



Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

May 6, 2018

Detroit, Michigan

**6th Sunday
OF EASTER**

✠

"If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete." - Jn 15:10-11

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



From Father Duane's Desk

Last week we heard about the important work of the Catholic Services Appeal; i.e., ministry to catholic education, marriage tribunal, community outreach programs, Black Catholic ministries, and programs such as "Unleash the Gospel." On this CSA hospitality weekend, we are going to "double down" on CSA. I want to make the meaning of this campaign title very clear.

As I said last weekend, our CSA target for this year is \$15,800. This amount must be raised by the parish and submitted to the Archdiocese for all the good ministerial work the AoD does. Any amount raised over and above the stated target stays in our parish. It is not assessed, meaning taxed by the Archdiocese, and does not effect our target for next year. This seems like an opportune moment to raise much needed funds for our budget.

As you know, we subsidize our budget yearly from our savings and until our school buildings are sold, it is nearly impossible to have a balanced budget. In addition, we had to draw down \$20,000 extra last year over and above the \$150,000 to deal with essential maintenance issues; i.e., the drains in the church towers, repair of asphalt in the driveway, and replacing 23 tubes in our school boiler so that we could meet the city inspection and fire-up the boiler for last winter. All of this approved by the Parish Council.

The Parish Council has now initiated a means by which we can replenish our savings especially the money we needed last year for maintenance.

That is where the title of "double down" originated. We would like to "double down" on the AoD target of approximately \$15,000, and internally give ourselves a target of \$30,000. In effect having a pledge drive for ourselves to raise \$15,000 to help offset our maintenance expenditure.

However, we are not just "doubling down" on the money. We would like to "double down" on participation. Last year, only 99 givers pledged \$26,000, 104 parishioners did not participate. With a concerted effort to reach out to non-givers in the CSA and with their support, we could easily reach \$30,000. If those who gave last year pledged the same and those who did not participate gave something toward it, we could reach our goal and maybe go beyond. To that end, a CSA Committee has been formed to reach out to the 104 parishioners to encourage their participation. Through a letter, phone call, or personal invitation, perhaps our need can be expressed more clearly so that participation increases.

(Continued on Page Two)

**Today, May 6, 2018
Hospitality Sunday
following 10 a.m. Mass
Catholic Services Appeal Kick-off**

**Join your fellow parishioners for
breakfast treats and beverages.**

**Take this opportunity to make your
pledge with one of our
CSA Committee Chairs.**

**"Double Down" Your Pledge!
Encourage Parish-wide
Participation!**

Readings for the Week of May 6, 2018

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 15:9-17 or Jn 17:11b-19

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26--16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: Ascension:
Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20



6th Sunday of Easter

"I have called you friends." Authentic friendship can seem hard to come by these days, especially in our transient society. We move away from family, change jobs, switch parishes, and end up in entirely new places with entirely new people. When we look for new friends, we all have different qualities we're looking for. While we may think

of certain standards of behavior necessary to be a "good" friend, we would hardly refer to them as rules or "commandments."

In fact, if a friendship or romantic relationship-new or old-becomes characterized by imposed obligations, we would rightly be suspicious. Friendships, we understand, ought to be characterized by freedom. We love the person, even sacrifice for them at times because, within ourselves, we want to maintain the friendship. So why does Jesus use the language of command as he calls the Apostles his friends? "You are my friends if you do what I command you."

Jesus is radically transforming the concept of commandment. In the Jewish heritage of the Apostles, they would hear the word "command" and immediately think of the strict Levitical law and distance from God. In introducing the language of friendship, Jesus ties "commandment" to inner freedom of heart. The disciples have this freedom precisely because they know "what [the] Master is doing." Jesus has invited his followers into intimate friendship all along. He shares openly with them. He has patience with their flaws. He isn't scandalized by their failures. He celebrates their successes. We, too, have been called by love and invited into a relationship with Jesus. It is you and I that Jesus chooses and appoints. He does so personally, not from a distant mountain shrouded in clouds. This "new commandment" to "love one another" is received around the shared table in the breaking of the bread.

A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Today's Gospel challenges us to "love one another as I have loved you." Jesus is our model, and he asks us to "lay down our life" (our time, attention, opinions, and needs) for each other. This is the sacrament of the family, when God is made visible in our sacrificial love for one another.

From Father Duane's Desk (cont'd)

This request is not for anything extravagant or for anything superfluous, it is for the basic needs of our parish so that we can continue to maintain ourselves. We want to remain at the corner of Harper and Whitter as a Beacon of Light and a Sign of Hope to our neighborhood and for a Catholic presence on the east side of Detroit.

So I'm asking everyone, please "double down." Help us to meet our internal (self-imposed) target of \$30,000 through the CSA pledge drive. Over the next twelve months, you can surely do something to help us out so we can remain a viable presence as a Catholic Community.

God bless you,
Father Duane

Rules from God

Wake up: Decide to have a good day. "Today is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad."

Dress Up: The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. "Man looks at outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Shut Up: Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. "He who guards his lips guards his soul."

Stand Up: For what you believe in. Stand for some or you will fall for anything. "Let us not be weary in doing good....Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good."

Look Up: To the Lord. "I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me."

Reach Up: For something higher. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; lean not on your own understanding"

Lift Up: Your prayers. "Do not worry about anything; instead Pray About Everything!"

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Sunday, May 6, following the 10 am Mass
- Hospitality Sunday, CSA Kick-off!

Tuesday, July 31 ~ SAVE THE DATE ~
Parish Tiger Game Outing; Tigers vs Red Sox

News from the Front Desk of the Rectory

John Godoshian, our Sunday office assistant, shared a recent experience with respect to his school's extra-curricular activities. Here is John's report.

"DECA, Distributive Educational Clubs of America, is a group where we break into teams to compete against students from around the state, country, and world in business case studies and a topic specific exam. We began with a district competition at Lake Orion High School where my teammate and I won medals for excellent performance in the exam and case presentation for Financial Services. After that we moved onto the state's competition hosted at the Cobo Center downtown, where we again won exam medals along with overall finalist plaques as Michigan State champions; thereby qualifying us to proceed to the international conference in Atlanta. We spent the last week competing at the Georgia World Conference Center along with over 20,000 students, representing over five countries. It was an amazing and rewarding journey."

Although John and his teammate did not qualify for further competition, we can be proud of his accomplishment. John will be attending Indiana University this fall, and we wish him the best of luck in his studies and future endeavors.

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CONGRATULATIONS !

TO

PHIL AND YVONNE SMITH

ON YOUR

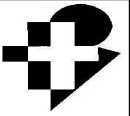
50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

MAY 4, 2018

**FROM JEFF AND JULIE,
JOHN AND LAUREN SMITH**

**AND ALL YOUR FRIENDS IN
YOUR PARISH FAMILY**

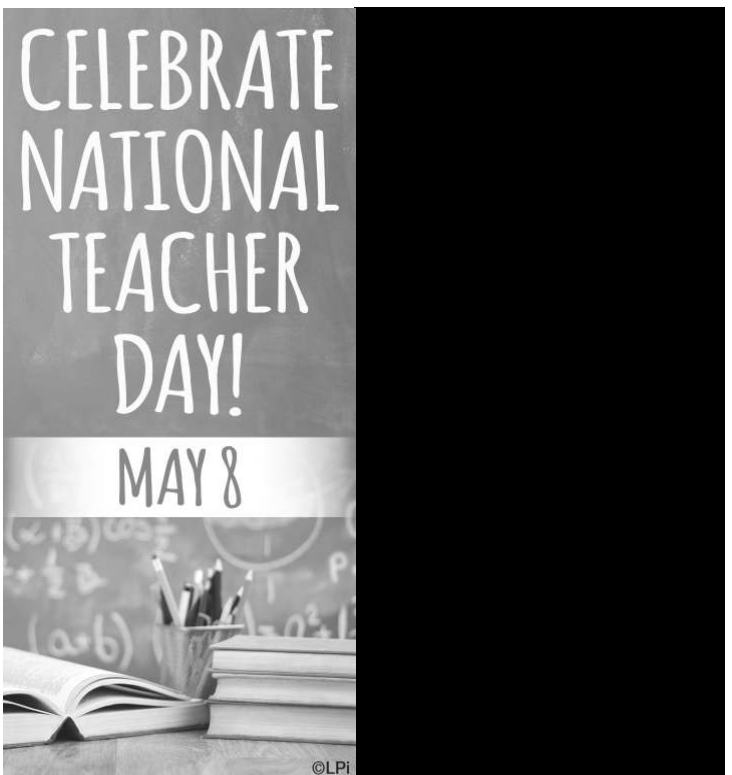
CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



CSA Weekend - This weekend is CSA Weekend, which marks the beginning of our annual Catholic Services Appeal. The theme of the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal is Opening Doors to Grow with Christ. As we unleash the Gospel throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit, we grow in our love of Jesus as his missionary disciples.

Gifts to the CSA make possible more than 100 ministries, programs, and services that touch the lives of thousands throughout the Archdiocese every day. No one parish could provide all of these blessings, which benefit so many.

Our CSA is a pledge program, which allows you to spread your gift over several months. Please prayerfully consider the most generous gift possible to support the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal.



Pregnancy Aid Annual Layette Drive

The Baby Bassinet for Pregnancy Aid will be at the Blessed Mother's Altar ready for your donations. Items may be placed there through Sunday, May 20th. The following items are most needed by new and expectant mothers and their babies.



- Boy and girl outfits, size 0-6 months
- Three-pack onesies
- Car seats (for 7 yrs old or younger)
- Bouncy seats (new or gently used)
- Umbrella strollers (new or gently used)
- Pack-n-plays (new or gently used)
- Boppy pillows and gently used breast pumps (for breastfeeding Moms)
- Crib sheets and blankets

Any donation is gladly accepted! Your support of this effort is part of St. Matthew's community outreach.

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Rectory Office: (313) 884-4470
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David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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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
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

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

EUCCHARISTIC

MINISTERS

Janet Bielman
Mary Bielman
Janet Law

LECTORS

Saturday, May 12, 2018, 4:30 p.m.

Marie Vortkamp

SERVERS

Ian Campbell

Sunday, May 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn

Patti Adams

Dorothy Brooks

Beverly Goll

Debra Nieddu

Veronica Obianwu

Kristen Stark

Liz Smith

Lauren Gross

Mary Pocius

Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, May 5th - Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:30 p.m. - Anna Martinelli (23rd Anniv), Emma Langan, Dorothy Bielman (4th Anniv), Phil and Yvonne Smith (50th Wedding Anniv)

Sunday, May 6th - Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. - John A. Sasinowski, Betty Amara, Judy Stark, Pantaleon Vivo (6th Anniv), Phil and Yvonne Smith (50th Wedding Anniv)

Monday, May 7th -

Tuesday, May 8th -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Kathy Bush

Wednesday, May 9th -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

Thursday, May 10th - St. Damien de Veuster, Priest

Friday, May 11th -

9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

Saturday, May 12th - Vigil: Ascension of the Lord

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

Sunday, May 13th - Ascension of the Lord

10:00 a.m. - Robert Keyes, Annette Laige, Judy Stark, Shirley Goll, Mary Merlo, Ponina Stellino, Rita Allman, Robert Lynn (16th Anniv), Sylvia Novelly,

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- Jn 15:10-11

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