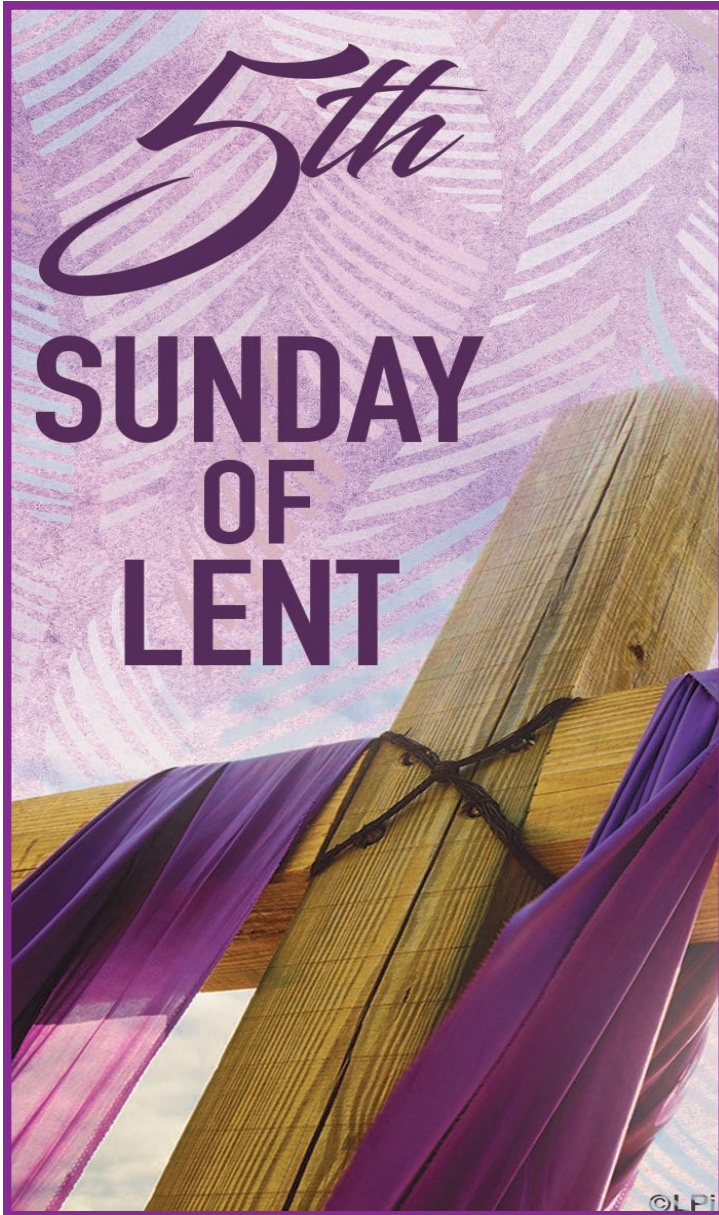




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

March 18, 2018

Detroit, Michigan



**Hospitality Sunday, today after the 10 a.m. Mass!
Plan on your attendance at this opportunity.
Join your fellow parishioners for breakfast
beverages and treats. This is your chance
to further your Joyful Lenten experience.**

**Father Duane says,
"With our reflection on Confession and
Reconciliation today at our Hospitality Sunday,
I hope many will respond to
this sacrament of Love and Joy!"**



From Father Duane's Desk

Continuing my Lenten Reflections on the Joy of the Lenten Season, I want on this Fifth Sunday of Lent to reflect on finding joy in almsgiving. Charitable giving in the Old Testament Scriptures was usually tied to sacrifice and a tithe was recommended; i.e. 10%. Our Catholic church historically has not been linked to tithing (as some denominations are), but rather to free-will offering. Our Sunday collections are free-will offerings. We don't tell you what you have to give rather to give what you honestly are able.

I know in my own life when I look at what I contribute to the Church, contribute to favorite charities that are dear to me, along with additional requests that are made, I am surprised that my charitable giving comes to 10% of my income. I'm sure that you probably have the same experience.

But one thing I do know is that in almsgiving, I never act alone. I truly feel as if God is walking with me in my almsgiving.

Isaiah, the prophet, wrote of releasing those bound unjustly, setting free the oppressed, sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, and not turning our back on your own (*Is 58:6-7*).

Fulfilling these needs certainly sounds like the Corporal Works of Mercy. In a real world with real needs that often means for us to contribute to the support of structures and organizations that deal directly with the poor and the downtrodden.

Each of us has to be realistic about what we can give in light of our responsibilities and personal resources. Our time, energy, and finances are not limitless, but stretching ourselves to the point of sacrifice is a way to touch the presence of Christ himself who sacrificed his life for us. In fact, we grow in stature, meaning, and riches when we give joyfully from the heart. Love is not diminished when it is shared, but multiplied.

The joy of almsgiving is sharing in the sacrifice of Christ Jesus who gave his life for all. Charity/almsgiving reflects a deeper spirituality in the believer. Supported by prayer, it aligns us with the Corporal Works of Mercy and demonstrates that we mean what we say. The wonder and joy of giving is truly a Christian action of love, and love is joyful.

As St. Theresa of Lisieux said, "I found happiness the day I forgot myself and began to serve others." These reflections on the Joy of Lent through the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving bring us ever closer to the Joy of Easter, being one with a new life in Christ is certainly a joyful experience.

I also want to remind you of our Communal Penance Service Monday, March 26, at 7 p.m. God's mercy and love celebrated through the Sacrament of Confession and Reconciliation is the perfect way to prepare ourselves for the Easter Triduum.

God Bless You, Father Duane

Readings for the Week of March 18, 2018

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/
Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/
Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4,
5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3
-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
[37]/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a
or Lk 2:41-51a

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-
30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3: 52, 53, 54, 55, 56
[52b]/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/
Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/
Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9,
17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1-
15:47 or 15:1-39

5th Sunday of Lent

"Now there were some Greeks among those who had come to worship at the feast. They came to Philip and asked him, 'Sir, we would like to see Jesus.'" It has begun. News of Jesus has spread beyond native-born, Aramaic-speaking Jews. We don't know if the Greeks



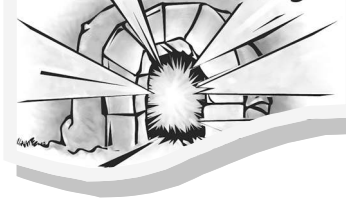
mentioned here heard of Jesus from fellow travelers or if news of this intriguing rabbi had reached all the way to their home. What we do know is that this interaction spurred an interesting comment from Jesus: "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." In other words, it has begun. The time has come for the message to move beyond the geographic bounds of Israel. But what does this message require? The Gospel is clear: "he said this indicating the kind of death he would die." A grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies to its life as only a seed. A caterpillar takes on the appearance of temporary death in order to transform into a butterfly. In the Gospels, sacrifice and death are a way of becoming something more than you were before. This Lent, new life can come from our sacrifices. When we enter into the season with Jesus, our difficulties can transform our perspective. "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit."

As we abstain from meat and fast from eating between meals, we can grow in compassion for the hungry. We can give alms of our time, sacrificially spending time with the lonely, the sick, and the marginalized. Our little Lenten "deaths" -- death to unnecessary preferences, death to selfish living, death to ignorance of other's pain -- can bring new life to the world long after the season is over. This is the invitation this Sunday and every Lenten season, to begin anew from death to life.

PRAYER
FASTING
ALMSGIVING

The words of the hymn, "I Now Live," echo faintly in churches still decorated for Lent as the Third Scrutiny takes place and those who journey toward Easter hear about the raising of Lazarus. The Gospel story is about more than just the raising of a single man, but about the life that Jesus Christ offers to every one of us. But there are many powers that seek to steal this life from us.

Third Scrutiny



In the words of this Scrutiny we pray for those journeying toward Easter, as the presider says: "Free from the grasp of death those who await your life-giving sacraments and deliver them from the spirit of corruption." It is through the sacrament of the Church that Jesus Christ instituted that we receive a new life, but sin stands in our way. But what Jesus did for his friend in this story, he did for us through his cross and resurrection. If we choose life, there is no spirit that can stand against us. May we stand with those before us who will be baptized at Easter and testify to the reality that we now live because we have died and risen with him and death's power is no more.

Our catechumens are looking forward to the celebration of the Easter Sacraments at our Easter Vigil. Let us keep them close to our hearts as they enter into final, intense preparation for the sacraments.

Let us pray.

Good and forgiving God,

*The Easter Sacraments are drawing near
and your children who are preparing for Baptism,
Confirmation and Eucharist confess their faith in you.*

*Help them to strive against worldly desires
and rescue them from ignorance of you.*

*Give us courage to walk with them as they
approach your altar for the first time and receive you in the
Sacrament of the Eucharist.*

*Help us to be models of Christian life for them
and welcome them to the Mystical Body of Christ.*

We ask all this in your name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

God of the Journey, We Encounter You in Farmers Journey to Malawi

Alefa is a mother, grandmother, and a farmer. She provides for her three children, three grandchildren, and husband by selling what she grows. If her crops fail during one of Malawi's rainy seasons or in a drought, her family goes hungry.

Knowing she had to start planting crops that could withstand Malawi's changing climate, she attended a CRS-sponsored seed fair, where farmers gather to learn the best crops to plant for the upcoming year. Besides rice, Alefa bought corn, cabbage, and tomato seeds. Now she can continue earning money as one of the few rice farmers in her village, but also feels confident that, even if her rice fails, she will have other crops to sell.

"This harvest will provide food, shelter, and education for my family," she says. In a few short months, Alefa will be growing corn and harvesting hope.

Nutritious food is vital to a dignified life. If none is available, families may be forced to migrate.

Let Us Pray

For Alefa and her family in Malawi, who we encounter through CRS Rice Bowl, that the seeds she plants today may also sprout hope and grow opportunity.

We pray to the Lord

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Sunday, March 18, 10 am Mass - Third Scrutiny for our RCIA Elect, Keith Arcicovich and Cory Fullilove

Sunday, March 18, after 10 am Mass - Hospitality Sunday, Father Duane's Presentation: Our Joyful Lenten Journey - Reconciliation, Penance, and Repentance

Sunday, March 25, 9:15 am - St. Matthew Choir Rehearsal with Rick Cucchi, Choir Loft

Saturday, March 24, 4:30 pm, Sunday, March 25, 10 am Masses - Rice Bowl Collection

Monday, March 26, 2 pm - St. Anne Convalescent Center Mass

Monday, March 26, 7 pm - Lenten Communal Penance Service

April in Paris "A Jazzy Soiree"

Ooh la la! Mon Ami! We are offering special opportunities for individuals to help sponsor our Jazz Nite event on Saturday, April 14. This will ensure the success of our fundraiser. A Program Book is being prepared under the direction of Patrick Lusch and Gerianne LaPratt that will highlight sponsors for our "April in Paris." The following are ways in which you can help in this effort and gain recognition for your generosity.

Benefactor ~ "Eiffel Tower" ~ \$1,000 or more
Sustainer ~ "Notre Dame" ~ \$500 or more
Major Donor ~ "Palace of Versailles" ~ \$250 or more
Supporter ~ "Arc de Triomphe" ~ \$100 or more
Advocate ~ "Moulin Rouge" ~ up to \$100
Table Sponsorships ~ \$750 for 8 guests

In addition to business sponsors, these donors' names will be printed in the Program Booklet. But in order to meet the publication deadline, all sponsorships must be in by March 26th.

Please see Patrick for information on this effort at the back vestibule of the church on Saturdays or Gerianne following the Sunday Mass.

Tickets need to be purchased before the night of the event. Ticket sellers will be in the back vestibule after weekend Masses for your convenience.



CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Natural Family Planning - The March topic for the new Deeper Reflections series, a monthly evening of support, prayer, discussion, and reflection on topics related to Natural Family Planning (NFP), is "NFP: You Are Not Alone."

Your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal help fund this series for couples in our Archdiocese who are using or are curious about NFP, as well as classes in NFP methods for married couples seeking families. Endorsed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, NFP is a way of life by which couples recognize natural, biological signs of fertility and infertility.

March's topic will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. this Tuesday, March 20, at Detroit's Sacred Heart Major Seminary. April's topic, "NFP: Subfertility and Infertility," will be held on April 24.

**~ REMEMBER ~
BRING YOUR RICE BOWLS
TO MASS NEXT WEEKEND.**

Catholic Education Survey For Non-School Parishes

Archbishop Vigneron is asking your input on Catholic education. Earlier this week all families from our parish for whom we have an e-mail address should have received an e-mail with a link to a brief survey. This survey will help the archbishop, and the Archdiocese, understand how you, the faithful, regard our Catholic schools. If you have not yet done so, please complete the survey, which can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/r/NonSchoolParishSurvey, by **March 25**. For more information about the purpose of the survey and how the results will be used, please visit www.aod.org/catholicsschoolplanning. Results of the survey will be made available later this spring.

Epiphany Education Center's 10th Annual Fundraiser "A Toast to Literacy"

Wine Tasting, Desserts, Silent Auction & Vendors
Saturday, April 28, 6 p.m.

Sacred Heart Church Activities Center
3451 Rivard, Detroit
RSVP to 313-451-0301

Tickets/\$30, purchased at Epiphany or at the event!

Une demande d'aide (A Call for Assistance)

Volunteers are needed to work in several capacities the evening of our 2018 Jazz Nite. If you can spare some time during the evening, please contact the rectory or one of the ticket sellers after the weekend Masses. Your participation will add to the fun for you and make a memorable night for all.

**"So if the Son sets you free,
you will be free indeed."
(John 8:36)**

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

6021 Whittier, Detroit 48224-2637
Rectory Office: (313) 884-4470
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Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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Denise Balogh ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*
Patrick Lusch ~ *Member at Large / Webmaster*
Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian &
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
Bienvenido Fajardo
Lolita Dorado
Rita Moroni
Albert Fajardo
Virginia Fajardo
Madeline O'Neill
Regina Butler
Kurt Beghuyn
Laura Bush-Terry
Sebastiano Stellino
Allen McKee
Teresita Covacha
Janet Law
Richard Gargulinski
Joe Petrylka
Roger Sharpe
Sr. Judy Seefeld, OP
Rev. Robert Allman
Nanette Ferreria

Dorothy Kurrie
Anthony Mastronardi
Eduardo Fajardo
Kathy Bush
Peggy Bates
Glenda Johnson
Daniel Adams
John Allman
Robert Stark
Stephanie Smith
Alice Mocerri
Keith Wilk

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Mary Bielman
Janet Law

LECTORS

Julie Smith
Liz Smith

SERVERS

Ian Campbell
John Smith
Mary Pocius

Saturday, Vigil: Palm Sunday, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Beverly Goll
Debra Nieddu
Joseph Nieddu
Greg Redman
Jean Solomon
Kristen Stark

Liz Foley-Dunstone
William Zuerblis

Mary E. Dunstone
Kiley Dulapa
Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Holy Thursday, March 29, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Patti Adams
Dorothy Brooks
Beverly Goll
Linda Holster
Michael Holster
Veronica Obianwu

Bill Ridella
Patrick Lusch

Greg Redman
Ian Campbell
Julia Zuerblis
Mary Pocius

Mass Schedule

Saturday, March 17th - Vigil: 5th Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday, March 18th - 5th Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Annette Laige, Judy Stark, Pilato and Chinnici Families, Andrew Pope (1 Month Anniv)

Monday, March 19th - St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, March 20th -

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

Wednesday, March 21st -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, For the Military Serving around the World

Thursday, March 22nd -

Friday, March 23rd - St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

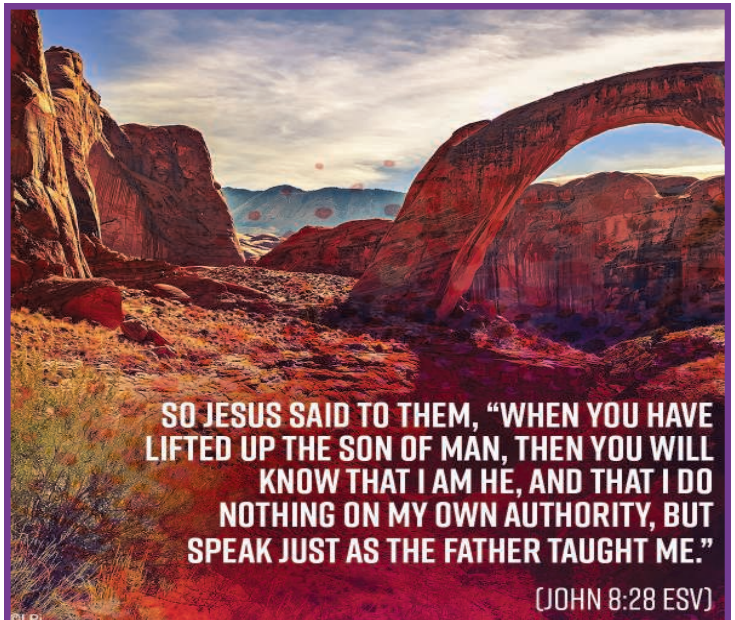
9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, For the Sick, Suffering and Dying

Saturday, March 24th - Vigil: Palm Sunday

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, March 25th - Palm Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Judy Stark, Anthony Kaminski, Renee LaPratt Jaczkowski (4th Anniv), Angela Kaminski (1st Anniv)



SO JESUS SAID TO THEM, "WHEN YOU HAVE LIFTED UP THE SON OF MAN, THEN YOU WILL KNOW THAT I AM HE, AND THAT I DO NOTHING ON MY OWN AUTHORITY, BUT SPEAK JUST AS THE FATHER TAUGHT ME."

(JOHN 8:28 ESV)

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