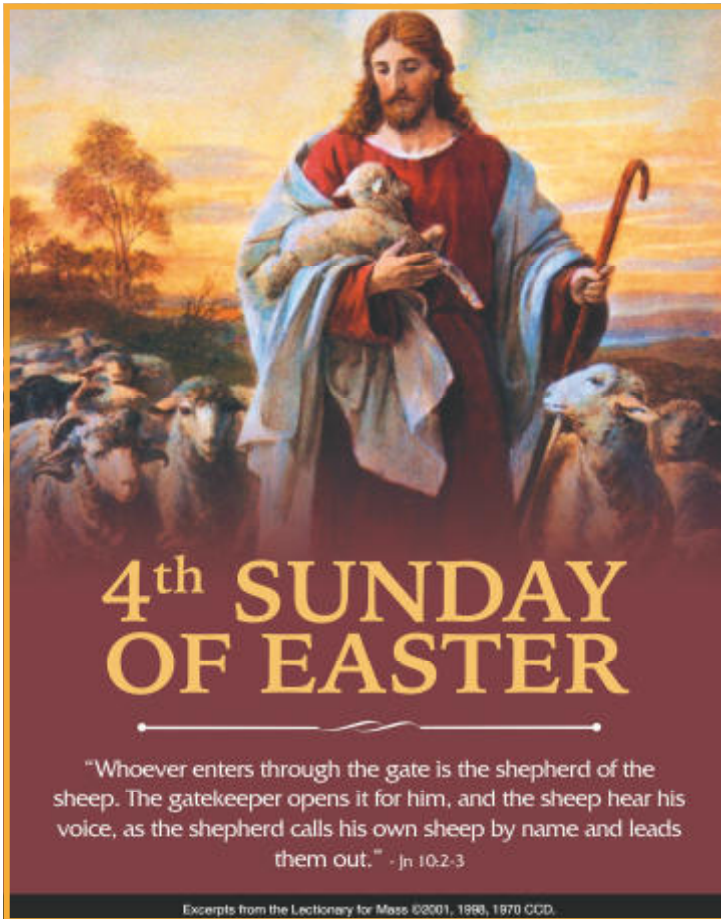




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

May 3, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



From Father Duane's Desk

The “*stay home, stay safe*” order is still in effect. I hope that everyone is doing fine. I want to remind you to please keep saying your prayers. Pray for those who have been effected by this pandemic through sickness, personal exposure, and even death. I feel so sorry that so many people had to give their lives in the face of this COVID virus. Pray especially for the church throughout the world, our country, our diocese, and our parish. We will definitely have a challenge before us as we attempt at a future date to “re-open.”

Religious communities by their nature are about gathering (we even refer to the opening rites of our liturgy as “gathering” rites), and we will have to see how this will occur with the threat of the coronavirus still over us. I have been praying daily for the church and for you. My only hope is that we will come through this.

Of course, many adjustments are being made in the meantime. Most regretful is not gathering for Sunday Mass. In turn, that effects many things. For one, the communication we have between us. Yes, technology is one way, but nothing can substitute for seeing one another and feeling the people’s presence. Also, a direct appeal for events always seems to bring a better response. For this reason and for not being able to organize ourselves in a proper way, the Archdiocese has postponed the Catholic Services Appeal until the fall. We hope as a parish to be successful, perhaps, like last year, so that it can offset the funding losses we suffered this year due to the cancellation of “Jazz Nite.”

I know I’ve mentioned it before, but just to keep it ever in front of us, please remember to send in your contributions by mail or online. The bills keep coming in. Heat, electricity, and water still have to be paid. Thanks to all who have remembered.

On a final note, don’t let your absence from church effect your relationship with the Lord. We need Him more than ever, and I’m sure He hasn’t forgotten us. It may seem like it, but He hasn’t; and in the end, the good Lord through His wisdom will give to those good doctors, nurses, and researchers the strength and knowledge to come up with a treatment and vaccine. There has been throughout history terrible times that humanity has had to deal with, and we know that God has been with us through it all. He will not and has not abandoned us. Stay safe, stay healthy.

God bless all of you,
Father Duane



Readings for the Week of May 3, 2020

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/
1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/
Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/
Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/
Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/
Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/
Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/
Jn 14:7-14
Next Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/
1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12



Fourth Sunday of Easter

With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we

even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home.

Turning our Sorrow into Joy

When Christ was transfigured on Mount Tabor nearly two thousand years ago, He showed His disciples the intense Godly reality that was underneath His physical form and assured them that when He later suffered that it would be voluntary, not by chance, but meaningful. This understanding can be brought forward to all time and in every circumstance if we will learn to see it this way and use it with His help to turn our sorrow into joy. When Christ died on the Cross, the Apostles thought that everything that they had hoped for, including the restoration of Israel, was gone, too, but Christ brought something far greater to them and to us in His glorious Resurrection.

Christians have always maintained and shared this hope, and this perspective that anything we see or endure in this world ~ any pain, suffering, or lack of freedom and expression ~ is just the furnace of love burning brightly to change us if we will use it in a spiritual and, therefore, profitable way. Sorrows are always present in this world which is unavoidable. What we do with these sorrows and our attitude towards our pains, actually a moment of great opportunity, for the greater the sorrows, like the Apostles felt, then these can become the greatest joy, for Christ is risen eternally, and that is why this phrase is always said in the present tense.

Let us not lose this perspective of two millennia of the Christian faith, and remember that our sorrows can bring out the greatest chance of trusting in God and helping others with mercy whenever we can. We can see this now in the contradiction of responses to our recent crises all over the world. What will we choose? That is the real question. Let us choose faith, and love, and goodness, and giving thanks; and then Christ will transfigure all of our sorrows into joy, the living and eternal joy of entering into His glorious Resurrection.

Prayer to the Good Shepherd

*Oh, Lord, I have known death,
and you have refreshed my soul.
I have known fear,
and you have comforted me.
I have known hunger,
and you have set a feast before me.
In the darkest valley
no calamity of humankind or nature has separated us.*



*Teach me to walk as you walk
beside those in mourning so that they will know joy,
beside those in fear that they will know comfort,
beside those in hunger
that they will feast until their cup overflows.*

*As your goodness and love follow me,
may mine follow my neighbor
that the threat of the worst terrors
may turn to the knowledge of the comforts of
the house of the Lord,
where you have invited us to dwell forever.*

*And so let me strive to help build on earth
what you have promised us in heaven.
In the face of all calamity, present and yet to come,
let me lead my neighbor beside quiet waters,
the quiet waters of the Good Shepherd.*

Amen.

IN LOVING MEMORY
of
Richard Gargulinski
Husband of Patricia
Faithful Friend



Long-time Parishioner
May he rest in the peace of Christ
Both now and forever. Amen.

During the Suspension of Public Masses, your continued financial support is still vital to the sustainability of St. Matthew Parish. Please don't forget your Sunday Envelope and its importance to the day to day operation of the parish. You may mail it in, drop it off at the rectory, or hold on to them until the return of public Masses. There is, however, another means of making sure your Sunday Envelope contribution is never forgotten or missed. We have established an Online Giving portal on our website: stmatthewdetroit.com. Online Giving is fast, easy, and secure and comes with benefits for both you and the parish!

- Automatic deductions make having to remember your weekly envelope a thing of the past. You set the frequency and the amount, and the system takes care of the rest.
- Generate your own report of financial giving activity for your tax purposes each year.
- You can contribute to CSA, special Holy Days, Flower Funds, and Fundraisers. This is how you get started:
- Visit www.stmatthewdetroit.com, and click on the green "Giving & Donations" button.
- Click the link for Online Giving.
- Click the green "Create New Account" button.
- Enter your information and set up your gift amounts and frequency.
- That's it! You are all set for recurring automatic contributions.

If you need further assistance, please reach out to our webmaster, Patrick Lusch, at Patrick.Lusch@gmail.com.

Thank you and God bless you for all you do!



A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us, HE IS THE WAY, and warns anyone who offers "another way" to happiness is "a thief and a bandit." Strong words! Don't listen to the sales pitch of society for happiness. Look to yourself where God is present and "calls you by name and leads you to abundant life."

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



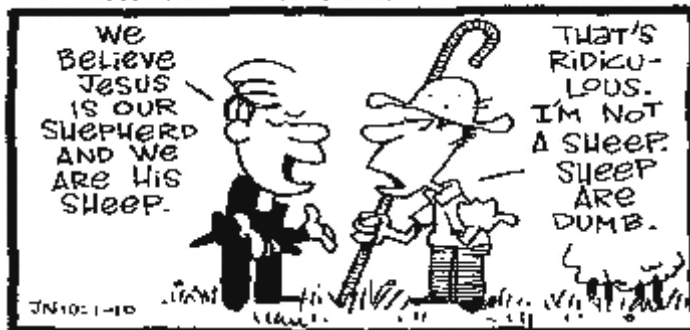
We witness to Christ when we do good toward others - In their pastoral letter, Stewardship: A Disciple's Response, the U.S. bishops remind us that, as faithful disciples, we are obligated to witness Christ by blessing others in mercy and love:

Disciples give thanks to God for gifts received and strive to share them with others. That is why, as Vatican II says of the Eucharist, "if this celebration is to be sincere and thorough, it must lead to various works of charity and mutual help, as well as to missionary activity and to different forms of Christian witness."

When we share our God-given gifts with others in prayer, service, and generosity, we live the theme of the Catholic Services Appeal, *Opening Doors to Witness Christ*. Through our support of the ministries, programs, and services the CSA funds and the countless spiritual and temporal benefits they provide, we witness Christ's mercy and love to thousands of people in southeast Michigan and beyond.

Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron has charged all faithful in our Archdiocese to join together as a "joyful band of missionary disciples" in a spirit of evangelization. Generously sharing ourselves and our gifts through the CSA allows us to witness our discipleship in Christ through our love of one another. This "attitude of gratitude" also provides growth in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER



Observances for the Week of May 3, 2020

- Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- Monday:
- Tuesday: Cinco de Mayo
- Wednesday:
- Thursday: National Day of Prayer
- Friday:
- Saturday:
- Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Bill Zuerblis ~ *Financial Council Chair*
Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*
Patricia Camazzola-Godoshian,
Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

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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	Jo Marie Nardi
Lolita Dorado	David Beaupre
Albert Fajardo	Kenneth Beaupre
Virginia Fajardo	Anthony Crimardo
Madeline O'Neill	Rosemary Schoolcraft
Kurt Beghuyn	Tiffany Gelle
Sebastiano Stellino	Robert Stark
Teresita Covacha	Pauline Williams
Joe Petrylka	Bill Solomon
Roger Sharpe	Eloise Parker
Nenette Ferreria	Kelly Kranson
Anthony Mastronardi	Herb and Jeanne Damman
Eduardo Fajardo	Mike and Theresa Elrick
Kathy Bush	Doreen Redman
Glenda Johnson	Dennis Corbett
Stephanie Smith	
Janet Law	
Laura Alix	
Betty Leone	
Michelle Harter	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

**To all Ministers:
The regular schedule with respect to your
ministry
will resume when public Masses resume.
Please watch for updates.**

Mass Schedule

**The Mass Intentions scheduled for the days and times
effected by the suspension of public Mass
will be moved forward to future dates
when public Masses are resumed.**

~ Prayers of the Faithful ~ 4th Sunday of Easter

For all our pastors, especially Father Novelly, who have been working to stay connected with their parishioners, may God provide them the strength they need to continue their outreach, showing that the presence of the Lord is always with them.

Let us pray to the Lord

For all those who are suffering in the current outbreak of the coronavirus, especially Mike and Theresa Elrick, that they may be healed.

Let us pray to the Lord

For all healthcare workers who are selflessly treating coronavirus patients, may they feel the presence of God walking alongside them, giving them the strength they need throughout their day. Keep them safe!

Let us pray to the Lord

For all the sick of the parish, and those whom we love, especially Herb and Jeanne Damman, Steve Czapski, Jr., Doreen Redman, and Father Duane Novelly. May they know the healing presence of Christ through his Church.

Let us pray to the Lord

For those who have died marked with the sign of faith, those who have died from the coronavirus pandemic, and all our deceased loved ones, especially John Reinhardt, may the mercy of God cleanse them so they may enjoy the fullness of his kingdom.

Let us pray to the Lord



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