



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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7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you." - Lk 6:38

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

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22412 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 586-777-3670
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E-mail: sjainfo@sjascscs.org

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22415 Overlake
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
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Fax: 586-447-3574
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E-mail: info@stjoan.net

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

Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

Parish Center

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

School

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

Faith Formation

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

Pastor

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin
gmbugarin@sjascs.org

Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone
dciaffone@sjascs.org

Athletic Director

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net

Associate Pastor

Fr. Andrew Dawson
adawson@sjascs.org

Principal

Amy Pattie
apattie@stjoan.net

Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass
khass@sjascs.org

Non-Resident

Associate Pastor:
Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser
ckaiser@stjoan.net

Exceptional Children
TBD

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz
tstrasz@sjascs.org

Music Director

Catherine Thomas
cthomas@sjascs.org

Youth Group

Linda Lietaert
llietaert@stjoan.net

Deacon Dom Pastore
dpastore@sjascs.org



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

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

Holy Day Masses

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

Reconciliation

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

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 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 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.



Big Brother is Watching:

Shortly before Christmas, someone asked me to pray for their daughter, son-in-law, and family. It was a simple request,

and I was happy to pray for them. However, as I was engaged in conversation with this individual, I decided to ask, “What’s going on.” The individual shared that with COVID her family was experiencing some financial struggles. One of them lost their job, and another had a reduction in hours, all of which was creating a financial strain on the family. It was a sad yet familiar story shared by many during this two-year pandemic. While there was never an ask for help, I knew I could offer the family some help.

The help would come from another family I spoke to just the previous day. They wanted to adopt a family for Christmas. They already shared with me they wanted to do something tangible for a family beyond just buying a few gifts for Christmas. God is good. He always is, and His timing is always perfect. This was a perfect match.

Once I got all the details and the ways I could help the family in need, I went back to the family who was going to help, and they agreed to cover the other family’s rent for a few months. They also wanted to ensure the other family’s son had a few extra toys for Christmas. Their little son was a few years old and was into all things dinosaurs. With that bit of knowledge, I had all I needed to gather a few gifts for the little one.

In most cases, I would usually get one of my sisters or my mom to do my shopping for me, but I figured I could hop on Amazon and get a few dinosaur-related items, and I would be set. This seemed like a simple task. I remember well, sitting in my back room, pulling out my laptop, and going on Amazon to accomplish my task. All I put in the search area was “dinosaur gifts for toddlers.” Do you know how many THOUSANDS of things are on Amazon that are dinosaur-related. Good heavens. Suddenly I was overwhelmed with looking at all the options. But then my curiosity got to me as I looked at dinosaur toys and dinosaur coloring books and dinosaur clothing and dinosaur kits. There was even a dinosaur glow-in-the-dark blanket that looked pretty

cool, but then I thought the glow-in-the-dark thing would scare the little one. So many options. So much to look through. I was having fun.

I put several items in my cart. BUT, as is my typical custom, when I landed in my big chair in my back room that night, I fell asleep. IT. HAPPENS. ALL. THE. TIME. I almost need to set an alarm each night at 11 PM to wake me up so I can go to bed. Otherwise, I’ll be stuck there until 1 or 2 in the morning, and the walk up to my room is absolute pure drudgery! I’m the type of person that even if I wake up five minutes before my morning alarm goes off, I still have to get undressed and crawl into bed for those five minutes so that I feel like I got a good night’s sleep.

The following day, I saw the mom who asked me to pray for her daughter and family. I shared that I started on the dinosaur gift hunt but failed. So, I asked if she wouldn’t mind accomplishing the task for me. She was delighted to do so and took care of things. But, I have to admit it was fun trying to shop for the little guy and even more fun looking at all the dinosaur-related things out there.

Well, I wasn’t prepared for how much “Big Brother” was really watching. For almost the whole month of January, dinosaur-related things kept popping up ALL THE TIME on my google search pages and other things I was working on. Dinosaur-related ads were showing up EVERYWHERE. It was hilarious and kind of embarrassing at the same time because I often share my computer screen during Zoom calls, and there these dinosaur items kept showing up. I kept telling myself that I better share this news with someone; otherwise, if someone got on my computer or watched my ads, they would question why all the dinosaur stuff. I could just hear it now, “BOY, I knew Monsignor was into M&M’s and chocolate but dinosaurs too? That’s an interesting combination!”

In the end, the family had a great Christmas and was VERY grateful for the generosity of another family in our parish who made all of this possible. The timing was perfect from the perspective of when I got the news that this family wanted to sponsor someone and when I was asked to pray for another family. But much of this would never have taken place had I not stopped and asked the question, “What’s going on.” It was a gentle reminder to me ... and should be for all of us ... that in the midst of our busy lives and the want to

move from task to task quickly, we need to take the time to listen to other people’s stories. A simple “What’s going on” made all the difference in the world. Yes, I learned that “Big Brother” is ALWAYS watching. But I guess “Big Brother” should ALWAYS be watching in some sense ... meaning US ... in that we should be on the lookout for our brothers and sisters in need, take the time to hear their stories, and then respond accordingly. God will always provide. He always does. We just have to take the time to make it all happen. Sometimes all it takes is a simple question like, “What’s going on?”

Coming Attractions: Ash Wednesday and a Program on the Shroud of Turin: Believe it or not, folks, but Ash Wednesday is less than TWO weeks away. Yes, Wednesday, March 2, 2022, is Ash Wednesday!

Many people have already started asking what our plan will be for Ash Wednesday. I’m happy to report that we will go back to our pre-COVID plan of three public masses that day (7 AM, 12 Noon, and 7 PM) with the distribution of ashes taking place during those liturgies AND from 10 AM until just before the 7 PM mass. One of the priests or deacons will be present in Church between the masses to distribute ashes. Visitors who come between the liturgies will be asked to read through the day’s readings and stay in Church to reflect on the meaning of the Lenten season. Reflective music will also be playing throughout this time. The Church will remain open throughout the day until immediately after the 7 PM mass. We will distribute ashes as we did before COVID, by a sign of the cross on the forehead.

I also want to call your attention to the program on the Shroud of Turin that will take place on three consecutive Tuesdays beginning on March 8 at 7 PM. The event will be held in Church and will be live-streamed on our SJA Live page (and on Facebook and Roku). Father Andrew was the one who suggested bringing this program to SJA! We’re grateful for the idea! The presenter is David Conrad, who serves as the Director of Faith Formation and as the Pastoral Associate at St. Aidan Parish in Livonia.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers!

In Christ,

gmb
gmb@sjasc.org

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Sometimes, Jesus' teachings don't seem to make practical sense. When we hear things like love your enemies and do good to them, turn the other cheek when struck, give to anyone who asks, do to others as you would have them do to you, be merciful, stop judging, forgive, and give to others, we get a bit unsettled. After all, it's okay for God to do all of these things, but does He really want us to do them, too? Many good-hearted Christians really draw the line with some of these ideals and say, "No way!" They even remark that if someone did something hurtful to someone they loved, they would have no reservations seeking severe retribution. There is still this persistent thinking, even among those who consider themselves Christian, that a violent action deserves a violent response. Somehow, we continue to justify this.

Yet, it is most clearly against the very grain of the Gospel. Part of our difficulty has more to do with understanding God's love. We wrongly think that sinful or hurtful actions and evil people somehow are seen as lesser in



God's eyes. They are not. God loves the sinner as much as He does the saint. And, both of these inclinations exist in every human being, even those who consider themselves holy. Both the capacity for good and the disposition toward evil exist in every one of us. Viktor Frankl has this to say when reflecting on the Holocaust: "Our generation is a realistic generation because we have learned what a human being really is. When all is said and done, man is that same creature who invented the gas-chambers of Auschwitz; but he is also that being who walked

upright into those chambers with the prayer 'Shema Yisrael' on his lips."

If we believe in God, we have to act like God. Whether we like that idea is another issue. If we don't then perhaps, we need to reconsider our faith and whether we really believe in Jesus Christ. We are made in the image of God, not the image of ourselves. The Christian must, at all costs, leave resentment and the need for retaliation behind, lose defensiveness and bring into the mind and heart the realization of who we represent in this world.

"Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you." - Lk 6:38

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

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Local businesses and sponsors that advertise on bulletins need you now more than ever before. Please encourage and remind others to show their support during this time.

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

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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



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 during business hours.



St. Joan of Arc
Online Giving

Manage your Online Giving account with the app!

Download the Online Giving app today at OLGApp.com

Donations
Payments

Give online at stjoan.church or from the app

REGISTER THE APP WITH OUR ORGANIZATION ID#

4719

QR code

Download on the Google play
Download on the App Store

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



FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

February 20, 2022

WATCH

THE WILD GOOSE: EPISODE 10 THE SPIRIT AND THE DESERT

Sometimes we might feel like we're stuck in spiritual deserts. In this episode of The Wild Goose, Fr. Dave Pivonka shares how the Holy Spirit is present even in these times of desolation.



FORMED® *Now!*

The Next Pope
with Dr. Tim Gray & George Weigel

FORMED NOW! THE NEXT POPE

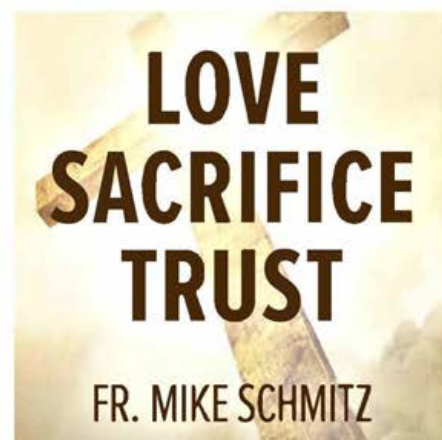
As we celebrate the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter this week, join Dr. Tim Gray and George Weigel as they discuss the past, present, and future of the papacy!

LEARN

LISTEN

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

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



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

Jesus: Image of the Invisible God program on the Shroud of Turin

This Lent, discover Jesus, the source of our salvation. Having been tested like us in every way, Jesus sympathizes with our weaknesses and understands our sufferings. We will deepen our appreciation of the historic reality of Jesus' conquest of suffering and death through His Passion and Resurrection by focusing on the message left behind on the Shroud of Turin.

Tuesdays, March 8, 15 and 22

At St. Joan of Arc, in person and livestreamed, presented by David J. Conrad, M.A. Theology

March 8: The Message of the Shroud

Its History; Scientific Analysis; The Imprint it Makes on Our Lives

March 15: Praying with the Shroud

Sung meditation on the Passion of Our Lord employing the scripture passages that correspond to the wounds of the Man of the Shroud.

March 21: The Empty Tomb and the Shroud

Take a journey through time at the site of Jesus' death and resurrection, from the discovery of the empty tomb and the burial cloths lying within, to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which houses the locations of these historic events.



With over two decades in full-time parish ministry, Mr. Conrad has been serving as Pastoral Associate and Director of Faith Formation at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Livonia since 2003. At the same time, Mr. Conrad serves as a part-time instructor of theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary (since 2009), and Coordinator of Ecumenical and Interfaith Dialogue for the Archdiocese of Detroit (since 2017).

*Ash Wednesday
is March 2*
Join us for Stations
of the Cross each
Friday at 7 pm
during Lent

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, February 21st

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Tuesday, February 22nd

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

4:00 pm First Reconciliation

Wednesday, February 23rd

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, February 24th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 pm Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, February 25th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, February 26th

11:00 am Reconciliation

12:30 pm Baptism of Isabella R. Cornett

1:30 pm Baptism of Lyla Belle Eschenburg

4:00 pm Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, February 13th

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

February 20, 2022 – Judge Not!

It will take years for the wounds to heal in Oakland County after the late November tragedy that took place at Oxford High School. Indeed, for those closest to the situation, the wounds may never fully heal.

So, it is especially difficult to read about the ongoing legal proceedings against the accused assailant and his parents, particularly when the stories report things like the alleged mindset of the shooter.

“The importance of surrendering is that (the gunman) would not be killed and would be alive to witness the suffering he had caused,” one recent story in *The Detroit News* quoted the Oakland County prosecutor as saying in a court filing.

The reporter who wrote the story characterized it as a “bid to survive and admire his work.”

It is, alas, an understandable and all-too-human response from the community and the public at large to be enraged. Indeed, it is a short journey from a “desire for justice” to a “revenge at all costs” approach to the punishment. And to hear people react to the story, it’s clear that many lean precisely toward hateful vengeance.

And yet, as difficult as it may be, our Christianity calls us to a different approach. A far more measured approach. An approach that acknowledges the reality, but nevertheless seeks a mindset – or at least a fundamental understanding – that, the legal system notwithstanding, it is not our place to judge a person’s soul.

“Stop judging and you will not be judged,” Jesus tells his followers in today’s gospel message from St. Luke. “Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.”

There may be no more difficult directive. But we’re called to believe and to act accordingly.

2022 Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday February 21, 2022 Weekday Saint Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Green/White)

7:00 a.m. Tracey Kowalewski and Mary Biermann

Tuesday February 22, 2022 Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle (White)

7:00 a.m. Michelle Levigne and Marian Gorde

Wednesday February 23, 2022 Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr (Red)

7:00 a.m. A Special Intention for the Benedis Family

Thursday February 24, 2022 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. George Mourtos

Friday February 25, 2022 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Timothy Fox and Michael Forrester

Saturday February 26, 2022 Weekday BVM (Green/White)

4:00 p.m. George Rupinski, Bonnie Batchee, the deceased members of the Goor Family, Frank Nagy, Carlos Mallare, Michael Pore and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family, the J. Champine Family, the Cantrell Family, and David and Dorothy Damm on their 62nd Wedding Anniversary

6:00 p.m. Joan Weber and a Special Intention for Dr. Lori Karol

Sunday February 27, 2022 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

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

10:00 a.m. Jim Brenner

12:00 p.m. Virginia Mette, Mario & Eva DiNello, Felix Conte, Michael Berch, William Kowynia

Daily Readings

Monday, February 21

James 3:13-18
Mark 9:14-29

Friday, February 25

James 5:9-12
Mark 10:1-12

Tuesday, February 22

1 Peter 5:1-4
Matthew 16:13-19

Saturday, February 26

James 5:13-20
Mark 10:13-16

Wednesday, February 23

James 4:13-17
Mark 9:38-40

Sunday, February 27

Sirach 27:4-7
1 Corinthians 15:54-58
Luke 6:39-45

Thursday, February 24

James 5:1-6
Mark 9:41-50



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.”

**Anthony Aiello
Richard Caldwell**



“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

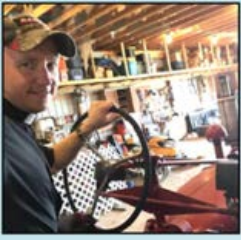


Reporting Sexual Abuse

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, pre-screened or disregarded.



Loving Your Enemies: I'm sure all of us have had moments where we've been treated wrongly and just want nothing more

than to get even. Maybe we've even been in a position to do that. And in that moment we are face with the ultimate test of integrity of faith. Do we believe what we profess to. A Christian doesn't take the bait. A Christian turns away from that opportunity.

In the first reading today, David found himself in that situation. Driven by his paranoia and envy of the popular young David, King Saul had been trying to hunt David down and kill him. Having snuck into Saul's camp at night while everyone was asleep, David had his chance to end Saul's murderous ambitions. David's lieutenant Abishai was practically begging him, to order him, to kill Saul as he slept. That would have been too easy and in David's eyes, it would have been terribly wrong. After all, Saul was anointed king of Israel by the Lord, so who was David to end his life?

David decided to take the high moral ground. He took Saul's spear and water jar and left the camp. From a distance, he showed these prizes to Saul and made it clear that he could have killed him but chose not to do so. David challenged Saul to treat him with the same mercy and respect, *"The LORD will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness."* David says. Saul knows David had the chance to end his life, but he chose not to do so. Saul admits his guilt and leaves.

The first reading and the Gospel today give us the same message; *"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."* It's an opportunity this Sunday to do a little examination of our consciences. Are we treating others with the mercy we hope for from God for ourselves? And if not, where in our life does that need to change? Who do we need to relate to differently? Because if we are lacking mercy toward another, Jesus assures us that it does need to change: *"The measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you,"* Jesus says.

The phrase had a literal meaning, in the pre-electronic weigh scale days. Market owners would sell their produce by

weight, but unscrupulous salesmen would be in the habit of shaving an ounce or two from the weights used on their scales or finding whatever other methods they could to cheat the customer and still charge them the same. Jesus is using the analogy in talking about the mercy of God's forgiveness—we will be given what we give to others. If we are generous toward others, God will be even more so to us—*"a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap."* We will be more than rewarded for our kindness. But withhold our kindness and mercy towards others and we can expect to be treated accordingly in God's justice.

As if to make the point clear, today we hear Psalm 51, David's prayer of contrition and plea for God's mercy. David was a good king, but only because he recognized his own mistakes and admitted that he needed God's mercy: *"Have mercy on me O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense."* And we respond in solidarity with David for our own sinfulness with the response: *"Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned."* David knew of God's mercy toward him and he knew of his responsibility to be a conduit of mercy himself, as he showed toward Saul.

Fr. Andrew's Very Local Weather

Update: Well unfortunately, my weather station is no longer reporting an outdoor temperature of 70 degrees (for now!), since it is no longer sitting in my living room. I made use of the beautiful Spring 30 degree temperatures last week to get outside and build a stand to mount the station on. I had looked online for one, but I was not going to pay \$200 to hoist the sensor up in the air. So I did what I usually do in these situations and headed to Home Depot. Then I engaged in the usual "Hide from the sales associates" game. As helpful as they are trying to be, I inevitably get caught studying some piece of hardware, while considering if I can use it for a purpose totally different from the one it was intended for. I need to walk around the store to get my inspiration. But while I stand there thinking, someone always comes up to me and asks, "Can I help you find something?" Then I have to tell them that I have no idea what I'm looking for until I see it. That doesn't usually compute with the brain that says,

"if you're doing plumbing, go to aisle 14; if you need to fix a roof, go to aisle 23." They often don't understand that I need a piece of hardware for something it wasn't designed for, but no-one can tell me what that piece is until I see it and decide that I can use it to solve a problem it wasn't meant to solve. It's my version of hunting. Leave me alone in the "blind" until I spot my target. I love creating as I go. This particular hunt turned out to be pretty simple.

This stand had to be moveable so I could put it on the lawn, away from the Parish Center wall, and still move it so the lawn can be mowed easily. I already had some lumber, so all I needed was..... hmmm... let's take a walk and see... there it is!... a \$12 extendable closet pole. Extendable?! "I can make it any height I want!" I thought. Only when I got home did it occur to me that closets don't have to fight with gravity. One pole slides freely inside the other to your desired length, but turn them into a vertical pole and that pole only extends until you let go and then loses out to gravity and disappears inside the other one.

Never mind. The beauty of these made-up solutions is in the fun of making creative adjustments as you go. I drilled a hole in the larger pole and put a screw through it so the smaller diameter pole could only slide down a few inches. Problem solved. Here's to you, Sonny Eliot!



You are in my prayers this week

Fr. Andrew adawson@sjascs.org



Evening Prayer *and* Dinner

with Archbishop
Allen H. Vigneron



Wednesday, March 23, 2022 | Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Men (16-55 years old) from the Archdiocese of Detroit, contact your pastor or associate pastor if interested in attending. For more info, refer to the link below.

detroitpriestlyvocations.com/evening-prayer-and-dinner/

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – FEBRUARY 27 C

Reading One – Sir 27:4-7

When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear; so do one's faults when one speaks. As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace, so in tribulation is the test of the just. The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had; so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he speaks, for it is then that people are tested.

Responsorial Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, Most High, to proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

The just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be, declaring how just is the LORD, my rock, in whom there is no wrong.

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Reading Two – 1 Cor 15:54-58

Brothers and sisters: When this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: *Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?* The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Alleluia – Phil 2:15d, 16a

Alleluia, alleluia.

Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Lk 6:39-45

Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher. Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye.

"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not pick figs from thornbushes, nor do they gather grapes from brambles. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

February 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 | 1 Cor 15:45-49 | Lk 6:27-38

LOVE
YOUR
ENEMIES AND
DO GOOD FOR
THEM; STOP
JUDGING;
STOP
CONDEMNING;
GIVE.

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

Have you heard about the *Civilize It!* initiative? The U.S. bishops launched a campaign to encourage civil dialogue during the contentious 2020 election. Unfortunately, the divisiveness in our nation, and even within the Church, has shown no signs of subsiding, leading the bishops to reboot the campaign last fall. The bishops encourage every Catholic to pledge to be a force for charity, clarity, and creativity in our divided world. Today's Gospel shows us how to do that, starting with the Golden Rule. What strikes me – and challenges me – are the specific examples that remain relevant 2,000 years later: *Love your enemies and do good for them; stop judging; stop condemning; give.* Building on last Sunday's account of the beatitudes, Luke provides us a prescription for how to live a moral and happy life, one that reflects those who "bear the image of the heavenly one."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I am thankful to have people in my life who bring out the best in others, and certainly bring out the best in me. I would guess we can each point to others who have guided and encouraged us: A teacher, a dear friend, a favorite aunt, a neighbor or coach. Today's readings encourage us to be that person for others, even when it's hard. Nobody said being a witness to Christ would be a cake walk! Fortunately, we can turn to prayer and the Scriptures for encouragement. For me, it may begin with small steps, such as listening to those with whom I disagree, not getting drawn into social media debates, and being more generous with my time. As we reflect on today's readings, perhaps we can each choose one change we would like to make or challenge we want to accept as we move into the week and ask God to help us put it into practice.

ACT Praise God each day this coming week. And then challenge yourself to offer a compliment to one person every day as well. Praising God and others puts us in right relationship with God and with our brothers and sisters.

Dear Padre,

Previously you wrote that the Church is the bride of Christ, and we should remain faithful to that bond. Is there another reason to remain in the Catholic Church?

The Church is also the body of Christ. When Jesus ascended into heaven, he left his disciples with the mission he had received from the Father: instruct everyone in Jesus' teachings and baptize them into his divine life (Matthew 28:19–20). Through the Church, Jesus would remain present in the world.

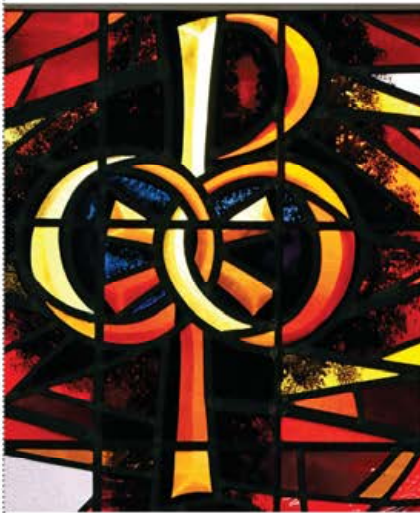
Some take offense because the Church claims the authority of Jesus himself to teach. It teaches that marriage is between one man and one woman, that

contraception and abortion are immoral, that capital punishment is a sin. Jesus himself may not have expressly addressed these issues, but he said to his apostles, "Whoever listens to you listens to me. Whoever rejects you rejects me" (Luke 10:16). And to Peter he said, "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19).

It's true that since the time of the apostles some members, and even Church leaders, have caused scandal. The Lord asks that they, like Peter, repent and live a life of obedience and service to the Lord. That's why it's important that we examine

our own actions. Someone who abandons the Church due to scandals within its ranks should realize that encouraging others to abandon the bride of Christ and the body of Christ is a scandalous act itself.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



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A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We need to stop seeing the reform of the Church as putting a patch on an old garment, or simply drafting a new Apostolic Constitution....It cannot be a matter of putting a patch here or there, for the Church is not just an item of Christ's clothing, but rather his body.

ADDRESS TO THE ROMAN CURIA, DECEMBER 21, 2020

Calendar

Monday

FEBRUARY 21

Weekday

Jas 3:13–18

Mk 9:14–29

Tuesday

FEBRUARY 22

The Chair of St. Peter

the Apostle

1 Pt 5:1–4

Mt 16:13–19

Wednesday

FEBRUARY 23

St. Polycarp,

Bishop and Martyr

Jas 4:13–17

Mk 9:38–40

Thursday

FEBRUARY 24

Weekday

Jas 5:1–6

Mk 9:41–50

Friday

FEBRUARY 25

Weekday

Jas 5:9–12

Mk 10:1–12

Saturday

FEBRUARY 26

Weekday

Jas 5:13–20

Mk 10:13–16

Sunday

FEBRUARY 27

Eighth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:4–7

1 Cor 15:54–58

Lk 6:39–45

**Do you have
a question
for the Padre?**

Go to DearPadre.org
to send your question
and to learn more
about Dear Padre.

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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 +

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
February 20, 2022

Finding Strength in the Cross

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Arturo Mari, the photographer who followed St. John Paul II from the first to the last day of his pontificate, was once asked which of the millions of photos he took of the pope captured him best. He cited the ones of the pope holding his crozier, resting his head on it as he prayed during so many Masses around the world. This silver pastoral cross accompanied St. John Paul everywhere and was his constant companion in all of his sufferings.

It shows Jesus hanging from a cross

that is literally bowing under the weight of his body. You can feel the pull of gravity drawing the victim down in desperation. The photos show St. John Paul resting his forehead on the back of the cross, lost in prayer.

The papal photographer said this image more than any other summed up the pontiff because, before becoming a public figure who changed world history, he was a man of prayer, deeply loving Jesus. He was a man immersed in prayer who spent hours on his knees in order to have the strength to stand with and for those who most needed him.

This is a lesson for us. In order to live the beatitudes, we need to lean on Jesus and find our strength in him. Resting ourselves on the empty side of the crucifix is the best place to learn to love like him and be strong like him. +

Sunday Readings

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

The LORD repays everyone's righteousness and faithfulness.

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said,] "Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back."

A Word from Pope Francis

We need to stop seeing the reform of the Church as putting a patch on an old garment, or simply drafting a new Apostolic Constitution....It cannot be a matter of putting a patch here or there, for the Church is not just an item of Christ's clothing, but rather his body.

—Address to Roman Curia,
December 21, 2020



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do I believe in the patience and love of Christ on the cross as the best show of strength?
- Where can I practice the patience of Christ better?

Our Souls as Journals

By Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

“Why am I still here?”

The question wasn't existential; it had to do with location. I was a twenty-two-year-old student in the seminary who posed the question to myself in a journal after the news that two classmates were departing the school.

Decades later, I stumbled upon this journal. While it contains a fair amount of honesty and soul-searching, it unravels few mysteries of the human condition. (The publishers of Anne Frank's insightful diary have nothing to worry about!)

Writing helps give meaning to our experiences. It's quest for self-discovery and a search for answers in life. This discovery—seldom revealed in tweets and texts—is more likely found in ancient art forms like letter writing, journaling, and more extensive versions of creative written expression.

Shelby Foote, American historian and novelist, once told his author friend Walker Percy that many people have the mistaken notion that writers know what they want to say and say it. Foote said that if he knew what he wanted to say, he wouldn't write at all. He said writers seek and find answers in the telling of a story in all forms of writing, during which they explore themselves and find clues to reality.

It has been said that a person who writes thinks twice. Perhaps, then, the person who writes reflectively prays



twice. Some people keep a travelogue on pilgrimages and imagine what it's like to trace their hallowed steps with Christ or an apostle at their side. Others who write about painful episodes in their past imagine what it's like to relive the situation in the Lord's company. Still others insert themselves into a biblical scene with Christ and write about that experience. For instance, a writer friend of mine imagines what it's like to be the mother in the Prodigal Son story. How did she react to her wayward son's return?

Recall the beginning and ending of John's Gospel: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1);

“There are...many other things that Jesus did, but if these were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world would contain the books that would be written” (John 21:25). I think we're those books! Christ reveals himself in our search for meaning through his word and in the ways that we become living testaments to the Logos.

Benjamin Franklin's self-written epitaph offers cleverly crafted insights to the human condition when our final chapter approaches:

**The Body of Ben Franklin,
Printer, Like the Cover of an old
book, Its contents worn out and
Stript of its Lettering & Gilding,
Lies here, food for the worms,
yet the work shall not be Lost;
for it will, as he believes, appear once
more
In a new & more beautiful Edition,
Corrected & amended by the Author. +**

*Writing helps give meaning
to our experiences.*



*Lord, your love is beyond measure.
Open my heart to show
impartial love to all people.*

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 21–26

Monday, Weekday:

Jas 3:13–18 / Mk 9:14–29

Tuesday, The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle:

1 Pt 5:1–4 / Mt 16:13–19

Wednesday, St. Polycarp:

Jas 4:13–17 / Mk 9:38–40

Thursday, Weekday:


Jas 5:1–6 / Mk 9:41–50

Friday, Weekday:

Jas 5:9–12 / Mk 10:1–12

Saturday, Weekday:

Jas 5:13–20 / Mk 10:13–16

Bringing Home
the Word 
February 20, 2022

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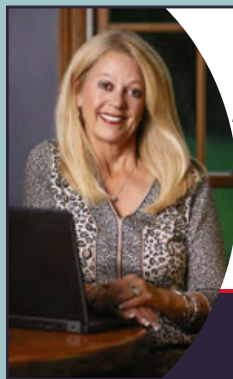
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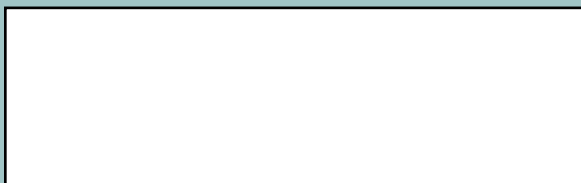
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