

rpts from the Lectionary for Mass

Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

February 24, 2019

Detroit, Michigan

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." - Lk 6:36

Readings for the week of February 24, 2019		
Sunday: 4, 38	1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/Ps 103:1-2, 3- 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-	
Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Mk 9:14-29	
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 [cf. 5]/Mk 9:30-37	
Wednesday:	Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175 [165a]/Mk 9:38-40	
Thursday:	Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Mk 9:41 -50	
Friday:	Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35 [35a]/Mk 10:1-12	
Saturday:	Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 17]/Mk 10:13-16	
Next Sunday:	Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/ 1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45	

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday, Jesus continues his challenging Sermon on the Mount. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you? Give to everyone who asks



of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back." Words like these are challenging! Many of us have grown up in a culture of independence and retaliation against those who harm us. Today's Gospel reminds us that the way of the world is not necessarily the way of the disciple.

In many spiritual texts, saints describe the first stage of the spiritual life as mercenary love of God. That is, we love Him because he "pays" us with graces and good things. Consider for a moment, why do you do the good that you do? Take volunteering, for example. How often do we talk about the good feelings service evokes and how you "get so much more than you give." This is still based on an attitude of return on our investment. Would we volunteer if we knew it was good to do, but we didn't "feel" good afterward? What if the people we helped seemed ungrateful, or if someone at the food pantry stole \$20 out of our purse? It can be difficult to love people when we think we might not get anything back. "For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?"

As Christians, we are called to imitate God. We follow a God who loves not only His closest friends, but who loves betrayers, deniers, and crucifiers. The Christian walk is one of perseverance and sacrifice. What does your love look like?



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

In studying the effects of religion upon family relationships, researchers inform us hostility and prayer can't coexist. You cannot be hostile toward someone for whom you are praying. Today's Gospel encourages us: "Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who treat you badly."

God's Mercy and Transformative Change

"I am the Vine, you are the branches: he who abides in Me and I in him, shall bring forth much fruit; without Me, you can do nothing."

God is both "the same yesterday, today, and always" and yet He is the spark and drive of all growth and positive change. But for us to really change in a good and creative way, we need three particular pre-requisites: in the first place, a lively, loving, and dependent relationship with Jesus Christ; secondly, an open and honest desire to be different and the willingness to invite and go through this process of change; and finally, the mercy of Christ to help us to do so.

This trinity - our dependence on God, our active cooperation with Him, and His love expressed to us as an inward and outward mercy - this is how any and all real transformative change takes place.

The word that best expresses all of this is metanoia, Greek in the New Testament and translated into English as the word repent. As both St. John the Baptist and Jesus Christ began their ministry with these same words: "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand."

Christ is here and ready to help us at each moment of our life. This is a given! It is His conscious desire to bring every man, woman, and child to be near Him lit by the light of His Transfiguration and His Resurrection, and so to reflect His glory now here on earth and the in the world to come.

That is why we were created in His image and likeness. He has the ability to re-work every part of us that is ill with the sins of pride and possessiveness, aggression and cowardliness. All that is lacking is our own desire and trust to let Him do this wonderful work, and then our active cooperation to work with Him through this creative process of change.

Let us humbly and earnestly ask Him to do so today. Then let us thankfully walk up the path leading to Him so that we may be given a new life: glorious, humble and radiant with Jesus. Amen!

Let us meditate together as we "Unleash the Gospel!"

Above all, trust in the slow work of God. We are quite naturally impatient in everything, to reach the end without delay.

We should like to skip the intermediate stages. We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability and that it may take a very long time.

Give our Lord the benefit of believing that His hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

Teilhard de Cardin, SJ

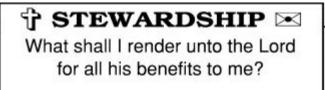
St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Tuesday, February 26, 6 pm – Jazz Nite Committee Meeting, Rectory Conference Room

Wednesday, February 27, 6 pm -Father Duane, RCIA Sacramental Class, St. Clare of Montefalco Education Room



PURCHASE FOR THE EVENT! Please see one of our committee members at the back vestibule of the church after the weekend Masses for ticket order forms and to make your payment. Ticket sales are in advance only!



CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Stewardship - "Joyful Missionary Disciples: Unleashing Our Gifts," a workshop on the spiritual and practical aspects of stewardship as a way of life, will be held on Thursday, March 7, at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit.

The daylong event will feature Edmundo Reyes, director of archdiocesan communications, and Michael Murphy, executive director of the International Catholic Stewardship Council. Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron will celebrate Mass for attendees.

Your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal help the Archdiocese of Detroit provide guidance on Christian stewardship, as well as materials, including the awardwinning stewardship education manual, *Called by Christ, Gifted by the Spirit*, and the weekly Stewardship Thoughts for parish bulletins.

Let us Pray!

Jesus, may all that is you flow into me. May your body and blood be my food and drink.



May your passion and death be my strength and life.

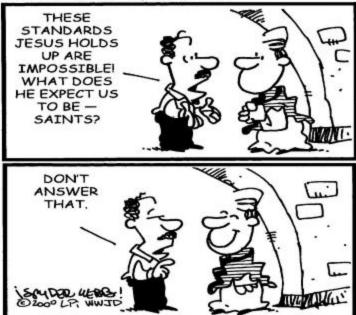
Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.

May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross. Let me not run from the love which you offer, but hold me safe from the forces of evil.

On each of my dyings, shed your light and your love. Keep calling to me until that day comes when with your saints, I may praise you forever. Amen.

> David L. Fleming, SJ Loyola Press

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St. Matthew's Parish Directory

6021 Whittier, Detroit 48224-2637 Rectory Office: (313) 884-4470 Rectory Fax: (313) 884-4276 E-mail : stmatthew27@aol.com Website: www.stmatthewdetroit.com Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Duane R. Novelly ~ Pastor Rick Cucchi ~ Music Minister / Choir Director Joe Balistreri ~ Saturday Organist David Troiano ~ Weekday Organist

CLERICAL STAFF

Marilyn Lynn ~ Secretary Denise Balogh ~ Bookkeeper

PARISH COUNCIL

John Dunstone ~ President Bill Zuerblis ~ Financial Council Chair Michael Dulapa ~ Evangelization Chair 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.



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 Kurt Beghuyn Laura Bush-Terry Sebastiano Stellino Allen McKee Teresita Covacha Richard Gargulinski Joe Petrylka Roger Sharpe Nenette Ferreria Dorothy Kurrie Anthony Mastronardi Eduardo Fajardo Kathy Bush

Peggy Bates Glenda Johnson Daniel Adams Robert Stark Stephanie Smith Alice Moceri Janice Lafferty Janet Law Dan Lusch Jesse Ocampo Mike Holster Larry Hamel Laura Alix

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

EUCHARISTIC

Kristen Stark

MINISTERS

LECTORS SERVERS Saturday, March 2, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

Janet Bielman Bruce Campbell lan Campbell Mary Bielman Janet Law

Sunday, March 3, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

Marilyn Lynn William Zuerblis **Dorothy Brooks** Beverly Goll Patti Hammond Debra Nieddu Joseph Nieddu

Cory Fullilove Mary Pocius Julia Zuerblis

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 9:00 a.m. Patti Adams

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 7:00 p.m. Marilyn Lynn Lauren Gross Liz Smith Beverly Goll Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

<u>Saturday, February 23 - Vigil: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> 4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush Terry <u>Sunday, February 24 - 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> 10:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry, Judy Stark, William Pilette, Frank Amara(19th Anniv), Sarah Beverly Kohut Monday, February 25 -Tuesday, February 26 -9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry Wednesday, February 27 -9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry Thursday, February 28 -Friday, March 1 - World Day of Prayer 9:00 a.m. - Laura Bush Terry Saturday, March 2 - Vigil: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:30 p.m. - For the Poor Souls in Purgatory Sunday, March 3 - 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time 10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Mary Merlo (29th Anniv)



