




# Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

February 4, 2018

Detroit, Michigan

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday*  
IN ORDINARY TIME



He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.  
- Mk 1:38-39

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



## From Father Duane's Desk

All the poinsettias are gone from our sanctuary, throats will be blessed in honor of St. Blaise, and old palms will be collected to be burned. It can only mean one thing, Lent is soon upon us. Because Easter is early this year (April 1st), so too is Ash

Wednesday (February 14th) which begins the season of Lent. Ironically Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day. For some, it may seem odd that this day dedicated to a saint that has become synonymous with love, hearts and flowers, and romance should begin a liturgical season of penance and fasting. Yet upon further examination, perhaps it is the most perfect time to start our Lenten journey. For Lent is a season of love.

Let's give gloom and doom a rest in Lent this year. After all, Jesus advises his followers in the Gospel, "Do not look gloomy like the hypocrites...When you fast, anoint your head and wash your face so that you may not appear to be fasting." (Matt 6:16-18)

So how do we find joy in Lent? Well, we must begin with love, God's love. Before Jesus went into the desert for 40 days, he was filled with the love of his Father which came down on him at his Baptism in the Jordan River. "You are my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." Filled with the Father's spirit of love, only then does Jesus go into the desert. Following Jesus, we can find joy and a new life in our Lenten season.

If our Lenten activities do not begin with the wonder of God's love, but rather from some self-centered need to prove our holiness, then our path in Lent will be a dreary one. At times, we think that the more we stockpile penitential works, we will win God's love. In fact, it is quite the opposite. God's love is always present to us. We joyfully enter into prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, so as to open ourselves up to receive a love that is always present. As Jesus opened himself to the Father in the Jordan River and the Spirit came upon him, so too are we asked to open ourselves up to God's overflowing life and love that surrounds us. God loves us first and unconditionally, we don't earn God's love, we receive it and Lenten practices help to open us to that perfect love.

In the upcoming weeks, I'll reflect upon this more in The Pulse. I pray we all have a good and loving Lent. Remember bring your old palms next week, we will create our ashes from them on Ash Wednesday, St. Valentine's Day!

Please respond by February 17th for the Monet exhibit. Jeff Smith who is coordinating the event tells me it is going to be a great day. What a wonderful way for us to once again gather as friends and parishioners! God bless you!



*In Honor of the Feast of St. Blaise  
February 3  
Throats will be Blessed this Weekend  
at all Masses.*

*Remember the faith of this saint each year  
and pray for blessings on those  
who suffer throat ailments.*

*Always remember this blessing is a sign of our faith  
in God's protection and love for us  
and for the sick, and for those who need our prayers.*

## Readings for the Week of February 4, 2018

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/  
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39  
Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/  
/Mk 6:53-56  
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11  
[2]/Mk 7:1-13  
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/  
Mk 7:14-23  
Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40  
[4a]/Mk 7:24-30  
Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13,  
14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37  
Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20,  
21-22 [4a]/Mk 8:1-10  
Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/  
1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45



### 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

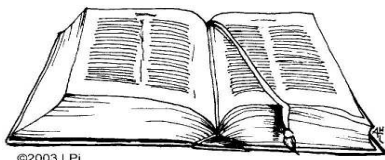
For most of us, the dynamic between prayer and action is imperfect. Breakfast needs to be made and the kids dressed. Work demands our energy and additional responsibilities fill our evenings and weekends. Then

there's the football game or a new TV series to stream. After all, don't we need to relax?

We're all busy. But just imagine Jesus' situation in today's Gospel. He heals Peter's mother-in-law, drives out demons, and cures diseases late into the night. With very little sleep, he arises before dawn to capture some peace and quiet, only to find "those who were with him pursued him." How often do we feel pursued by the harried commitments, even when we try to seek rest? Perhaps we can learn something from the response of Jesus. Jesus models two key things: the essential nature of prayer and the essential call of vocation. "He went off to a deserted place, where he prayed." Despite inevitable exhaustion, Jesus prioritizes time with the Father.

We might not have easy access to deserts and mountaintops, but today's Gospel challenges us to take intentional time set apart for God. We can designate a "prayer chair" in a corner of our home or leave a little earlier to pick our children up from school so we can snatch time in a nearby chapel. We can pray the rosary on our commute or take the dog for a long walk in silence.

However, when the Apostles arrive, Jesus doesn't linger overlong in the deserted place or make an excuse for why he can't return with his friends. Jesus is true to his calling. He continues on in his state of life, serving the people nearest to him. Like Jesus, we are invited to set intentional time for communion with God so that we can be refreshed and empowered for our communion with others.

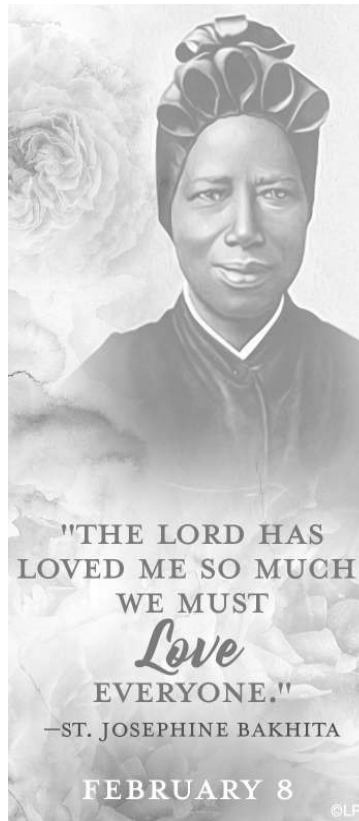


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### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus went to the "house of Andrew and Simon" to relax but discovered that Simon's mother-in-law was very ill. Like Jesus, we come home to relax but are confronted with problems. Take a tip from Andrew and Simon who "told Jesus about it at once."



### St. Josephine Bakhita

The saints are more than lovely pictures on a holy card. If we dig a little deeper, their lives can challenge and transform our own. On February 8th, the Church celebrates St. Josephine Bakhita. As a young girl, St. Josephine was kidnapped from her family in Darfur and sold into slavery at age nine. She was introduced to Catholicism as an adolescent and experienced a profound love for Jesus Christ. St. Josephine eventually gained legal freedom and entered religious life. Though she bore over one hundred scars beneath her habit, St. Josephine forgave her enemies and became known in the convent for her humility and joyful spirit.

Author Fr. Jeff Kirby writes, "Saint Josephine gives us all a scarred and human face to the evils of human trafficking, racial tension, and of the brutality found in the peripheries. Her life demands a response." As we approach the season of Lent, let us recall our own call to conversion and an active concern for those who suffer.



### Christ is Always in the Present Tense

Emmanuel, our God is here with us even just now. He is in the flesh and yet in Heaven, He is near and yet far, He is all of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. He is ever new, and yet always the same. Since He is always present with us, the question then we need to consider is have we made ourselves present to Him? Just now?

God can be included in our moment to moment experience, but only if we are open to Him and try to be prayerful and aware that He already is truly right here and right now. Constant practice of a small simple prayer, choosing humble thoughts, and seeking openness with active love for God and His creation, these help bring us back to the ever-present place where He lives.

This is a great mystery of life: how can we enter even here on Earth, the fore-chamber of Heaven above; but where God is present, every good thing is possible. May we ask Jesus Christ to come to us day by day, and moment by moment, until we rise inside to touch Him Who is Love Himself. Amen.

## *St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings*

**Saturday, February 3, Sunday, February 4** - All Masses, Blessing of Throats

**Sunday, February 4, 10 am Mass** - Garry Family Baby's Baptism

**Thursday, February 8, 4:30 to 6 pm**- CYO Intermural Basketball Programs, St. Matthew School Gym

**Friday, February 9, 3 pm** - Petrylka and Thomas Nuptial Mass

**Sunday, February 11, 9:15 am** - St. Matthew Choir Rehearsal with Rick Cucchi, Choir Loft



Alan Wichowski

### **St. Matthew's DIA Monet Exhibit Outing and Dinner at The Majestic Café**

Check out the enclosed flyer for information on the next best thing St. Matthew Parish is planning. We are going to the Detroit Institute of Art for the Monet Exhibit, which features the only art work of Monet that is in the DIA 's collection. However, around this painting, "Corbeille de Fleurs," (rounded flower beds) are 11 other Impressionist works all contemporaries of Monet including a Renoir.

This period, during the 1870's, was a decade when Monet and other artists of that time formed an art movement called "Impressionism." This movement rejected the convention of painting in grandiose styles and was revolutionary in its methods.

Along with the exhibit, a buffet dinner of mixed greens salad, roasted chicken, roasted red skin potatoes, spaghetti with meatballs, vegetable medley, carrot cake w/ice cream, and beverages (cash bar) is being offered to those attending at The Majestic Café following the tour.

Shuttle service to and from the DIA will be available from The Majestic starting at 1:15 pm. Please see the flyer for details on this service.

If you are interested in this exceptional opportunity, please fill out the order form (which is due Sunday, February 17) along with your payment in cash or payable to St. Matthew Parish and turn it in to Jeff Smith after the 4:30 Mass on Saturday or to Laurie Striebel after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Of course, you can always turn in your order form any time during regular rectory office hours.

**Grab Your Passports and Prepare Yourself**

**for**

**"An April in Paris" (ooh la la!)**

**Experience the Kick-Off**

**at our Hospitality Sunday,**

**February 11, following the 10 am Mass!**

**Save the Date ~ April 14th!**

## **CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ**



**National Collections** - A number of national collections are included in the Catholic Services Appeal each year, such as the Black and Indian Mission Collection—the first ever special collection that the U.S. bishops established in 1884 to embody the Church's concern for evangelizing U.S. Black and Indian people.

The Black and Indian Mission Collection provides grants to dioceses to operate schools, parishes, and other missionary services that build the Body of Christ in African American, American Indian, and Alaska Native communities.

You can learn more about this important collection at [www.blackandindianmission.org](http://www.blackandindianmission.org).

Other national collections benefiting from your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal include those for the Catholic University of America, the Church in Latin America, Catholic Home Missions, the Holy Land, and the Catholic Communication Campaign.

**Contribution Statements are now available!  
If you want your contribution statement for the  
Year 2017, please call the rectory office.**

### **How to Pull Your Online Giving Statement**

1. **Log in to your Online Giving donor account.**
2. **Click on "View My Giving History & Tax Information ."**
3. **On the right side, click the "Print" button**
4. **Set your date range from 1/1/2017 to 12/31/2017.**
5. **Change the report type to "Full Detail Report (Tax Purposes)."**
6. **Leave the tax filter option checked.**
7. **Click "Print."**
8. **Your report will open a new window.**
9. **You will need to export the report to a PDF to print the full report.**

**To print, click on the PDF link at the top of the screen. This will open the report as a PDT and will let you print the report. Make sure you have your pop-up blocker is disabled.**



### **A Prayer for Refugees**

O God of our Wandering Ancestors,  
long have we known

that your heart is with the refugee;  
that you were born into time

in a family of refugees fleeing violence  
in their homeland, who then gathered

up their hungry child and fled into alien country.

Their cry, your cry, resounds through the ages:

"Will you let me in?"

Give us the hearts that break open when our brothers  
and sisters turn to us with that same cry.

Then surely all these things will follow:

Ears will no longer turn deaf to their voices.

Eyes will see a moment for grace instead of a threat.

Tongues will not be silenced but will instead advocate.

Hands will reach out,

working for peace in their homeland,

working for justice in the lands

where they seek safe haven.

Lord, protect all refugees in their travels.

May they find a friend in me and so make me  
worthy of the refuge I have found in you. Amen.

## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Denise Balogh ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian, John Dunstone,  
Bryan Jones ~ *Members at Large*  
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

### PARISH ORGANIZATION

Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*  
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

### WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

## In your prayers...

*Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.*

Chuck Schuster	Nanette Ferreria
Bienvenido Fajardo	Dorothy Kurrie
Lolita Dorado	Anthony Mastronardi
Rita Moroni	Eduardo Fajardo
Albert Fajardo	Kathy Bush
Virginia Fajardo	Peggy Bates
Madeline O'Neill	Glenda Johnson
Regina Butler	Daniel Adams
Kurt Beghuyn	John Allman
Rose Colombo	Robert Stark
Laura Bush-Terry	Stephanie Smith
Sebastiano Stellino	Alice Mocerri
Allen McKee	Keith Wilk
Teresita Covacha	Yvonne Smith
Janet Law	
Richard Gargulinski	
Joe Petrylka	
Roger Sharpe	
Sr. Judy Seefeld, OP	
Rev. Robert Allman	

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## EUCCHARISTIC

### MINISTERS

Janet Bielman  
Janet Law

### LECTORS

Saturday, February 10, 2018, 4:30 p.m.

Marie Vortkamp

### SERVERS

Ian Campbell

Sunday, February 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn  
Dorothy Brooks  
Beverly Goll  
Linda Holster  
Michael Holster  
Debra Nieddu  
Joseph Nieddu

Bill Zuerblis

Lauren Gross  
Mary Pocius  
Julia Zuerblis

*Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018, 9:00 a.m.*

Patti Adams

Marie Vortkamp

*Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018, 7:00 p.m.*

Marilyn Lynn  
Beverly Goll

Bill Zuerblis

Mary Pocius  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, February 3rd - Vigil: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

**Sunday, February 4th - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Robert Gannon, Judy Stark,  
Helen Rice (26th Anniv), Winnifred Tobin (49th  
Anniv)

**Monday, February 5th - St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr**

**Tuesday, February 6th - St. Paul Miki and Companions,**

**Martyrs**

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

**Wednesday, February 7th -**

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, For the Poor in our Community

**Thursday, February 8th - St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine**

**Bakhita, Virgin**

**Friday, February 9th -**

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, For an Increase in Vocations

3:00 p.m. - Petrylka / Thomas Nuptials

**Saturday, February 10th - Vigil: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

**Sunday, February 11th - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Judy Stark, The DeLisi Family

To be grateful  
is to recognize  
*the love of God*  
in everything he  
has given us—  
and he has given us  
*everything.*

—THOMAS MERTON

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