

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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2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

610

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." - Jn 2:1-3

Expends from the Lectionary for Mass (02001, 1998, 1970 CCD)

4 ...

PARISH CENTER 22412 Overlake

Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

Phone: 586-777-3670 Fax: 586-774-5528 Website: www.sjascs.org E-mail: sjainfo@sjascs.org

SCHOOL 22415 Overlake Saint Clair Shores. MI 48080

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

Website: www.stjoan.net E-mail: info@stjoan.net

FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION OFFICE 22415 Overlake

22415 Overlake

Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080

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

E-mail: repoffice@siascs.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 Phone: 586-772-1282 Fax: 586-447-3574 Fax: 586-775-8374

Pastor

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin gmbugarin@sjascs.org

Associate Pastor

Fr. Andrew Dawson adawson@sjascs.org

Non-Resident Associate Pastor:

Fr. Rich Bartoszek

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Tom Strasz tstrasz@sjascs.org

Deacon Dom Pastore dpastore@sjascs.org

Business Manager

Dina Ciaffone dciaffone@sjascs.org

Principal

Amy Pattie apattie@stjoan.net

Assistant Principal

Charles Kaiser ckaiser@stjoan.net

Music Director

Catherine Thomas cthomas@sjascs.org

Athletic Director

Faith Formation

Charles Kaiser ckaiser@stjoan.net

Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass khass@sjascs.org

Exceptional Children TBD

Youth Group

Linda Lietaert llietaert@stjoan.net

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

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

Holy Day Masses

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

Reconciliation

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

Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

Rosary

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

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center is open Monday - Thursday from 8:30am-5pm Friday from 8:30-4pm

Mass intentions and most services can be done in person or by calling us at 586-777-3670 during these hours.

Our after-hours emergency number: 586-777-1342.

Baptisms: Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out the Baptism request form. You will be contacted to make further arrangements based on submission of that form.

Marriages: Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months prior to the desired date. Pre-marriage series required.

Registration: It is very important that every family and independent adult be registered in the Church in order to keep our records and mailings current. Please contact the Parish Office to register at your earliest opportunity: **586-777-3670.**

RCIA: Please call the Parish Center: 586-777-3670

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone

OR

By calling us at **586-777-3670** during office hours.

Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Live Stream Broadcasts have become a standard part of our celebrations at St Joan of Arc. This has increased our mass participation at daily and weekend masses. It has also allowed many of our parishioners to stay in touch with their faith community remotely.

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

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

TALLer Tales



Getting OLDer: When I was a seminarian studying in Rome and even for a few years after I was ordained a priest, I would watch many Papal liturgies on

TV. It became more of a habit to sit down and watch some of the major solemnities and feasts of the liturgical year, whether live or recorded, from the Vatican. Back in the day, I knew many of the people I would see on TV, so it was fun to watch what was happening in Rome.

While I still catch the "Midnight minus Two" Christmas Eve Mass or the Easter Vigil, I don't watch as many Papal liturgies as I once did. But one thing hasn't changed in my many years of watching those beautiful Papal liturgies: Vatican TV has this uncanny ability to narrow in on some poor sleeping priest, bishop, or cardinal when they're panning the crowd. I've learned as a camera operator at SJA, that sometimes you need that second camera shot ready to switch to when things just aren't panning out too well with the scene being broadcast live on another camera. But I used to laugh ... many of us used to laugh or more like snicker ... at the shots of the poor priests, bishops or cardinals caught absolutely sound asleep at one of these liturgies. It just wasn't the "I was just resting my eyes while I listened to the homily" routine, but often the full-blown eyes closed, head tilted, and mouth somewhat open routine. I laugh now at thinking how often I would declare, "THAT would NEVER happen to ME!"

Well, I'm OLDer now. And, when I'm tired, it takes only a few nano-seconds to fall asleep. As I've often said, I don't know why I even bother sitting in my nice comfy La-Z-Boy chair in my back room at my house because that chair has this uncanny ability to launch me into a sleep routine within seconds of landing on it.

Like so many of you, I find that the days leading up to Christmas can get rather exhausting. There is so much to do and so much to remember. I'm lucky if I even remember to bring my family gifts to our Christmas Day gathering. And I know that if I even thought of sitting in my big chair in my back room for a few minutes after the last mass before I began the hour journey north ... I'd wake up to a phone call wondering if I got lost or fell asleep!

At the Christmas Day mass that Father Andrew was the celebrant, I caught myself dozing off a bit during the responsorial psalm. This wasn't good because it was so early in the liturgy. Normally, I will doze off for a nano-second, but I'll catch myself and get my act back together. But during the homily, I flat out fell asleep. This was full-blown with eyes closed, head titled, and mouth slightly opened. I don't know how long I was out, but I was clearly out. OH NO, I HAVE become like one of those old priests at the Vatican. How did that happen? I'm only 57! I just hoped they didn't pan the sanctuary with the camera and catch me in the act.

But then I realized I had another problem. With the two screens in Church now, I have found that people don't always look at the screen on THEIR side of the Church. NO! I've seen a fair number of people sitting on the pulpit side of the Church look at the screen on the right side of the Church. This puts the concelebrants seated in the chairs down near the piano DIRECTLY in the line of sight of those sitting on the pulpit side looking at the right screen. There's no escaping being caught asleep now! Good heavens! I'll need to be on my best behavior from now on. Or, I just have to accept the fact that I really am like one of those OLD priests at the Vatican I used to snicker about!

Speaking about Getting Old: At a baptism we had this past weekend, the grandmother pointed out how many in the family I have baptized over the years. She just kept pointing and saying, "and that one, and that one, and that one." Then one of the sons piped up and said while pointing to his head, "And you know you're an old priest when someone you baptized is as bald as me!" Gee thanks!

End of the Year Tax Statements: With the many changes in the tax laws. itemizing deductions do not benefit as many people as in the past. As a result, many people do not need or benefit from the usual end-of-the-year tax statements we generated years ago. Please consult with your tax preparer to determine if you still need a contribution statement from us. If you need a contribution statement for your 2021 income taxes, please complete the online form found at sjascs.org/ taxstatements. We will generate a statement for you toward the end of January. You can indicate if you would like to pick up the statement or have it mailed or emailed. Please note that statements for contributions to the Catholic Services Appeal are generated separately

by the Archdiocese of Detroit. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Center at 586-777-3670 or info@sjascs.org.

A Day of Prayer and Penance for Life: Saturday, January 22, marks the 49th anniversary of the infamous ROE vs. WADE and DOE vs. BOLTON decisions that rocked the foundation of human life in our country. With those two decisions, a woman's right to "choice" outweighed an innocent child's right to life. It's incredible to think how many abortions have taken place in our country alone. We need to continue to pray for a greater respect for human life in all of its stages, not just during the annual March for Life in January but throughout the year.

"The over 60 million abortions since the 1973 decisions of Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton reflect with heartbreaking magnitude what Pope Francis means by a 'throwaway culture.' However, we have great trust in God's providence. We are reminded time and again in Scripture to seek the Lord's help, and as people of faith, we believe that our prayers are heard (usccb.org)."

"Only with prayer—prayer that storms the heavens for justice and mercy, prayer that cleanses our hearts and souls—will the culture of death that surrounds us today be replaced with a culture of life (U.S. Catholic Bishops, *Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities*)."

9 Days for Life: One great way to pray for life is by participating in the annual 9 Days for Life Novena. The novena, a signature event of the USCCB's pro-life initiatives, invites participants to receive daily prayers and reflections by email or text from January 19 through January 27. To sign up for the novena, please visit www.9daysforlife.com or follow the link on the home page of our parish website. The daily messages, which are youthfriendly, include an intercession, simple prayers, a brief reflection, and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. There are also iOS and Android apps available. You can also take advantage of prewritten content on the 9daysforlife.com site for sharing on Facebook or Twitter.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb gmb@sjascs.org

Thursday, February 3, 6-8 pm OPEN HOUSE WINTERFEST

Outdoor fun with school tours for visitors upon request



Visit with teachers, enjoy a hot dog and chips, sip hot cocoa, roast marshmallows and make s'mores, light a candle in the church, and celebrate SJA Catholic school with wonderful family fellowship. Dress warmly!

learn more at stjoan.net



586-775-8370

Misc. Announcements

Workshop Focuses on Pursuit of Justice

Dominican Saints Thomas Aquinas and Catherine of Siena both wrote extensively on the need for virtue in the life of a Christian. Pope Francis also focused on virtue in his letter, *Rejoice and Be Glad*.

Sister Geneal Kramer, OP, a Dominican Sister of Adrian, explores these insights and the ways we can internalize virtues in our life journey. Her presentation, *The Pursuit of Justice and Other Needed Virtues*, is offered via live stream from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Sister Geneal, a retreat director and spiritual director, was a Professor of Practical Theology for St. Norbert College and Mount St. Mary Seminary in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The workshop is free and donations are appreciated. Registration is not required. The live stream is available at https://webercenter.org/justice.



Light of the Spirit Prayer Group



2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at

St Basil the Great Community Room 22851 Lexington Avenue Eastpointe, MI 48021

We pray the Rosary @ 6:30 pm, followed by a meeting at 7pm.

For those wanting individual prayers please be there between 6:30 – 6:55 pm

We hope that you can join us!



FORMED

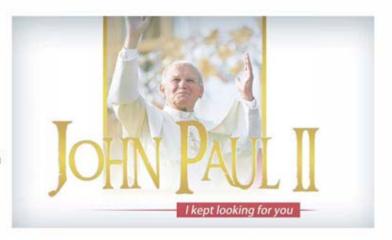
PICK OF THE WEEK

January 16, 2022

WATCH

JOHN PAUL II: I KEPT LOOKING FOR YOU

This incredible documentary traces Pope St. John Paul II's impact on the Church and the world. This film is a wonderful tribute to a man who inspired millions of people to deeper faith in Jesus Christ.





FORMED NOW! MISERY MEETS MERCY: SAINT FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

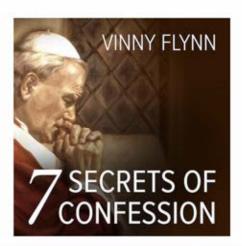
St. Faustina is known as the "secretary of Divine Mercy" because of the revelations of the Lord to her about His incredible mercy. Join Dr. Ben Akers and Fr. Mateusz as they discuss her proclamation of the message of Divine Mercy.

LEARN

LISTEN

7 SECRETS OF CONFESSION BY VINNY FLYNN

The Sacrament of Confession is the place where we get to encounter the Lord's mercy in a tangible way. In this talk, best selling author and Catholic speaker Vinny Flynn explores the incredible gift of mercy we encounter in Confession.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

CHOSEN SEASON TWO WATCH PARTY AND DISCUSSION



JOIN FR. ANDREW VIA ZOOM TO WATCH AND DISCUSS THE SECOND SEASON (8 EPISODES) OF THE ACCLAIMED SERIES ABOUT CHRIST'S LIFE

TUESDAYS AT 7 PM, JAN 11 - MAR 1

IT'S FREE! REGISTER AT
SJASCS.ORG/THE-CHOSEN-WATCH-PARTY

Calendar of Events / Words on the Word

Weekly Calendar of Events

Monday, January 17th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

School & Parish Center Closed for MLK Holiday

Tuesday, January 18th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Wednesday, January 19th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Thursday, January 20th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 pm Holy Hour - Live Streamed

Friday, January 21st

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

Saturday, January 22nd

11:00 am Reconciliation

12:30 pm Baptism of Cole Elliot Departee 1:30 pm Baptism of Cali Rae Tauck

1.30 pm Daptism of Can Rac Tauck

4:00 pm Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Live Streamed

Sunday, January 23rd

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

January 16, 2022 – Born to Run

For those who follow such things, the news was incredible.

Bruce Springsteen, aka "The Boss" to his legions of fans around the world, late last year sold his music portfolio, essentially his life's work, to the Sony Music Group for somewhere more than \$500 million.

"The ... (valuation) represents more than 30 times the annual royalties on the combined recorded music and songwriting catalog," according to a story in *The Wall Street Journal*.

The story compared Springsteen's deal to similar transactions done with Bob Dylan and Stevie Nicks, among others.

More power to him, and, indeed to all of them. There is no way to overstate the amount of work these artists dedicate to their crafts.

That said, it's also important to remember that such abilities are gifts from God. And whether the talents are musical or something along other lines, it's for God's greater glory that they – and we – are called to use them.

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord," we hear in today's second reading from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

"To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another, the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another, mighty deeds; to another, prophecy; to another, discernment of spirits; to another, varieties of tongues; to another, interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes."

Bottom line, St. Paul reminds us, is we're obligated to put our talents to work for the one, true Boss, God our heavenly father.

2022 Words on the Word

Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

Mass Intentions

Monday January 17, 2022 Saint Anthony, Abbott

(White)

7:00 a.m. Nancy Panetta and Sam & Grace Valenti

Tuesday January 18, 2022 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Jerry Valeck & Edward Graney

Wednesday January 19, 2022 Weekday (Green)

Joseph Calus and Special Intentions for emil 7:00 a.m.

Cardamone and in Thanksgiving for an amazing

Life's Journey

Thursday January 20, 2022 Weekday Saint Fabian,

Pope & Martyr and Saint Sebastian,

Martyr (Green/Red/Red)

7:00 a.m. **Geraldine Rogier**

Friday January 21, 2022 Saint Agnes, Virgin

and Martyr (Red)

7:00 a.m. Paul T. Daudlin

Saturday January 22, 2022 Day of Prayer for the

Legal Protection of Unborn Children

(White/Purple)

4:00 p.m. Paul T. Daudlin, Sam & Grace Valenti, Doris

> Michaux, Donald Gerlach, Nick & Ann Marie Cantrell, Bonnie Batche, Ernie Romanelli and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family and the

J. Champine Family

6:00 p.m. **Denise Allossery**

Sunday January 23, 2022 Third Sunday in

Ordinary Time (Green)

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

Parishioners

10:00 a.m. Joel VanDenbussche

12:00 p.m. Lee Dunn, Colleen Hollern

Daily Readings

Monday, January 17 Friday, January 21

1 Samuel 15:16-23 1 Samuel 24:3-21 Mark 2:18-22 Mark 3:13-19

Saturday, January 22 Tuesday, January 18

1 Samuel 16:1-13 2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, Mark 2:23-28 23-27

Mark 3:20-21

Wednesday, January 19 Sunday, January 23

1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51

Mark 3:1-6

Thursday, January 20

1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Mark 3:7-12

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21



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."

Fr. Thomas Cusick Eleanor Gervais **Edwin Coatney (son of Gloria and Richard Coatney)** Verne Garascia

"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.

Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



The Nine-Times Table Lesson: I did not like math when I was in school (or now!). But what I did like was the Dukes of Hazzard on TV.

That was my favorite show. So when I was supposed to have worked on learning my nine-times table for school, but hadn't, my mom knew exactly where to strike that would hurt the most. I was banished to the dining room to do my homework at 5pm on Saturday, instead of my weekly dose of the Dukes. It was just one of the many lessons I had as a child to teach me about consequences. If we don't learn when we're young that our behavior has a consequence, there is no limit to where narcissism and reckless pursuit of misjudged freedom will take us. We never learn what it means to be responsible for our actions and we're surprised when they come back to bite us.

On too great a scale, our nation has missed the nine-times table lesson. The pursuit of personal freedom is on the verge of hitting us hard. It's been 49 years since the Supreme Court ruling on Roe v Wade and this ruling has led to over 63 million deaths in those years. Worldwide, over the same time-period, the number is over 1.5 billion—that's 20% of the world's population. The Church marks that notorious anniversary with Sanctity of Life Month in January.

Besides the moral decay that has been eating away at our society since the introduction of the legally-approved oral contraceptive pill in 1960, the wide use of birth control has facilitated the growth of a permissive society. In such an environment, young people are often at a loss to understand the need to respect their own and each other's bodies. The culture tries hard to persuade them otherwise with a "Life-is-cheap-so-have-fun-and-fix-itlater" attitude.

In the midst of this comes the heart of the nine-times table lesson. The consequence of our 63 million aborted children, many of whom would have by now had their own children, is a population that is badly out of balance. The Baby-Boomers are now already retired and retiring, but there is a void in the population holding themup. Behind them trail their children and grandchildren, many of whom were aborted before birth, before they had chance to enter society - before they had

the opportunity to enter the workplace and to support their parents and grandparents in time-honored tradition. Who ought to be the top wage-earners and contributors today? Who should be at the height of their earning potential? It's those in their 30s and 40s, by now well-established in their careers....or they would have been had they been allowed to live...

In 1940, there were 160 people supporting each Social Security recipient. Today there are 2.7 people paying to support each recipient. How can one worker support two or three retirees while still working and trying to raise a family with mortgage payments, food, healthcare, etc.? Obviously, they can't, at least not forever. Our nation has let these flood-waters in, and it will take a conversion of hearts on several fronts to right the ship. We need to be a people of Gospel charity, willing to assist those in need. But even more profoundly, we need to realize fundamentally what the Church has always insisted to be true - all sin is universal. We do nothing in isolation; we can't expect that ignoring the dignity of human life at every stage will have no consequence upon our society. It's a lie.

As Catholics, we're often called to be bold for the sake of Christ. But it's not bold to preach the gospel. It's not bold to preach the truth Jesus speaks. What is really bold is to know the truth and *not* to preach it in the face of such an attack on life. This doesn't mean we should be throwing rocks at the other side, rather it's the duty of every Catholic to point people to Christ by our lives and by our docility to Him to accept what the Lord says, because He's the LORD, and not because it's convenient.

A Different Way: The Church has always taught that abortion is a grave sin, but we condemn the sin, and **never** the sinner. The Church wants to offer mercy and healing. But I'm more and more convinced that we can't win the argument on faith and logic and reason in a society that is abandoning all of these. As Catholics we must speak of the beauty of life. We must show the beauty of life, something that all people are capable of seeing.

I was reading this week about baby Richard Hutchinson. He was born in Wisconsin, in June 2020, in those early days of the pandemic, and he was born prematurely at just 20 weeks. 24 weeks is often claimed to the minimum age of viability for a baby. Richard was given a 0% chance of living, but the doctors were

willing to give him a chance. He's now a happy, healthy 18-month old.

I also saw a powerful video of a 95-year old lady who lives in a nursing home and has been separated for months because of Covid from her 96-year old husband of 70 years. The video shows the moment her husband is finally able to see her. He slowly lays down his cane as she abandons her walker and they stagger into each other's arms in a tearful embrace.

The beauty of life, in all its stages; the power of love to see us through darkness. We must offer love and a better way to those who cannot see it, or we will only further widen the division that exists in the campaign to protect life.

A few years ago I met a lady who told me she goes to the March for Life in Washington DC every year. "I go," she said, "because my pregnant mom marched for her right to abort me. But the law didn't pass in time... so I march for life."

In today's first reading the prophet Isaiah says, "For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet." Isaiah spoke to a people in the darkness of exile and he spoke the truth. But he spoke of the power of God to transform life..... that even those who had abandoned God had not been abandoned by God.

Pray for life, for all lives. Only with prayer prayer that storms the heavens for justice and mercy, prayer that cleanses our hearts and souls — will the culture of death that surrounds us today be replaced with a culture of life.

Pray for the conversion of hearts. AND.... get involved, not just for your pension's sake, but because if we are to call ourselves Christians, we must also accept our duty to our brothers and sisters, the most vulnerable in our world.

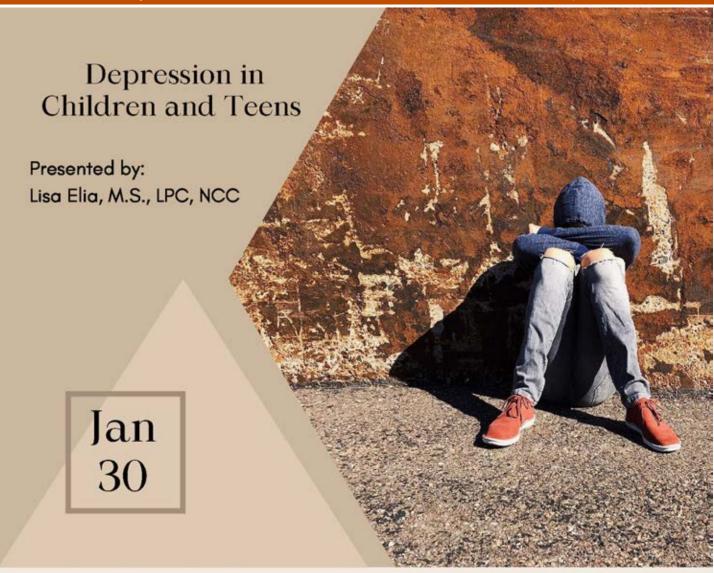
You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew

adawson@sjascs.org



Depression in Children & Teens Seminar at St. Lucy's



St. Lucy Catholic Church

23401 Jefferson Ave. St. Clair Shores 48080 www.stlucychurch.com

Seating is limited.

Please register at:

https://teendepressionlucy.eventbrite.com

Sunday, January 30, 2022 10-11:30 a.m.

What every parent should know about depression in children and teens.

Contact Karen Schroder 313-237-5925 kschroderestlucychurch.com

Readings for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Joan Arc

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JANUARY 23 C

Reading One - Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, which consisted of men, women, and those children old enough to understand. Standing at one end of the open place that was before the Water Gate, he read out of the book from daybreak till midday, in the presence of the men, the women, and those children old enough to understand; and all the people listened attentively to the book of the law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the occasion. He opened the scroll so that all the people might see it — for he was standing higher up than any of the people -; and, as he opened it, all the people rose. Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people, their hands raised high, answered, "Amen, amen!" Then they bowed down and prostrated themselves before the LORD, their faces to the ground. Ezra read plainly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read. Then Nehemiah, that is, His Excellency, and Ezra the priest-scribe and the Levites who were instructing the people said to all the people: "Today is holy to the LORD your God. Do not be sad, and do not weep" - for all the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law. He said further: "Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared; for today is holy to our LORD. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength!"

Responsorial Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15

R. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; The decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.

R. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye.

R. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; The ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just.

R. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

Let the words of my mouth and the thought of my heart find favor before you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

R. Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.

Reading Two - 1 Cor 12:12-30

Brothers and sisters: As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

Now the body is not a single part, but many. If a foot should say, "Because I am not a hand I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. Or if an ear should say, "Because I am not an eye I do not belong to the body," it does not for this reason belong any less to the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I do not need you," nor again the head to the feet, "I do not need you." Indeed, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are all the more necessary, and those parts of the body that we consider less honorable we surround with greater honor, and our less presentable parts are treated with greater propriety, whereas our more presentable parts do not need this. But God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to a part that is without it, so that there may be no division in the body, but that the parts may have the same concern for one another. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy.

Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it. Some people God has designated in the church to be, first, apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers; then, mighty deeds; then gifts of healing, assistance, administration, and varieties of tongues. Are all

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Rosary Rally

Readings continued

apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work mighty deeds? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

Alleluia - Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, and to proclaim liberty to captives.

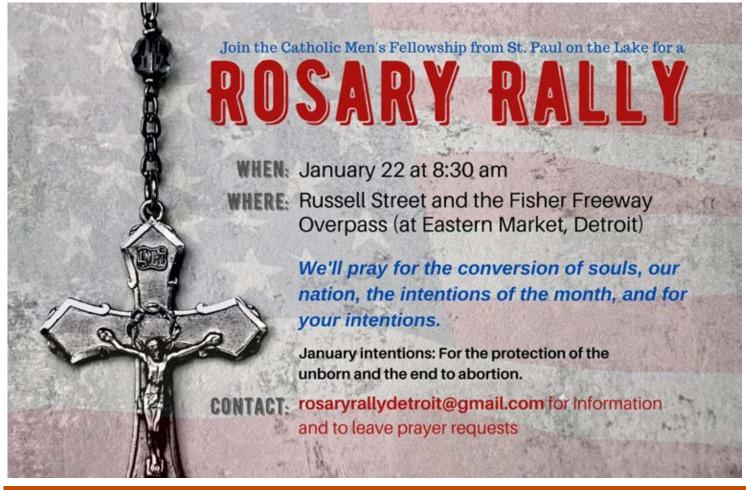
Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.

He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."





January 16, 2022

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 62:1-5 | 1 Cor 12:4-11 | Jn 2:1-11

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

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

It was several years ago now, but the scene is still vivid in my mind. My son stood confidently in front of the altar as the music rose in a crescendo and his bride stepped into sight. The love and joy he felt trickled down his cheek as she walked down the aisle. He broke into a smile as she joined him, and proudly took her hand to promise to become one with her forever. Isaiah writes: "As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you." Isaiah was talking about the nation of Israel, but God loves and rejoices in each of his children and wants us to know the joy of being loved by him. He generously shares his gifts with us, "different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit," St. Paul explains to the Corinthians. All spiritual gifts come from God, and all are important and necessary: "To each individual, the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." God's gifts are distributed uniquely to each person to use in our own unique way to "announce his salvation, day after day," and invite others to discover the joy of his great love.

GO EVANGELIZE PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

You are a masterpiece! This message was conveyed at the camp our diocese held each year to help teens recognize that they are God's beloved sons and daughters, called and gifted by the Holy Spirit to be missionary disciples. Discerning what our gifts are and how to use them can be challenging. The Gospel about the wedding at Cana offers an interesting guide. Mary tells the waiters, "Do whatever he tells you." By reserving time for listening and not speaking during prayer, we can hear what Jesus is "telling" us. Jesus then says to the waiters, "Fill the jars with water." We can "fill our jars" with the knowledge of how to live as disciples by reflecting on Scripture. Finally, Jesus tells the waiters, "Draw some out." We can "draw" on his love for strength and courage when we need it, but more importantly, we are called to "draw some out" to share with others. In sharing the "good wine," the Good News of Jesus Christ, others will begin to believe in him, too.

PRAYER As the new year gets under way, devote time to discerning the unique spiritual gifts, or charisms, you have been given. Make time for silent prayer and reflecting on Scripture each day.

Prayers Needed

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Andrew Barth Geri Beaugrand Theresa Bertelsen Fred Cansiani Lori Cardosi Rose Marie Carroll Alex Chapp Paul Chernichy Ed Cole Mary Ellen Cooper Victoria Cornwell James Czech Steven D'Arca David Damm Ellen Dancy Joan DeDene Lucy Dedene Sharon Deller

Catherine DeRose Nick DiCresce Grace Dickerson George Dickerson Julie Doty Marie Durfee Marie DuPont Susan Federoff Louise Fetherolf Taylor Fisher Nora Anne Francis Sylvia Gentile Pamela Gervasoni Jane Gora Larry Graham Geoffrey Greve James Gutowski Rich Hanselman

Susan Hughes Allevn Hunt Dr. Lori Karol Marilyn Kiefer Thomas Kler Catherine Konen Edward Krappmann Al Kraska Concetta Leone Dotty Lubinski Janet Malaski Christopher Manning Joan Mannino Lee Majewski Ed Marosso Karen McMahon Charlotte Miller Dee Misuraca

Mark Moffitt Jennie Mooney Jim Moore Christy Nehro Jessica Nehro Toni Pantano Fern Pascany Wayne Pepper Gasper Piazza Frank Poeschel Salvatore Promesso Tracy Rauch Larry Rybicki Sr. Alice Riegel Suzanne Roland Jennifer Rose Victoria Rydholm Doreen Saur

Alex Scapini Dianne Schelosky Ann Simmonds Terri Smigels Kathleen Smith Cathy Spindler Robert Stasak Virginia Stieber Beverly Taylor James Thompson Maxine Uniewski Eileen Wallace Audrey Weekley Joseph Whalen Marilyn Wicker

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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
January 16, 2022

The Many-Threaded Tapestry That Is Marriage

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

tapestry weaver works from the looking the mirror to see the reflection of his work. Next to the mirror sits a painting of what he is weaving. The back of the tapestry is full of knots and dull colors. In front it is beautiful and ornate. The way a tapestry is made is a great allegory for marriage. Spouses look at the ideal they are trying to reproduce: God's love for humanity, Jesus' love for

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5

As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride / so shall your God rejoice in you.

1 Corinthian 12:4-11

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; / there are different forms of service but the same Lord.

John 2:1-11

[Jesus said,] "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." his Church. It is a sacrificial, lay-downyour-life kind of love. While viewing the ideal, the spouses have their hands on the threads, weaving the right color at the right time to reproduce that ideal.

Those strings can represent the different virtues or acts of love required by the specific situation of the relationship. Sometimes a spouse has to stop, tie off a string, pull it out, and start over. From the back, it can look chaotic, but slowly the ideal takes shape and the beauty of the tapestry of marriage comes into view.

God will marry us, says the prophet. He will take us as his own, giving us the gifts of his Spirit to enrich us. Together, we will bear fruit of new life in ourselves and others. Trying to weave that loving union with God and others may be chaotic and knotty; thus, the need to repent and try again. But with his grace, the final product, which comes into full view only at the end, will be unique and beautiful. +

It can look chaotic, but slowly the ideal takes shape and the beauty of the marriage tapestry comes into view.

A Word from Pope Francis

We go to Mass because we are sinners and we want to receive God's pardon, to participate in the redemption of Jesus, in his forgiveness. The confession which we make at the beginning is not pro forma. It is a real act of repentance! I am a sinner and I confess it—this is how the Mass begins!



REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GRESTIONS

- Is God's love the ideal I try to emulate in my relationships, especially marriage?
- God is the main protagonist in my relationships. Do I try to listen to his inspirations?

Measuring God's Love

By Kathleen M. Basi

nyone who has suffered lossdeath, miscarriage, infertility, unemployment, natural disaster-can list the well-meaning yet deeply hurtful things people say. Most of them invoke God: God doesn't give you anything you can't handle. God's will is perfect. And

You can't argue with statements like these, but they can be damaging. They set up God as the cause of one's suffering, which can isolate a person from the very grace he or she most needs: the certainty of God's love.

Perhaps it's human nature. When we lack easy answers, we blame the divine. When a storm decimates a town, it's punishment for human wickedness. If we escape harm, it's a personal blessing. When we're diagnosed with major illness, it's because God is testing us; when the biopsy comes up negative, it's a sign of his favor.

In short, we sometimes treat God as if he's sitting on his heavenly sofa, hitting the "fire" button on some celestial Xbox controller.

The trouble is, if everything is God's fault, then when someone walks into a nightclub and starts shooting or when civil war spirals into war crimes perpetrated by all sides of the conflict, forcing millions to flee, some people will view it as proof that God doesn't exist at all. What loving God could possibly allow such things to happen?



Of course, God didn't have a thing to do with the horror in Syria or the nightclub shooting in Florida. That's on us-on fallen, broken humanity.

Bad things happen because we live in a fallen world. People who have been formed by prejudice and raised in an atmosphere of violence may do things that average sinners like us can't fathom. Yet it's still sin, not God, that bears the responsibility.

Nor should we blame God's wrath when extreme weather events cause great suffering and destruction. Instead, we should examine our own behaviors, looking for ways in which consumption and pollution are damaging the balance of nature.

God's love is not measured by physical bounty or beneficence. Neither should we view misfortune or loss as a sign of his displeasure. God's love is evident in the beauty of this world; in the incredible goodness of humanitythe goodness we are capable of when we remember that we are made in his image. Most of all, it's measured by the cross and the resurrection.

When we encounter the pain of others, it may be hard to know what to say. Sometimes it's better to say nothing at all-to offer a hug, a listening ear, and service. Then, perhaps, those who suffer will know the love of God because they have felt it-through us. +

God's love is not measured by physical bounty or beneficence.



Lord, send your Spirit and empower me to use my gifts and talents for the common good of all people.

-From Peaceful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

WEEKDAY READINGS

January 17-22

Monday, St. Anthony: 1 Sm 15:16-23/ Mk 2:18-22 Tuesday, Weekday: 1 Sm 16:1-13 /

Mk 2:23-28 / Lk 4:31-37 Wednesday, Weekday:

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/ Mk 3:1-6

Thursday, Weekday:

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 / Mk 3:7-12

Friday, St. Agnes:

1 Sm 24:3-21 / Mk 3:13-19

Saturday, Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 / Mk 3:20-21



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