27, 2022

Written by  
THE  
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DISCIPLE

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jos 5:9a, 10-12 | 2 Cor 5:17-21 | Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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

Today we celebrate Laetare (which means “rejoice”) Sunday. As we mark the midpoint of Lent, we allow ourselves to look ahead with joyful anticipation of Jesus’ resurrection, even as we continue our practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Amidst these penitential practices of Lent, this day offers a reminder that we have reason for hope. The parable of the prodigal son shows us what hope looks like. When the father caught sight of his wayward son, he did not see the young man who made bad choices, wasted his inheritance, and disobeyed him. He looked at him with eyes of unconditional love, rejoicing that “he was lost and has been found.” That’s how Jesus viewed the sinners and tax collectors, and how the Father views us, his wayward sons and daughters, when we return to him in contrition and love. So as we continue our Lenten practices, let’s take time to give thanks for the goodness and mercy of God today, knowing that the Lord awaits us with open arms when we acknowledge our sinfulness and rely upon him for all that is good.

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Is it me, or are some of the parables hard to figure out? The parable of the prodigal son is one we’ve heard over and over again, and resonates across ages and generations. Some of us may relate to the prodigal son and others to the dutiful brother. The parents and grandparents among us may have been in the father’s shoes at some point. What better time than Lent to reflect on what the story means to us at this point in our lives: Are we awaiting the return of a disaffected loved one? Are we in need of repenting for our own actions? The answer will be different for each of us, but we can rejoice in the fact that we are loved unconditionally by God wherever we are on our Lenten and life journeys. Our challenge is to open our hearts to that love; as we do so, we can’t help but be transformed and in turn share that love with others through friendship, service, and generosity. As St. Paul writes, “Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: The old things have passed away.”

**ACT** On Laetare Sunday, priests may wear rose-colored vestments as a symbol of joy. Carry this sense of joy into your day by placing roses at the table, bringing flowers to a friend, or calling someone with whom you’ve fallen out of touch.



“The Return of the Prodigal Son”, by Rembrandt, c. 1668, public domain



## Prayers Needed

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrew Barth	Sharon Deller	John Hanselman	Charlotte Miller	Terri Smigels
Geri Beaugrand	Catherine DeRose	Rich Hanselman	Mark Moffitt	Kathleen Smith
Kenneth Beaupre	Philip DiAgostino	Susan Hughes	Jennie Mooney	Cathy Spindler
Carl Berndt	Nick DiCresce	Alleyn Hunt	Joseph Paluzzi	Robert Stasak
Theresa Bertelsen	Grace Dickerson	Joan Ireland	Toni Pantano	Virginia Stieber
Jerica Boss	George Dickerson	Marilyn Kiefer	Fern Pascany	Beverly Taylor
Gilbert Bousho	Julie Doty	Thomas Kler	Wayne Pepper	Bernadette Thompson
Diane Brennan	Marie DuPont	Catherine Konen	Tom Pillar	James Thompson
Lori Cardosi	Susan Federoff	Edward Krappmann	Frank Poeschel	Katelyn Tomasello
Rose Marie Carroll	Louise Fetherolf	Al Kraska	Salvatore Promesso	Maxine Uniewski
Ed Cole	Taylor Fisher	Concetta Leone	Tracy Rauch	Mary Ann VerVaecke
Mary Ellen Cooper	George Francis	Beverly A. Lievens	Sara Rybicki	Eileen Wallace
Victoria Cornwell	Nora Anne Francis	Dotty Lubinski	Sr. Alice Riegel	Audrey Weekley
Martin Crozier	Patricia Freund	Janet Malaski	Suzanne Roland	Joseph Whalen
James Czech	Jeanne Gainer	Christopher Manning	Jennifer Rose	Marilyn Wicker
Steven D'Arca	Sylvia Gentile	Joan Mannino	Victoria Rydholm	Adrienne Weidebach
Ellen Dancy	Jane Gora	Ed Marosso	Doreen Saur	Joyce Wiekrykas
Peter Dawson	Larry Graham	Karen McMahon	Lily Saith	Margaret Wienck
Joan DeDene	Geoffrey Greve	Lois Mecha	Dianne Schelosky	
Lucy Dedene	James Gutowski	Kathleen Mijal	Ann Simmonds	

**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](mailto:info@sjascs.org).

### PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

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# Bringing Home the Word +

Fourth Sunday of Lent (C)  
March 27, 2022

## Living, Loving in the Here and Now

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

It is good that we are here—joined in community for Sunday worship, here, in this moment of prayer.

Our lives are so hectic and fast-paced that it's often hard to enjoy just being in the present moment with God. It's not just the pressure of work, but the added responsibilities of home. You know the routine...getting the kids to school; getting to work on time; leaving from work; running a few errands; preparing dinner; going back out to pick up the kids from practice; then back home for

dinner, dishes, laundry, homework; and then finally to bed on time so you can get up early and start again.

But just stop! Take the time to enjoy the grace of the Eucharist, to rejoice in one another and savor Christ who reveals his love to you. Give yourself this gift. Each moment has power, poetry, and grace. Each instant is a gift from God, and each moment is an opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ. It's an occasion to return within ourselves and turn back to our Father who is eagerly waiting for us.

It's good to be here—not somewhere else, not in another time when we were happier, healthier, or life was easier and simpler. Right here, right now, right where God has you is where he is revealing his love. It may not be easy, but this is where God is, and it's good to reflect on the graces each moment presents. +

*Right here, right now,  
right where God has you  
is where he is revealing  
his love.*

## Sunday Readings

### Joshua 5:9a, 10–12

No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

### 2 Corinthians 5:17–21

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.

### Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

[Jesus said,] "Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

## A Word from Pope Francis

Prayer often coexists with distraction....We all experience this constant whirlwind of images and illusions in perpetual motion, which accompanies us even during sleep. And we all know that it is not good to follow this inclination toward disorder.

—General audience, May 19, 2021



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Can I let go of the past and set aside worries of the future to find God in the only place he can be found—in the present moment?
- If not, how about asking Christ for that grace today?



# What's the Point of Lenten Sacrifices?

By Emily Blasik

*"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."*

—Pope Francis

Confession time. In my twenty-six years of living, I have never, ever been able to successfully give up something I love for the entirety of Lent. No matter what I choose to forego in any given year for the sake of sacrifice—whether it's caffeine, chocolate, or even cursing (habits die hard, y'all)—by the end of the second week, I'm back at it with a vengeance. Sacrifice obviously isn't my strong suit.

Despite my past weaknesses, each Ash Wednesday I feel a renewed sense of motivation and good intention. *I'm going to do it right this year*, I tell myself as I stand in line to receive my ashes. Time and time again, I make a solemn vow to refrain from whatever it is that's on my heart, hoping that my small amount of self-induced "suffering" will somehow bring me closer to Christ. And time and time again, I cave before the season ends. Cue an extra layer of guilt.

This year, however, I'm doing something different. I'm looking inward and asking myself why it's important to make sacrifices for the Lord in the first place. Are random sacrifices for sacrifice's sake really going to strengthen my faith or make me a better person? Perhaps. Discipline is a virtue, no doubt, and an underrated one at that. But when



it comes to accomplishing anything, I'm the type of person who needs to see value in the Big Picture in order to follow through. I need to have a *why*: a purpose for my actions, a reason to keep going when the going gets tough.

Finally, after much prayer and contemplation this time around, I've figured out my big *why*—and it doesn't have anything to do with proving myself as a devout Catholic who deserves God's love. God doesn't care if I can resist chocolate or coffee for forty days. He truly cares about my eternal salvation—whether I'm choosing to place my time, faith, and trust in him...or something else entirely.

It can be easy to let God fade into the

background while we "worship" material goods, attach ourselves to worldly joys, and find comfort and solace in lesser things. But Lent reminds us that we still need a Savior, and despite what the devil will have us believe, our Savior, Jesus Christ, is all we need.

*God doesn't care if I can resist chocolate or coffee for forty days. He truly cares about my eternal salvation.*

## PRAYER

*Lord, you are the face of God's compassion in the world. Give me a compassionate heart to embrace my suffering brothers and sisters.*

—From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

## WEEKDAY READINGS

March 28–April 2

**Monday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Is 65:17–21 / Jn 4:43–54

**Tuesday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Ez 47:1–9, 12 / Jn 5:1–16

**Wednesday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Is 49:8–15 / Jn 5:17–30

**Thursday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Ex 32:7–14 / Jn 5:31–47

**Friday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Wis 2:1a, 12–22 / Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30

**Saturday**, Lenten Weekday:  
Jer 11:18–20 / Jn 7:40–53

Bringing Home  
the Word



March 27, 2022

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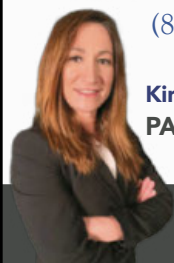


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