



# 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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## 11<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants."- Mk 4:30-32b

**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

Kathy Kalich  
kkalich@stjoan.net

#### Office of Faith & Family Formation

Kristine Stewart Hass  
khass@sjascs.org

#### Non-Resident

#### Associate Pastors / Weekend Assistants:

Fr. Rich Bartoszek  
Fr. James Grau

#### Assistant Principal

Mary Pat Brennan  
mbrennan@stjoan.net

#### Exceptional Children

Mary Cal  
mcal@sjascs.org

#### 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

#### Anthems Director

Eleonore Ellero-Groth  
eleonoraellero@gmail.com



### LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Weekdays

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

#### Weekends

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

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

#### Holy Day Masses

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

#### Reconciliation

Saturdays ~ 11:00am—12:00pm  
in the Sister Carol Center (adjacent  
to church)

#### Holy Hour

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

#### Rosary

Monday - Friday after the 7a mass  
outside by the Holy Trinity statue.

### PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

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

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

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

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

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

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

**RCIA:** Please call the Parish Center (586-777-3670).

### INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, at this time please register at stjoan.church and we will contact you by phone to get further information OR by calling us at 586-777-3670 during office hours.

### Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

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

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

Go to: [livestream.stjoan.church](https://livestream.stjoan.church) to watch all live streaming and to view archived celebrations.





**Sticking to the Day Job:** As I wrote last week, my mom and I have been on a mission to plant flowers at our family graves at Resurrection Cemetery. Last

week's task of doing just the planter at my dad's grave almost did me in. One grave was done; I had four to go.

A week ago this past Friday, my mom thought that given the weather forecast for the day (it was to be in the 90s and sunny), we would get out to Resurrection very early in the morning to finish the remaining four graves. Being the dutiful son, I did as mom suggested. We got out to the cemetery early that day, armed with an arsenal of stuff. My mom pre-planted the four remaining flower boxes; all I had to do was dig the four holes, place the planter boxes, and fill in all the holes. Now, I'm not competitive or anything, but the plots just above our family area are like straight out of a magazine. They are perfectly edged, with the grass meticulously cut, complete with mulch and the most beautiful flowers. With a neighbor like that, I had NO chance of even placing in the top 20 of the "Better Homes and Gardens" most beautiful cemetery plots at Resurrection. But I was going to try! No, I'm not competitive.

Once we arrived at Resurrection, I plotted out my tasks and was prepared to use THE tool that would make my life super easy ... the edger spade. With great confidence, I stomped on the spade to start the first hole. I almost fell over! Not only was the ground hard, but I hit a bunch of roots. I didn't plan on roots! This was going to complicate my project and cause me to get frustrated.

Most know that when I'm focused on a project, I like to focus on that alone ... especially when I run into problems. As a result, I don't do too well with people trying to engage with me in idle chatter. Unfortunately, not only was I dealing with hard ground and roots, but I was also dealing with temperatures soaring into the mid-90s. This was a recipe for a cranky Monsignor!

As I was digging away and trying to deal with the pouring sweat, my mom was trying to chat with me. She went from questions about the bible to stuff happening around the parish to the latest on her birdfeeders to family stuff. I was trying to keep up with it all, but my brain was overheating! At one point, she stopped and asked, "Am I starting to sound like one of your sisters who loves to talk and talk and talk?" I guess my look gave it away; I said nothing but was

thinking, "YES, I want to push the BE QUIET ... PLEASE app!" After trying to explain I was trying to focus, my mom countered, "You're just digging dirt ... why do you need to stay focused." I quietly rolled my eyes and kept digging.

By the time I got to the last grave, I was soaking wet and tired. The roots and the hard ground did me in. We finally got everything in place and looking as best as it could. My mom was happy with how everything looked, but I was comparing it to the "Better Homes and Gardens" award winning section above us and wasn't so happy. As we were wrapping things up and putting things away in my car, my mom said with a tinge of laughter, "You know, you're better off sticking to the priest stuff and computers ... this hard labor was a bit much for you!" I'm sure the excessive sweat and soaked clothes gave it away! But that wasn't going to stop me from creating a show-stopping cemetery section. If Clark Griswald can build the ultimate Christmas light display, I'll eventually create the ultimate cemetery plot. Just wait!

**Congratulations to Mrs. Kathy Kalich and Ms. Mary Pat Brennan!** This past week, we concluded the 2020-2021 School Year. It was quite an extraordinary year. While many aspects made it extraordinary, the fact that Mrs. Kalich and Ms. Brennan are officially retiring makes this a MOST extraordinary year!

Ms. Brennan's teaching career started at St. Mary's of Redford in 1972, where she taught 1<sup>st</sup> grade. She then moved over to St. Pius School in Southgate in 1974, where she continued teaching 1<sup>st</sup> grade for 16 years. She finally graduated to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade when she began her teaching career at SJA in 1990. While most of her time was spent teaching second grade, she spent the last 6 years as our Assistant Principal. Ms. Brennan is an extraordinary person who loves to work behind the scenes. She puts her all into EVERYTHING she does. Whether it was putting out the cones in the morning to taking pictures for the annual yearbook or the end of the year video, to handling lunchtime disciplinary issues, she did it all with ease, great skill, and love. You never had to ask Ms. Brennan if she could help with a project. She has this uncanny ability to anticipate EVERY need at the school, and just do it. No task is too large or too menial. Her great love for the school, the parish, and our mission are unwavering. Her very presence always brought calm. Her sage wisdom and advice were always appreciated. While there is much for which to be thankful for Ms. Brennan's presence at SJA, her preparing 2<sup>nd</sup> graders for First Holy Communion to me stands out at the top of

the list. I can think of no better person to prepare children to receive First Holy Communion than her. Ms. Brennan exemplifies what it means to be a disciple of Christ; you can have no better teacher than her to lead children to a deeper relationship with Christ. She walks the talk and lives the faith! CONGRATULATIONS and THANKS Ms. Brennan!

Mrs. Kalich began teaching at St. Jude in 1978, where she taught 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and then computers. She then moved her computer teaching career to SJA in 1987. In 1990 she moved over to her role as Assistant Principal, where she remained until she became SJA's 9th principal in 2015. Mrs. Kalich is also an extraordinary person who loves to work behind the scenes. She also puts her ALL into everything she does. Mrs. Kalich is a great example of a servant leader! Not only did she have all the academic qualifications and certifications, but she had the faith and the lived leadership skills to be the very leader we needed during the most extraordinary time of the pandemic. God always puts in place those whom we need the most to lead at the appointed time, and I'm grateful to God for Mrs. Kalich's leadership. Her leadership skills were not only lived at school, but she was also part of my leadership team at the parish. Her advice and opinions were always profoundly appreciated (and she always took my phone calls even at the crazy hours I would sometimes call). Her compassion and love for the school and parish are unwavering. While there are many aspects to remember about Mrs. Kalich, her leadership during the pandemic where you had to think fast and furious on your feet with the sudden twists and turns the pandemic created, to what she did for the school in establishing and leading the Annual School Gala are at the top of the list. With all the stress and complexities these two aspects alone brought, Mrs. Kalich always accomplished all that she did with great love and compassion ... being a true servant leader modeled after the greatest servant leader Jesus Christ. CONGRATULATIONS and THANKS Mrs. Kalich!

So, on behalf of thousands of current students and alumni, parents, and fellow parishioners, I thank you both for the countless ways you witnessed your faith in words and deeds! I'm grateful to God that you both were here during my time at SJA. What awesome servant leaders, co-workers, and disciples of Christ!

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb  
gmb@sjascs.org

# St. Joan<sup>of</sup> Arc

## Online Giving



Manage your  
Online Giving account  
with the app!

Download the Online Giving app  
today at [OLGApp.com](http://OLGApp.com)

**Donations**

**Payments**

Give online at  
**stjoan.church**  
or from the app

REGISTER THE APP WITH OUR ORGANIZATION ID#

**4719**







### 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.

### SJA Is Asking For Your SMILE!

Make all your Amazon purchases through Amazon Smile!

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



### Can Tab Recycling

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

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

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



**Frank Poeschel at #586-776-8746.**



On June 20th, Father's Day, Right to Life volunteers will be outside of Church selling candy bars again. Please thank your Dad, or anyone else you love, by buying them a candy bar for only \$1.00

Please also remember moms by giving them a beautiful hand made bible, daily planner or devotional book mark.

All proceeds benefit Life affirming solutions to abortion. We help mom's in need thanks to your support.



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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.



*Spend an hour  
with me.*  
*Jesus*

## HOLY HOURS

*7-8 pm, Thursdays  
in the Church*

**and streaming live online at  
[stjoan.church](http://stjoan.church) and on  
Facebook @sjascs**

First and third  
Thursdays include  
Praise and Worship  
music, second and  
fourth are silent.



## Weekly Calendar of Events

### Monday, June 14th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### Tuesday, June 15th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### Wednesday, June 16th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### Thursday, June 17th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 pm Holy Hour - Live Streamed

### Friday, June 18th

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### Saturday, June 19th

10:00 am Funeral Mass for Valerie Stahl

11:00 am Reconciliation

12:00 pm Funeral Mass for Maureen Post

2:30 pm Baptism of Zander Starr

4:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

### Sunday, June 20th Father's Day



8:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

1:30 pm Baptism of Presley Craig

## Words on the Word

### *June 13, 2021 – Walk By Faith*

One minute, a person might be walking along on a peaceful afternoon, saying the rosary. The next minute they might be face-to-face with their own mortality.

That was the case a few weeks ago, according to media reports, for the bishop of Oakland, California. He was on an afternoon rosary walk when he was suddenly confronted by a thief at gunpoint.

“I was terrified,” the bishop told a reporter. “I was afraid. Maybe this is it. I said ... ‘I’m sorry for my sins Lord.’ I took out my wallet and was shaking and he said, ‘Give me the cash, give me the cash.’”

“I gave him the money and then he saw my bishop’s ring. He said, ‘Give me that ring.’”

The story went on to explain the bishop did exactly that, and ultimately did not experience any physical harm. The story concluded by saying the bishop explained to his congregation that he forgives the gunman.

“The only way we defeat evil, and crime and hatred is to pour out the love of Jesus wherever we find evil and crime and hatred and things like that,” he said.

And that, of course, is the same Jesus would ask of you or me in such circumstances, difficult though that may be. In doing so, we demonstrate the most profound courage possible.

“We are always courageous,” we hear in today’s second reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, “although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.

“Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away.”

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## Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

### Mass Intentions

#### Monday June 14, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Family and Friends of the Calisi Family who died in the month of June

#### Tuesday June 15, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Dorothy Guigliardo and a Special Intention for Michael and Tom Urso

#### Wednesday June 16, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Kevin Brys and a Special Intention for Ann Marie and Nick Cantrell

#### Thursday June 17, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Richard Zanotti

#### Friday June 18, 2021 Weekday (Green)

7:00 a.m. Elsie and Leonard Czarnecki and a Special Intention for Courtney Jurek and Patrick Urso

#### Saturday June 19, 2021 Weekday Saint Romuald, Abbott, BVM (Green/White/White)

4:00 p.m. Joseph Snyder, Joseph Gielniak, Thomas Lucchese, George Rupinski, Albert Czekaj, Kathleen H. Doak, Edward and Henry Blind, the deceased members of the Walsh Family, Bonnie Batche, Jack Vandenboom, Gabriel Nehro, Samuel Moses, Jerry Abro, James Mitchell Jr., Bob Fannon and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family, the J. Champine Family and Trish Hensie

6:00 p.m. Joan Weber

#### Sunday June 20, 2021 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

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

10:00 a.m. Kevin Brys

12:00 p.m. Hugo Calisi, Aniello Mazzella, Antonio Calisi, Sister Silveria Conte, Peter Sarra, Saint Silverio, Michael Forrester, Jerome Rogier, Lewis McQuillan, James Kosakowski, Casey Zaranek, Pierre Zaranek, Daniel Cimini, Joseph Semany, John L. Joseph, Kevin Brys, the deceased members of the Pasquale Urso Family, James Forester, Jack Sting, Aldo Cardosi, Robert Fannon, Primitivo Sandoval, Maynard Seneski, Special Intentions for Alfred Sandoval and Humberto Sandoval

### Weekly Readings

#### Monday, June 14

2 Corinthians 6:1-10  
Matthew 5:38-42

#### Tuesday, June 15

2 Corinthians 8:1-9  
Matthew 5:43-48

#### Wednesday, June 16

2 Corinthians 9:6-11  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

#### Thursday, June 17

2 Corinthians 11:1-11  
Matthew 6:7-15

#### Friday, June 18

2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30  
Matthew 6:19-23

#### Saturday, June 19

2 Corinthians 12:1-10  
Matthew 6:24-34

#### Sunday, June 20

Job 38:1, 8-11  
2 Corinthians 5:14-17  
Mark 4:35-41



### 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."

**Stanley Wegrzynowicz**

**Barbara Marie Nonte**

**Jeanne Darr (Mother of Susan Vishey)**

**David Darr (Brother of Susan Vishey)**

"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. and he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."

*Minnie Louise Haskins*



### Light of the Spirit Prayer Group 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at



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

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

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

**We hope that you can join us!**



## Tire Tracks in the d'Arc



**The faith to choose God:** I love today's second reading, from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians:

*"We are always courageous,*

*although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,*

*for we walk by faith, not by sight.*

*Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away."* This reading would have been appropriate last Sunday for the Feast of Corpus Christi, as we celebrated the great mystery of Jesus' Body and Blood given to us in the Eucharist.

St. Paul had an amazing sense of detachment from the comforts of life. *"I know indeed how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me."* (Philippians 4:11-13)

Actually, St. Paul had learned to live in total detachment from even life itself: *"I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better; yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake."* (Philippians 1:21-26)

He continued his mission, despite a longing to go home to the Lord, because he knew that he better served God that way and that was what God was calling him to do.

Having that sense of detachment is a tough, tough thing. We all have hopes for our life, even for our every day. When people ask in the morning "What does your day look like," I usually don't give much of a definitive answer. Sometimes it can only take one phone call to change whatever I thought the day would look like, so I prefer to wait and see. Rarely does the day look the same on reflection as it looked on preview.

One simple prayer I try to remember to start my day with is, "Lord, put me where you want me today." It's not "put me where you need me," because He doesn't

need me, but "put me where you want me." They are simple words, but not always an easy prayer because if you open yourself up to being at God's disposal, where He asks you to go may not be your preference. It probably wasn't for St. Paul. Sometimes it can be hard to play the long-game when you can't see where the ball will land. Just to trust God that He sees it and that He has a plan He's enacting through you. I'm not a fan of surprises. I want to see and understand what's here and what's ahead, which is why abandonment can be such a white-knuckle experience. I don't think I'm alone in this... I know I'm not. It's the reason I often give penitents a copy of Thomas Merton's Prayer of Abandonment to pray as a Penance.

Thinking about this idea of "walking by faith, not by sight" reminded me of a short book I read a few years ago written by Venerable Cardinal Francis Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, *"Five Loaves and Two Fish."* The late Cardinal was appointed Coadjutor Archbishop of Saigon in 1975, six days before Saigon fell to the North Vietnamese army. He was arrested by the Communist government of Vietnam and imprisoned for 13 years, nine of them in solitary confinement. He was 48 years old. In the book, the Cardinal talks about how he came close to losing his mind. He was imprisoned on the same street as his rectory and night and day could hear the bells of the cathedral tolling a constant reminder of his call to serve the people he was separated from. It was agonizing for him to be unable to fulfill the work he thought God was asking him to do. Then he was placed in the hold of a ship with 1,500 other prisoners and sent a thousand miles away to a "re-education camp."

What turned the corner for the Cardinal was the voice he heard in his prayer one night. He writes: "One night I heard a voice encouraging me from the depths of my heart: *'Why do you torment yourself so? You must learn to distinguish between God and the works of God. Everything you have done and desire to continue doing... all of these are excellent works, they are God's works, but they are not God. If God wants you to leave all of these works, place them in God's hands immediately and have confidence in him. God will accomplish things infinitely better than you. He will entrust his works to others who are much more capable than you. You have chosen God alone, not his works!'*" From these words, the Cardinal was able to find peace, despite his terrible circumstances, confined, alone in a cell

without a window in stifling heat and humidity, where mushrooms grew on his sleeping mat. He didn't have the strength to brush-off the insects that invaded his cell during the flooding rains. He concluded, "I might become upset and discouraged, but I must ask myself: has the Lord called me to follow Him, or to follow this project or that person? Let the Lord work. He will make everything turn out for the best."

He was convicted of what following God meant for him; that he was right where God wanted him and he should set about serving the Lord in that place, in his prison, and leave his previous work to God.

The Cardinal was able to write to someone outside the prison to request a few basic items, which secretly included "stomach medicine." His addressee understood that he meant a small bottle of wine to celebrate mass, and he was sent some hosts hidden in a flashlight. He learned to celebrate the Mass daily, from memory, using the palm of his hand as an altar, with a few drops of wine.

When not in solitary confinement, other prisoners would join him for Mass. He made a container out of a cigarette packet and carried the Blessed Sacrament around in his shirt pocket, the prisoners taking turns at night time adoration. Slowly, the Cardinal began to befriend, instruct and guide his prison guards in the Catholic faith. His patient influence was such that the guards were constantly rotated, to keep them away from him, but he persisted in showing them love. One guard asked how this was possible for him, considering how badly the guards had treated him. The Cardinal said, "Because Jesus has taught me to love you. If I do not, I am no longer worthy of being called a Christian."

Faith over sight. Following God, and not our perception of what God wants of us. God wants our love first—He's not looking for us to check items off a list of "things I want you to do for me." Sometimes our circumstances are not what we hoped, but God is not blindsided. It's tough to abandon ourselves to God's Will. But that's where we really find Him—in the abandonment.

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

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

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

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

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

## A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

*I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,*

*Come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace you as if you were already there*

*And unite myself wholly to you.*

*Never permit me to be separated from you.*

Amen.



### TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JUNE 20 B

#### Reading 1 – Job

The Lord addressed Job out of the storm and said: Who shut within doors the sea, when it burst forth from the womb; when I made the clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling bands? When I set limits for it and fastened the bar of its door, and said: Thus far shall you come but no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stilled!

#### Responsorial Psalm - 107

**R. Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.**

They who sailed the sea in ships, trading on the deep waters, these saw the works of the LORD and his wonders in the abyss.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.**

His command raised up a storm wind which tossed its waves on high. They mounted up to heaven; they sank to the depths; their hearts melted away in their plight.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.**

They cried to the LORD in their distress; from their straits he rescued them, He hushed the storm to a gentle breeze, and the billows of the sea were stilled.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.**

They rejoiced that they were calmed, and he brought them to their desired haven. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his kindness and his wondrous deeds to the children of men.

**R. Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.**

#### Reading 2 – 2 Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: The love of Christ impels us, once we have come to the conviction that one died for all; therefore, all have died. He indeed died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Consequently, from now on we regard no one according to the flesh; even if we once knew Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know him so no longer. So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.

#### Alleluia

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

A great prophet has risen in our midst God has visited his people.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

#### Gospel – Mark

On that day, as evening drew on, Jesus said to his disciples: "Let us cross to the other side." Leaving the crowd, they took Jesus with them in the boat just as he was. And other boats were with him. A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up. Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Quiet! Be still!" The wind ceased and there was great calm. Then he asked them, "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" They were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?"



Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

June 13, 2021

## Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 17:22-24 | 2 Cor 5:6-10 | Mk 4:26-34

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

Many years ago, I met someone whose attentive hospitality cast a seed in me that took root and enabled me to grow as a disciple of Jesus. At the meetings I attended with her, Sister Bridget would immediately greet everyone with a smile, outstretched hand, and, "Hello, I'm Sister Bridget; what's your name?" You couldn't help but feel at ease with her warm greeting, but it didn't end there. Throughout the encounter, she remained just as positive and as completely present as she had in the beginning. Just like the parable of the man scattering seed in today's Gospel, Sister Bridget didn't know how the seed of God's word would grow as she sowed it in her unique, joyful way. To her, maybe her graciousness was the smallest gesture. But the Lord allowed it to sprout and grow, yielding fruit and a bountiful harvest.

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's Gospel verse within the Alleluia proclaims, "The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will live forever." By our baptism, we are called to continue the work of Christ, sowing the word of God in our world. This may seem an intimidating expectation for all of us who doubt that we have the expertise to "sow" God's word. But in today's Gospel, Jesus tells the crowds that the kingdom of God is like the smallest of seeds, that once sown, becomes the largest of plants. If we believe in Christ and "aspire to please him," God can use our smallest gestures to sow his word in the world. We may not see how our small acts of kindness accomplish this. But if we scatter these "seeds" out of love for God, we can trust they will take root, grow abundantly, and call others to "come to him [and] live forever."

**INVITE** What "seeds" of welcome can you scatter among those you encounter? Make your "random acts of kindness" regular, intentional acts that express God's love. As St. Thérèse of Lisieux said: "Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."



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### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

A favorite motto of St. Teresa of Calcutta was, "do small things with great love." This is how it works in the kingdom of God. God can do tremendous things with the smallest gesture, especially when it is done in love. We can clearly see that our world is suffering greatly. People are struggling to find peace, navigate through conflicts, earn a sustainable living, find security and enough food to eat, and work through political tensions and conflicts. In the light of the magnitude of the difficulties that exist around us and even within us, we can find ourselves floundering to discover practical, effective solutions. How can something so large be helped by someone as small and seemingly insignificant as me? While whole systems and structures may be out of the league of our personal influence, are we really that helpless in the midst of all of the turmoil, sadness, and suffering?

If we believe that God is with us and that God is still working to bring about the glory of God's kingdom, then the answer is no. We are never helpless or without hope. Armed with a strong life of prayer, we can always flee to God and ask for inspiration, wisdom, and especially love. We are all blessed with unique gifts and talents and it often seems



that considering all that the world lacks, love and charity remain at the top of the list. Life can easily become a battleground of hostility. Because life is challenging and difficult, anger is not far away. We see it on people's faces and hear it in their voices. There is a measure of frustration that permeates all avenues of life. It is even felt in the air.

As people of faith, we know that what we see here is not the end but only a part of something far greater to come. We know that God's kingdom is where we are ultimately meant to be, and the Gospel is the way to get there. If love

and charity can prevail in us, then God will be able to do what God does best. God will use us to scatter the seeds of his kingdom. Through our small gestures, those seeds can receive the nurturing attention that is necessary for them to bear great fruit. We cannot fall victim to the strife that is around us. We have to keep ourselves refreshed and focused so that even in small ways, we can become part of the solution, not the problem. Love and charity, which come from God, can help to heal the ills of the world. May we bring these simple gifts to the everyday simple tasks of our lives! Watch how big the plant grows!

*"This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land...Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come." - Mk 4:26, 28-29*

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

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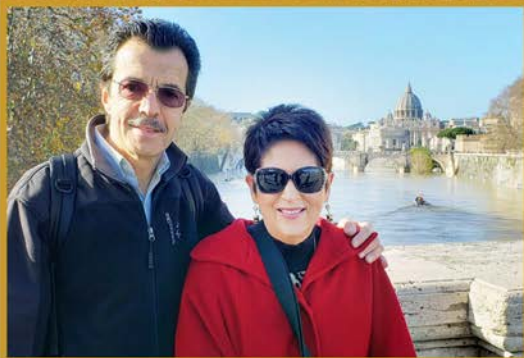
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Salvatore Promesso  
Sr. Alice Riegel  
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Doreen Saur  
Alex Scapini

Barbara Simon  
Kathleen Smith  
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Lynn Walton  
Audrey Weekley  
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Chuck Wolschlager

**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).

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# Bringing Home the Word

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

June 13, 2021

## Spreading Seeds

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The kingdom of God has an inward power, an effervescence with which it is equipped, that makes it a force of growth and multiplication. Jesus compares the kingdom with a seed. You plant it in favorable soil and, you know not how, it springs up into a little plant and then eventually into a full-grown tree. Its life principle is not given by the soil—although that helps it grow—but rather it has power of itself to expand.

The Christian life and the kingdom are very much like this. At baptism we have received supernatural grace in our souls. And if given suitable support,

that faith will grow and become the transformative element of our lives. It will drive us toward a life of faith, hope, and love. It will lead us to forgive others, improve society, and transform everything for good.

The same can be said of the Church, Christ's kingdom of love. Christ planted the seed of faith in his apostles and that seed spread and thrived all across Europe. Their faith multiplied and grew until all throughout the world the fruits of their faith are on display as a veritable kingdom of charity: hospitals, universities, soup kitchens, hospices, shelters for the battered and homeless, retreat centers, chapels, churches, museums, research and rehabilitation centers, religious orders, lay associations, volunteer groups, and the list could and does continue on and on. There is a force in faith and love that cannot be contained! +

*The apostles' faith  
multiplied until,  
all throughout the world,  
the fruits of their faith  
are on display.*

## Sunday Readings

### Ezekiel 17:22–24

On the mountain height of Israel /  
I will plant it.

It shall put forth branches and bear  
fruit, / and become a majestic cedar.

### 2 Corinthians 5:6–10

We walk by faith, not by sight.

### Mark 4:26–34

[Jesus said,] "But once it is sown,  
it springs up and becomes the  
largest of plants and puts forth  
large branches."

## A Word from Pope Francis

How often do we see a man or woman arrive at work with a weary face, with a tired countenance and, when we ask them, "What happened?" they answer: "I only slept two hours because we are taking turns at home to be close to... our grandfather, our grandmother"....These are heroic deeds, the heroism of families!

—General audience, June 10, 2015



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do I let the force of my faith multiply into acts of love and service?
- If I don't feel this force within me, what can I do to awaken it?



# Pray Radically

By Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR

On news and information services, reporters often refer to terrorists as radicals. This automatically puts *radical* on the list of bad words and makes anyone who is radical or has radical tendencies seem bad. We should be careful when using the word *radical* to refer to extremists or fundamentalists because not all are radical. I want to reclaim the word *radical*. It's not a bad word.

The difference between extremist and radical is simple. Radical means to return to the root or origin of something. So a radical Christian would seem very similar to Jesus and a radical Muslim would appear to be very much like Muhammad. On the other hand, an extremist is one who holds ideas or beliefs that can result in action that is beyond the norm of what is normally expected or acceptable. A Christian or Muslim extremist adheres to that which is beyond the norm for Jesus or Muhammad.

Pope Benedict XVI wrote in *Deus Caritas Est* (2005) that "it is time to reaffirm the importance of prayer in the face of the activism and the growing secularism of many Christians engaged in charitable work." He continues, "The Christian who prays does not claim to be able to change God's plans or



correct what he has foreseen. Rather he seeks an encounter with the Father of Jesus Christ." And still further, "A personal relationship with God and an abandonment to his will can prevent man from being demeaned and save him from falling prey to the teaching of fanaticism and terrorism." Prayer seeks an encounter. Relationship is the key. Prayer is a relationship. Prayer, if it is radical, can be the remedy for extremism.

It's said that couples who are married for many years start to look, act, and even think like each other. Some even develop

a deep intuitive sense that allows one to anticipate the needs of the other. We become like the people we spend time with, especially if we like them.

The disciples spent a lot of time with Jesus and in doing so they began to speak as he spoke and act as he acted. They became Christlike simply by spending time with him. Something of Jesus rubbed off on his followers. People could see Jesus in them. Radical prayer calls us back to this kind of relationship: spending time with Jesus; lingering before the Lord; passing time in the presence of the Holy One; and staying with him long enough to have something of Jesus rub off on us. Through radical prayer, we start to look, think, and act like the Divine, and others can see something of Jesus in us. +



*Lord, you reveal the kingdom  
of God to all people.  
Help me bear witness  
to God's kingdom of  
compassion and peace.*

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

*Want to be more like the Divine? There is a way.*

## WEEKDAY READINGS

June 14–19

**Monday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 6:1–10 / Mt 5:38–42

**Tuesday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 8:1–9 / Mt 5:43–48

**Wednesday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 9:6–11 / Mt 6:1–6, 16–18

**Thursday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 11:1–11 / Mt 6:7–15

**Friday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 11:18, 21–30 / Mt 6:19–23


**Saturday, Weekday:**  
2 Cor 12:1–10 / Mt 6:24–34

Bringing Home  
the Word   
June 13, 2021

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