



Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

June 24, 2018

Detroit, Michigan



NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Prophet of the Most High

- When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." *Lk 1:57, 59-60*

Readings for the Week of June 24, 2018

Sunday: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17 [6b]/
1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17
Day: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15 [14a]/
Acts 13:22-26/ Lk 1:57-66, 80
Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-
13 [7b]/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-
3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11 [cf. 9D]/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Ps 119:33, 34, 35, 36,
37, 40 [33a]/Mt 7:15-20
Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/
Mt 7:21-29
Friday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Gal 1:11-20/
Jn 21:15-19
Day: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/
2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7,
20-21 [19b]/Mt 8:5-17
Next Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12,
13 [2a]/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43
or 5:21-24, 35b-43

Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Tiny fingers and toes. A little yawn. A loud cry. An infant wrapped in swaddling clothes. "What will this child be?" It is a question every parent asks time and time again. As first steps are taken, as personalities emerge, as a child shows interest in reading or drawing or climbing, the question is on our lips. "What will this child be?" This question is asked as John the Baptist is born. Will he be a priest like his father? Does his strange, unexpected name signal a departure from that inheritance? Could Elizabeth and Zechariah ever have predicted what would be?

Under the tutelage of his priestly father, John "became strong in spirit." As an adult, John would retreat into the desert to preach repentance. He would attract a large following and eventually attract the attention of the rulers of the day. He would point out the adulterous ways of King Herod and would find himself in prison. Eventually, he would be beheaded. But today, he is a child, an infant newly born.

On this special feast, we're reminded of the great humility required of parents. The character formation, the discipline and encouragement, the violin lessons and soccer practices? every parental effort is subjected to the decisions of the child themselves. Even children on a sure track by high school graduation transform under life's circumstances. Entrusting our children to God can be incredibly intimidating. "What will this child be," especially when that transformation lies outside of my control?

John the Baptist's story might not have ended as his parents imagined. But he is celebrated as the greatest of the prophets, as the one who prepared the way for the Messiah. Here is the hope of all Christian parents -- that our children would be raised in such a way that when people meet them, they meet Jesus Christ.



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

The question in today's Gospel, "What will this child be?" concerns all parents. We spend years trying to influence and shape the answer, hoping our children will be "strong in spirit" like the Baptist and "blessing God" like Zachariah.

Today, the Church celebrates the feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist. How was that date chosen and why?

The date set for John the Baptist's birth only came into existence once the date to celebrate Jesus' birth was set. Evidence shows that by the middle of the fourth century Christians were celebrating the birth of Jesus around December 25. No one at that time knew when Jesus was born, but the date seemed to be selected to counter the Roman festival to the sun god.

Once December 25 had been selected for the birth of Jesus, a number of other dates could be set, using the biblical evidence at hand. When the angel appeared to Mary and she conceived, her cousin, Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, was in her sixth month. If Jesus was born on December 25, then he had to be conceived nine months before, on March 25. If Elizabeth was then in her sixth month, then John the Baptist was due three months later on June 25.

Then why June 24? A rather convincing reason stems from John's witness in John's Gospel. There John the Baptist says that Jesus must increase and he, John, must decrease. The other Gospels also have John point to Jesus and not himself as the chosen one of God. In making John's birth a day less than Jesus' full nine months, the Christian community communicated this Gospel reality in its liturgical calendar. Thus the Christian community continued to highlight John's mission and ministry. Maybe we could strive toward that same mission in our own lives.



Feast Day Celebration on Friday, June 29, 2018

*Lord Jesus Christ,
you called Saint Peter from a life he knew,
to follow you alone,
giving up all he'd known before.
Despite his failings
and lack of faith in you and himself,
you entrusted to him
the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
granting him such faith
that he embraced martyrdom.
You called Saint Paul from the life he knew,
a life of such zeal that he became misguided,
hurting you by hurting those who followed you.
You changed him from an angry persecutor
to the greatest missionary
the Church has ever seen, and to one who welcomed
death as the means to see you.
When I am called to do your will,
change my spirit and grant that I can give up
the little you ask of me,
when Peter and Paul gave so much. Amen.*



St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, June 23, 4:30 pm Mass -
Elizabeth and James Kraus, 50th Wedding
Anniversary; Joe and Mary Zainea, 60th
Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, June 24, following 10 am Mass -
St. Vincent de Paul East District Meeting,
Church Auditorium; St. Matthew's Money Coun-
ters Meeting, Rectory Conference Room

Saturday, June 30, 4:30 pm, Sunday,
July 1, 10 am Masses, respectively - Peter's
Pence Collection

SAVE THE DATE - Tuesday, July 31,
Parish Tiger Game Outing, Tigers vs. Reds

Peter's Pence Collection, June 30 & July 1

Next week, we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous.

For all the suffering people in the world, including those who are served by the Peter's Pence Collection, that God will send them a merciful witness of charity.

For all of us who have been blessed with an abundance of good things, that we may enter more fully into the tasks that God asks of us and become witnesses of charity to our brothers and sisters in need.

Let us Pray to the Lord!

Tiger Game Outing Tickets on Sale Now!

FYI ~ This year we have game seats with a better view of the game in a section where there will be less steps. This improvement will be more convenient. The prices are increased to accommodate a better experience. All will be to our benefit. **Go Tigers! Play ball!**



CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Youth Ministry - Your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal help high school-age teens in the Archdiocese of Detroit become better Christian leaders, examples to their peers, and evangelizers through Youth Leadership and Evangelization Training.

"Chosen to Follow" will cover discipleship, communication, facilitation, prayer, and event planning, as well as sharing faith with other teens. Through the "Living Your Strengths" resource, teens will also learn to use their individual strengths in their daily lives.

Offered by the archdiocesan Youth Ministry Office, Youth Leadership and Evangelization Training will be held overnight at St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish in Sterling Heights this July 20 and 21.



PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES



St. Matthew Tiger Baseball Outing ~ Ticket Order Form
Detroit Tigers vs. Cincinnati Reds ~ Tuesday, July 31st ~ Game Time 7:10 p.m.

Name (s): _____

Contact Phone #: _____

Ticket (s) _____ X \$40 (\$33 for game; \$7 for bus) = \$ _____

of Persons for Bus Transportation _____ (Bus transportation is limited to 56 Persons!)

Submit completed form to Rectory with full payment (cash or check payable to St. Matthew).

Call the Rectory if you have any questions: 313-884-4470

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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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	Eduardo Fajardo
Bienvenido Fajardo	Kathy Bush
Lolita Dorado	Peggy Bates
Rita Moroni	Glenda Johnson
Albert Fajardo	Daniel Adams
Virginia Fajardo	John Allman
Madeline O'Neill	Robert Stark
Regina Butler	Stephanie Smith
Kurt Beghuyn	Alice Mocerri
Laura Bush-Terry	Keith Wilk
Sebastiano Stellino	Richard Lafferty
Allen McKee	Sheila Pocius
Teresita Covacha	Sharon Venable
Janet Law	
Richard Gargulinski	
Joe Petrylka	
Roger Sharpe	
Nanette Ferreria	
Dorothy Kurrie	
Anthony Mastronardi	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

EUCCHARISTIC

MINISTERS

Janet Bielman
Janet Law
Marie Vortkamp

LECTORS

Dan McBride

SERVERS

Ian Campbell
Lauren Smith

Saturday, June 30, 2018, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 1, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Beverly Goll
Linda Holster
Michael Holster
Debra Nieddu
Joseph Nieddu
Greg Redman

Bryan Jones

Mary E. Dunstone
Mary Pocius
Julia Zuerblis

Wednesday, July 4, 2018, 9:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn
Beverly Goll

Marie Vortkamp

Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, June 23rd - Vigil: Nativity of St. John the Baptist

4:30 p.m. - Elizabeth and James Kraus (50th Wedding Anniv),
Joseph and Mary Zainea (60th Wedding Anniv)

Sunday, June 24th - Nativity of St. John the Baptist

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Angelo Calcuttera (19th Anniv), George
Kaminski, For an Increase in Vocations to the
Priesthood

Monday, June 25th -

Tuesday, June 26th -

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, June 27th - St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor in our Community

Thursday, June 28th - St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr

Friday, June 29th - Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles

9:00 a.m. - For the Holy Father, Pope Francis

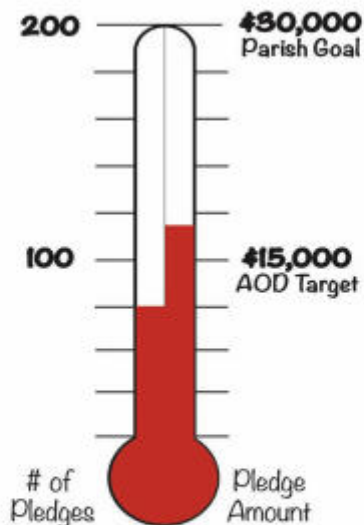
Saturday, June 30th - Vigil: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. - John P. Langan

Sunday, July 1st - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Joseph A. Wilk (29th Anniv), Edward
Ryczek, Frederick Allman, Rita Allman (10th
Anniv)

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