



Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

February 7, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34

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

©LPI



***In Honor of the Feast of St. Blaise, Wednesday, February 3,
Throats will be Blessed this Weekend at all Masses.***

*Remember the faith of this saint each year
and pray for blessings on those who suffer throat ailments.*

Readings for the Week of February 7, 2021

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24
and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/
Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc
-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/
Mk 7:24-30
Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/
Mk 8:1-10
Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/
1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vul-

nerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.



In Honor of Black History Month We Celebrate St. Josephine Bakhita, February 8

For many years, Josephine Bakhita was a slave but her spirit was always free and eventually that spirit prevailed. Born in the Darfur region of southern Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped at the age of 7, sold into slavery and given the name Bakhita, which means fortunate.

She was resold several times, finally in 1883 to Callisto Legnani, Italian consul in Khartoum, Sudan. Two years later, he took Josephine to Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Bakhita became babysitter to Mimmina Michieli, whom she accompanied to Venice's Institute of the Catechumens, run by the Canossian Sisters. Josephine felt drawn to the Catholic Church. She was baptized and confirmed in 1890, taking the name Josephine.

When the Michielis returned from Africa and wanted to take Mimmina and Josephine back with them, the future saint refused to go. During the ensuing court case, the Canossian Sisters and the patriarch of Venice intervened on Josephine's behalf. The judge concluded that since slavery was illegal in Italy, she had actually been free since 1885. Josephine entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later. The first steps toward her beatification began in 1959. She was beatified in 1992 and canonized eight years later.

Prayer for the intercession of St. Josephine Bakhita

*St. Josephine Bakhita,
you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold
hardship and suffering.*

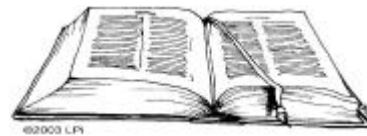
*Once liberated from your physical enslavement,
you found true redemption in your encounter
with Christ and his Church.*

*O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped
in a state of slavery.*

*Intercede with God on their behalf so that
they will be released from their chains of captivity.
Those whom man enslaves, let God set free.*

*Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and
let them look to you as an example of hope and faith.
Help all survivors find healing from their wounds.*

*We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those
enslaved among us. Amen."*



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus went to the "house of Andrew and Simon" to relax but discovered that "Simon's mother-in-law was very ill." Like Jesus, we come home to relax but are confronted with problems. Take a tip from Andrew and Simon who "told Jesus about it at once."

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, February 6, and Sunday, February 7, 4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively - Blessing of Throats in Honor of St. Blaise

Tuesday, February 9, at 6 pm - Parish Council / Leadership Group Meeting, SWOT Analysis, Church Auditorium

Saturday, February 13, 4:30 pm, and Sunday, February 14, 10 am, Masses, respectively - Bring your old palms back to church for Ash Wednesday!

News from the Archdiocese

From: Deacon Bill Kolarik, Project Manager, Sacraments Validity Project
Subject: Pastoral Care Regarding the Vatican's Note on Baptism

In August of 2020, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a response to questions regarding the use of the words, "We baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" instead of the proper form of "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." The Vatican ruled that the form "We baptize" does not convey the Sacrament of Baptism.

In the Archdiocese of Detroit, we are aware that between 1976 and 1999, potentially invalid baptisms occurred at St. Anastasia Parish in Troy, conducted by Deacon Mark Springer using the improper form. We are in the process of contacting those individuals who may be affected, and we are asking for your help.

If you or someone you know was baptized at St. Anastasia Parish during this time period, or you have any questions or concerns about the validity of your sacrament(s), we invite you to visit the website aod.org/sacramentsupdate for more information and to submit questions or concerns using the online form.

5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



This week the Archdiocese of Detroit held a Zoom Meeting with pastors and parish Catholic Services Appeal Committee members to share information on the results of the new CSA format. In its evaluation, the AoD Steering Committee reviewed and corrected those procedures that were not successful during the Appeal this year which was shortened due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021 CSA campaign will start in May, with one Sunday in May designated as CSA Sunday, the date at the discretion of the pastor. Bulletin articles, posters, and other CSA materials will be made available to parishioners. However, pledge cards and letters will be mailed directly from the CSA Offices to include those donors who have given in the years 2017 through 2020.

More information on this initiative will be shared in the coming weeks. **The 2020 CSA is ongoing until May 31, 2021. You still have time to pledge and continue your payments.** Remember your CSA contributions help sustain St. Matthew Parish.

The Audacity of Holiness

Do you know a holy person? We aren't talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, let's speak of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?



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*
Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

PARISH COUNCIL

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

PARISH FINANCIAL COUNCIL

BILL ZUERBLIS ~ *CHAIR*
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.

Joe Petrylka	Eduardo Fajardo
Anthony Mastronardi	Aurora Guinto
Stephanie Smith	Mary Spansky
Janet Law	Marie Kane
Laura Alix	Mike Dulapa
Betty Leone	Mike and Linda Holster
Jo Marie Nardi	Irene McCann
Anthony Crimauco	Bing Ocampo
Rosemary Schoolcraft	John and Kathy Bush
Tiffany Gelle	
Robert Stark	
Pauline Williams	
Bill Solomon	
Eloise Parker	
Herb and Jeanne Damman	
Doreen Redman	
Sarah Wagner	
Nenette Ferreria	
Lolita Dorado	
Albert Fajardo	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, February 13, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Julie Smith

Lauren Smith

Sunday, February 14, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

David Smydra

Lauren Gross

Julia Zuerblis

Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

TBD

TBD

Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

William Zuerblis

Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, February 6 - Vigil: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sunday, February 7 - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Chuck Schuster, John Ridella (13th Anniv), Patrick Foley

Monday, February 8 - St. Josephine Bakhati, Virgin; St.

Jerome Emiliani

Tuesday, February 9 -

9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

Wednesday, February 10 - St. Scholastica, Virgin

9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

Thursday, February 11 - Our Lady of Lourdes

Friday, February 12 -

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

Saturday, February 13 - Vigil: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. - Patrick Foley

Sunday, February 14 - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, The Delisi Family, Chuck Schuster, Roger Sharpe

THE LORD
HEALS THE
brokenhearted.

PSALM 147



**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**

\$29.95/MO

BILLED QUARTERLY

**PLUS
SPECIAL
OFFER**



CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772

WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

**Jim's
Collision Shop**

Complete Body • Mechanical
Glass • Free Loaner Cars

DETROIT

313-882-5400

16651 Harper

www.jimscollision.net

SERVING THE
COMMUNITY FOR
OVER A CENTURY



**A.H. PETERS
FUNERAL HOME**

Grosse Pointe Woods
20705 Mack Avenue • 313-884-5500
Warren
32000 Schoenherr • 586-293-8030
ahpeters.com

Fert-Scape, Inc.

Fertilizer and Landscape
Contracting

13335 15 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

(586) 344-9012

(586) 565-1077

CHAMPS

ROTISSERIE & SEAFOOD

DINE IN • CARRY-OUT
CATERING

313-886-7755

20515 Mack Avenue
Grosse Pointe Woods

Mon-Sat: 11:30a-10p • Sun: Noon-10p

*Celebrate with
Flowers*



1-800-VIVIANO
viviano.com

VIVIANO
flower shop



St. Clair Shores, Rochester, Shelby Twp.,
Grosse Pointe Woods, & Chesterfield Twp.

For all of Life's Celebrations since 1937



LICENSED & INSURED
MASTER PLUMBER

WaterWorkPlumbing.com

Senior Discounts

24 Hr. Emergency Service

313-558-8757

\$20 OFF ANY SERVICE

**Elite Driving
School**

23804 Harper Avenue
Between 9 & 10 Mile Road
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

586-778-4934

STATE OF MICHIGAN APPROVED
AND CERTIFIED ROAD TESTING BY
ELITE DRIVING SCHOOL

www.elitedrivingschoolscs.com

**AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME**

**ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE**

Contact **Richard Brogna** to place an ad today!
rbrogna@4LPi.com or **(848) 225-5120**

**ADT-Monitored
Home Security**

Get 24-Hour Protection
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251

**SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL PARISH.**

Buy a bulletin ad space today!



**SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS
THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY**

