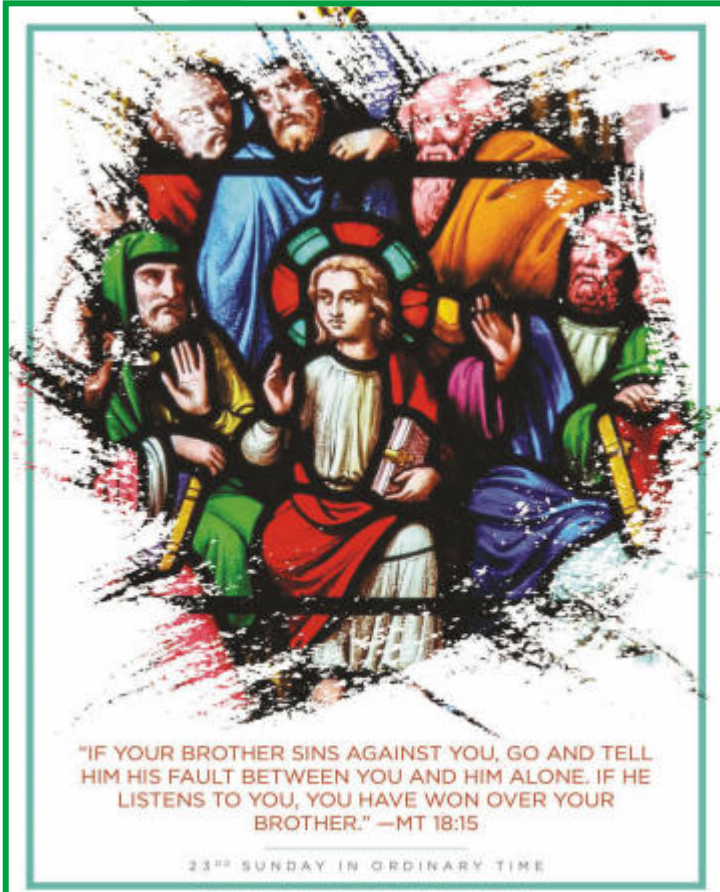




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

September 6, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



WHERE IS HE NOW?

PATRICK DUNSTONE, SON OF JOHN AND LIZ FOLEY-DUNSTONE, GRADUATED ON DECEMBER 14, 2019 FROM MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, MADISON COLLEGE, WITH A DEGREE IN SOCIAL RELATIONS AND POLICY.

PATRICK IS NOW WORKING FOR MELE, BRENGARTH & ASSOCIATES IN DENVER, COLORADO AS A COMPLIANCE ASSOCIATE. PATRICK'S RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE PROVIDING FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE SERVICES TO POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS AND ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS.

GOD BLESS YOU, PATRICK, WITH CONTINUED SUCCESS!



From Father Duane's Desk

In 1976, the State of Michigan enacted the Elliott-Larson Civil Rights Act. In effect, the law prohibits discrimination based on a person's religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, and familial or marital status. There's a group now called, Fair and Equal Michigan, who is circulating a state-wide petition to re-define what "sex" in Elliott-Larson means. That is, to expand its meaning beyond gender to "sexual orientation and gender identity or expression" and would reduce the definition of religion to the "religious beliefs of an individual" thus reducing the current understanding under the law.

The Catholic Church teaches that all persons are made in the image of likeness of God and are to be treated with dignity and respect regardless of their orientation or identity (ccc 2358). The Fair and Equal Michigan petition would go well beyond how we treat one another.

The Catholic bishops of Michigan have asked us not to sign the petition because the petition offers no protections for religious institutions, especially schools, charity agencies, and healthcare entities. It would impact athletic programs and community services. Also, to diminish the definition of religion would not allow us to exercise our deeply-held faith beliefs in the public square by providing no protections for faith-based actions or speech.

I share these thoughts from the bishops of Michigan and the Michigan Catholic Conference for your information along with the Q and A insert in the Pulse today, so that you can make an informed decision if someone should approach you with the petition.

Again, the bishops of Michigan urge you **not to sign** the petition.

On another matter, we will next week begin the CSA campaign for 2020. Although shortened this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the goal for our parish is important. Our AoD target is \$16,892, but we have set an internal goal of \$60,000 to take care of much needed maintenance on the parish complex. Please be as generous as you can. A sacrificial gift this year would be most appreciated. We need your help, and to help, get the word out. Remember, a pledge goes much farther than a one-time gift. I try not to ask for too much, but this year it is important. Thank you for your consideration.

God bless all of you, Father Duane!

Readings for the Week of September 6, 2020

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20
 Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Lk 6:6-11
 Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 [11]/Lk 6:20-26
 Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 [24b]/Lk 6:27-38
 Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12 [2]/Lk 6:39-42
 Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 [17]/Lk 6:43-49
 Next Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8]/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35



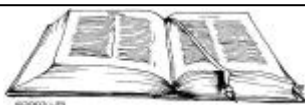
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's all about reconciliation and conversion, not punishment. Relationships are not static adventures but wonderful gifts that continue to develop, grow, change, and mature. We are meant to be social beings, so isolating

ourselves from others is rarely helpful. But, because human beings are on the one hand tremendously gifted, talented, and blessed creations, they are on the other also flawed, broken, and sinful. We all need to humbly admit that we are works in progress and not only capable of enriching each other's lives but causing deep hurts and wounds as well. Hence, we always need to be reconciled. We are always growing, changing, and expanding our knowledge of who we are and how we are meant to share life together.

Because reconciliation and conversion are always part of the mix of life, honesty is crucial. Without honesty, we can easily find ourselves living a lie and causing more harm than good. Being able to freely share our feelings, especially those involving pain and hurt, is a charism necessary to pursue and an art to learn. When we are wronged or wrong someone else, we do not enjoy the confrontation that can and needs to come. We are taught to keep our feelings to ourselves, especially when they are negative, and we tend to avoid difficult conversations. Hence, we never really learn how to confront another, successfully resolve conflict, find reconciliation, and welcome conversion. When we hurt or wrong someone, it does not mean that we are a bad or sinful person who deserves only punishment and excommunication. Quite the opposite! We are simply a human person who can make poor choices and sin and can be forgiven. We can restore and deepen the relationship that has been affected and find our way home again.

Jesus clearly wants to avoid shame because it has no purpose in achieving reconciliation and conversion. All broken relationships deserve a chance at reconciliation. Every person has room for growth and a need for conversion. We have to learn to be okay with honesty and not be afraid to hear and process what someone needs to say, even if it is difficult for us to hear. Severing a relationship, both personally or with the church community as a whole, ought to definitely be a last resort and only pursued when all else has failed.



WE REMEMBER THEM

*In the rising of the sun and in its going down,
We remember them.
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
We remember them.
In the opening of buds and in the warmth of summer,
We remember them.
When we are weary, and in need of strength,
We remember them.
When we are lost, and sick of heart,
We remember them.
When we have joys we yearn to share,
We remember them.
So long as we live, they too shall live,
for they are now a part of us,
As we remember them.*

LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 8
Mass at 9:00 a.m. ~ Please join us.
Rectory office will be closed ~
Reopening Tuesday, September 9.

An Unsolicited Testimonial The Blessing of the Community

I have been blessed to be a member of my parish community for 28 years. For much of that time I was serving as a member of the parish staff, but it was still the community that I call home. I have been fortunate to be able to remain in that parish even as my life has encountered new chapters and callings. I am so grateful to God that I have been able to grow, be nourished, and find companionship in a parish for this long of a time.

It is a natural tendency for human beings to desire belonging to something bigger than themselves. Not everyone is fortunate enough to find the community, big or small, that fulfills that need. Unfortunately, that means that many communities suffer from not having the benefit of the gifts, skills, and talents that any member can offer. Communities are in many ways living organisms that move and breathe based upon the individuals who form that body. A community is truly the sum of its parts.

Your parish community reflects you and everyone else in that community. The more each member gives to the community, the stronger that community finds itself. If you hold back, your community suffers, and you gain little. I know firsthand what being a part of a community can mean to a person. I would be no one at all – and you would not be reading this – if it weren't for the life I have had in my parish community.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, September 5, 4:30 pm, and Sunday, September 6, 10 am Masses, respectively - Blessing of Students and Teachers

Monday, September 7, 9:00 am Mass - Liturgy in celebration of Labor Day

The Rectory Office will be closed for Labor Day and will re-open on Tuesday, September 8, at 10:30 am

Saturday, September 12, and Sunday, September 13 - CSA Giving Sunday



To Clare Ramsdell!

Clare is the daughter of Michelle and sister of Charlie Ramsdell.

She joins our parish staff working as our Sunday Office Assistant.

We welcome you, Clare, and hope you enjoy your time with us.



Prayer for Teachers

Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us your ways.

Look upon our teachers.

Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavor always to bring the truth to eager minds.

Grant that they may follow Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen.

Prayer for Students

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love You surround us with the mysteries of the universe.

Send your Spirit upon our students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ

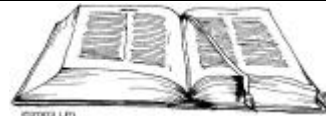


As we continue our mission to bring the love and hope of Christ through our communities, even in the face of challenge and uncertainty, we are reminded of his invitation to his disciples to "Rise up, and be not afraid" (Mt 7:17). How can we, too, answer this call and love one another as Jesus loved us? How can we better be his hands and feet in our communities?

Your generous support of our mission as an Archdiocese through the Catholic Services Appeal will enable us to do just this, and to continue to respond to the needs of our parishes and communities, especially now, and continue the work of Christ to bring people of Southeast Michigan the kind of hope that does not disappoint.

Your gift helps support men who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood. It impacts youth, family, and young adult ministries to help people at all stages of life grow in faith. It helps Catholic schools continue to form the next generation of leaders and disciples. It helps our food pantries and soup kitchens feed and clothe the poor. Your gift brings Jesus to Southeast Michigan in a very real and tangible way. Thank you for this support.

Please prayerfully consider making your gift of a pledge today. Give online at www.givecsa.org or respond to the Archbishop's letter with your pledge or gift today via the mail.



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

The key word in today's Gospel is "listen." We cannot change another person; not alone, not with others, and not with a whole Church. All we can do is state our position and "if he listens to you" then he/she can take the steps necessary to change themselves. Change comes from within.

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday
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Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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Michael Dulapa ~ *Evangelization Chair*
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Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

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Mary Ann Bolone, John Dunstone, Jeff Smith,
Gary Stark ~ *Members*

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

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Monday, Labor Day, September 7, 2020, 9:00 a.m.
William Zuerblis

Julia Zuerblis

Saturday, September 12, 2020, 4:30 p.m.
Liz Smith

Jermaine Donaldson

Sunday, September 13, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
Bryan Jones

Cory Fullillove
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, September 5 - Vigil: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary
Time

4:30 p.m. - Patricia Campbell, Donald Campbell (20th Anniv)

Sunday, September 6 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark

Monday, September 7 - Labor Day

9:00 a.m. - For a World Where all Workers Everywhere Share in
the Abundance God Has Given Us

Tuesday, September 8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin
Mary

9:00 a.m. - For Migrant and Refugee Families

Wednesday, September 9 - St. Peter Claver, Priest

9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Thursday, September 10 -

Friday, September 11 - Patriot Day (Remembrance)

9:00 a.m. - For All First Responders, Both Living and Deceased

Saturday, September 12 - Vigil: 24th Sunday in Ordinary
Time

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish


Sunday, September 13 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Anna Sasinowski, Ginger Cottone (4th
Anniv), Lucille Zelenak (19th Anniv), Stella Urso
(21st Anniv), Lucia Cottone, Gaetano Cottone,
Ross Chinnici (13th Anniv)



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IT MAKES EVIL POSSIBLE,
IS ALSO THE ONLY THING
THAT MAKES POSSIBLE
ANY LOVE OR GOODNESS
OR JOY WORTH HAVING.
—C.S. LEWIS

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