



Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

June 13, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



From Father Duane's Desk



I want to congratulate our three high school graduates that were noted and pictured in The Pulse last week. These fine young people have gifts and talents that will take them a long way in life. Personally, I will miss, in the fall, the ministerial services that they offered to the parish; Marella's beautiful voice, Ian and Cory's faithful service at the altar. I will certainly keep them in my prayers. Praying especially that they continue to live the faith of the Catholic Church that their parents and parish have shared with them. Good luck to these graduates who transition in life during this difficult time of a world-wide pandemic.

We are, however, making some progress in this pandemic. Thanks to the vaccinations that have been received. As mentioned at Mass I cannot stress enough (as does government and health officials) the importance of being vaccinated. It is our most sure and best chance of putting this scourge behind us.

At this time, we are still on track to have the mask mandate lifted in the State of Michigan by July 1st. As announced, the weekend of July 3/4 will be the first time masks will not be required at St. Matthew's. However, if anyone should choose to continue wearing their mask because they have not been vaccinated or just simply feel safer, we should not judge them, nor will we require anyone to sit in a separate section of the church. Our numbers are such that we can still continue to social distance and appropriately share a sign of peace with each other as to your comfort level. We will still provide, at least to the end of the year, hand sanitizer, and the priest will still be masked for the distribution of Communion for the present time.

I would strongly encourage all our parishioners to return to church. The dispensation from not attending Mass is no longer in effect, except for those who are sick or feel they may be compromised by attending. So I ask every one to get the word out. Tell those whom you see it's okay to return to church; in fact, it's important to return to in-person worship. "Live-streaming" does not develop community nor does it give you communion with the Lord Jesus.

Another matter I would like to address is the recent petition to "protect the Hyde Amendment." This petition is critical in maintaining the Hyde Amendment which is under attack by certain members of Congress. In last week's Pulse as well as this week's, we gave you information about signing an online petition to STOP TAXPAYER ABORTION! However, some may not be able to use a computer, so we have an insert this week that directs you how to contact your senator or district representative. I would ask you in good conscience to respond. The Hyde Amendment is worth keeping, and it safeguards our tax dollars from being spent on elective abortion.

Next week, we celebrate Father's Day and know that I will share a Father's Day Blessing. Have a good, blessed, and safe week.

God bless all of you,
Father Duane

Readings for the Week of June 13, 2021

Sunday: Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/
2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34
Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/
Mt 5:38-42
Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9/Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a [1b]/
Mt 5:43-48
Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11/Ps 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 9 [1b]/
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8 [7a]/Mt 6:7-15
Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [cf. 18b]/
Mt 6:19-23
Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10/Ps 34:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [9a]/
Mt 6:24-34
Next Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/ Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29,
30-31 [1b]/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41

St. Anthony of Padua, Feast Day, June 13th

The story and tradition of devotion to St. Anthony of Padua began almost immediately upon his death on June 13, 1231. Thousands came to view the body of Anthony and attend his burial. His grave at once became a place of extraordinary devotion and numerous miracles. The next year, his friend, Pope Gregory IX, moved by the many miracles attributed to him during his life and that occurred at his tomb, declared him a saint. In 1946, Pope Pius XII officially declared St. Anthony a doctor of the church.

God alone knows which are true and which are folk legend, but in telling the story of St. Anthony of Padua, one must include some mention of the commonly-heard stories attributed to him both during and after his life on earth:

The first is the story of St. Anthony's bread. Many people give donations to help the poor in thanksgiving for gifts they've attributed to St. Anthony's intercession. They call this St. Anthony's bread. The story of St. Anthony's bread is said to have begun in 1263, when a beloved child drowned near the basilica of St. Anthony. The child's mother prayed for St. Anthony's intercession and promised that if the child was restored to her, she would give the child's weight in grain to the poor in order that they could make bread – a very great gift in a time of widespread poverty and hunger.

When the child was miraculously restored to life, the woman was true to her word and the tradition of giving alms to the poor in St. Anthony's name was begun. It is a beautiful tradition of charity to the poor. And it is fitting that it is done in St. Anthony's name, since he is the patron saint of the poor.

Many people think of St. Anthony as the "finder of lost items". The reason for invoking St. Anthony's help in finding lost or stolen items is traced back to an incident in his own life. As the story goes, he had a favorite book of psalms that was very valuable to him. As this was before the invention of printing, the book was a hand-printed book – but of even more value were his personal notes and the comments he had made in the Psalter to assist with teaching students in the Franciscan order. It was suspected that a novice leaving the community had stolen the Psalter. Anthony prayed for the return of his beloved possession. Shortly after, the novice returned the book and sought Anthony's forgiveness, which was given.

St. Anthony is also known as the guardian of the mail as a result of another incident in his life. Although he always sought solitude and time for reflection, Anthony was so popular a preacher that he rarely got time to rest. He dutifully wrote to his superior for permission for a respite and time to travel some distance away for reflection. However, as the story goes, when the messenger arrived for the letter, it was nowhere to be found. Anthony took this as a sign that he was not to go and forgot about the trip. Shortly after, he received permission from his superior to take the trip.

Another legend of 1792 tells of a heart-broken wife seeking news of her husband who had traveled from Spain to Peru. Despite writing many times there was no answer. In desperation she went to the chapel and placed a letter in the hands of the statue of St. Anthony and prayed he would intercede on her behalf and assist with delivery of the letter. The next day when she returned to the chapel, she was disappointed that the letter was still there. Upon removing the letter, she realized her letter had been replaced by a letter from her husband. He wrote that her last letter had been delivered by a Franciscan priest, and that he was overjoyed to receive her letter as he had thought her dead since not hearing from her for so long.

St. Anthony of Padua is one of the Catholic Church's most revered and popular saints. This is likely that his life was what every Christian's life is meant to be, a steady courage to face the ups and downs of life, the call to love and forgive, to be concerned for the needs of others, to deal with crisis, and to have our feet solidly on the ground of total trusting love and dependence upon God.

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time



A favorite motto of St. Teresa of Calcutta was, "do small things with great love." This is how it works in the kingdom of God. God can do tremendous things with the smallest gesture, especially when

it is done in love. We can clearly see that our world is suffering greatly. People are struggling to find peace, navigate through conflicts, earn a sustainable living, find security and enough food to eat, and work through political tensions and conflicts. In the light of the magnitude of the difficulties that exist around us and even within us, we can find ourselves floundering to discover practical, effective solutions. How can something so large be helped by someone as small and seemingly insignificant as me? While whole systems and structures may be out of the league of our personal influence, are we really that helpless in the midst of all of the turmoil, sadness, and suffering?

If we believe that God is with us and that God is still working to bring about the glory of God's kingdom, then the answer is no. We are never helpless or without hope. Armed with a strong life of prayer, we can always flee to God and ask for inspiration, wisdom, and especially love. We are all blessed with unique gifts and talents and it often seems that considering all that the world lacks, love and charity remain at the top of the list. Life can easily become a battleground of hostility. Because life is challenging and difficult, anger is not far away. We see it on people's faces and hear it in their voices. There is a measure of frustration that permeates all avenues of life. It is even felt in the air.

As people of faith, we know that what we see here is not the end but only a part of something far greater to come. We know that God's kingdom is where we are ultimately meant to be, and the Gospel is the way to get there. If love and charity can prevail in us, then God will be able to do what God does best. God will use us to scatter the seeds of his kingdom. Through our small gestures, those seeds can receive the nurturing attention that is necessary for them to bear great fruit. We cannot fall victim to the strife that is around us. We have to keep ourselves refreshed and focused so that even in small ways, we can become part of the solution, not the problem. Love and charity, which come from God, can help to heal the ills of the world. May we bring these simple gifts to the everyday simple tasks of our lives! Watch how big the plant grows!

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, June 19, 4:30 pm, and Sunday, June 20, 10 am Masses respectively - Celebrate Father's Day

PROTECT THE HYDE AMENDMENT

Prevent Taxpayer Dollars from Supporting Elective Abortions

The US Catholic Conference of Bishops has created a flier for those who don't use the internet and are unable to sign the No Taxpayer Abortion online petition but who still want to help stop taxpayer-funded abortion.

There is a flyer included with the bulletin this week that gives a brief overview of the situation and explains how to call Members of Congress and what to say. The bottom fields are left blank so they can be filled in with your members' names and contact information.

Five Ways you can help:

- 1) Sign the petition at NoTaxpayerAbortion.com.
- 2) Submit the action alert you should have received in your email once you signed the petition. If you don't see your action alert within a few minutes, check your spam folders! Or, if you don't want to wait, you can go directly to www.bit.ly/no-taxpayer-abortion-action.
- 3) Follow up with your members of Congress. You can find out who they are and how to contact them personally by going to www.bit.ly/find-officials and putting in your mailing address. FYI, your address is not shared with anyone, we just ask for it so we can show you who represents you.
- 4) Tell your family and friends to do steps 1 to 3.
- 5) Raise awareness.

Prayer for Life

Loving Father, giver of all life, we praise you for the mystery and beauty of all creation, especially the way you have created us in your own image. Deepen our respect for your presence in every human person from the first moment of conception until last natural breath.

According to your will, O Lord, use us as your instruments to bring about the conversion of all who do not yet share our vision or commitment to the dignity of the life of the unborn and the dying, the chronically ill, the disabled, and migrants.

Make us instruments of your peace and keep us all from the evils of war and violence. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Parenting is a lot like the story of the farmer in the Gospel parable today. All growth is the Lord's work. We have no control over the process. In fact, the farmer doesn't even understand it, for the seed grows even when he sleeps. As parents, we can influence our children, but nothing we can do can guarantee results.

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ

Loving and Generous Father,
We praise you and give you thanks
for the gifts of our faith and your abundant grace.
We thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus in the Eucharist,
the source and summit of our faith
and the nourishment for our life's journey.
This Precious Gift energizes us in the Holy Spirit
as we embrace our mission to Unleash the Gospel.

We humbly ask you to open our hearts and minds
to recognize your presence in all those we encounter,
so they may see your love through our compassionate care
of their needs, both spiritual and temporal.

Bless in a special way our own commitment
to the faithful stewardship of your gifts through our prayers,
service, and generosity in support of the many good works
in our parishes and throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit
funded by the Catholic Services Appeal.

Help us to understand, in the words of St. Paul that in you
"we live and move and have our being"
as we strive to be the joyful band of missionary disciples
your Son has commissioned to build your Kingdom on earth.

This we pray through your Son, Jesus, who lives with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FUEL THE MISSION
Pledge to the CSA Today!

~ A Good Sermon ~

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible.

— George Burns



JUNE 14
FLAG DAY

— ★ ★ ★ ©LPI —

**YOU'RE A GRAND OLD FLAG,
YOU'RE A HIGH FLYING FLAG;
AND FOREVER IN PEACE MAY YOU WAVE;
YOU'RE THE EMBLEM OF THE LAND I LOVE,
THE HOME OF THE FREE AND THE BRAVE —
EVERY HEART BEATS TRUE
UNDER RED, WHITE, AND BLUE,
WHERE THERE'S NEVER A BOAST OR BRAG;
BUT SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT,
KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE GRAND OLD FLAG.**

GEORGE M. COHAN

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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.

Anthony Mastronardi	Aurora Guinto
Stephanie Smith	Jesse Ocampo
Janet Law	Mary Spansky
Laura Alix	Marie Kane
Betty Leone	Mike Dulapa
Jo Marie Nardi	Kathy Bush
Anthony Crimauo	Sue Allasio
Rosemary Schoolcraft	Richard Goll
Tiffany Gelle	Tim Fitzgerald
Robert Stark	Kristen Freiburger
Pauline Williams	
Bill Solomon	
Eloise Parker	
Herb and Jeanne Damman	
Doreen Redman	
Sarah Wagner	
Nenette Ferreria	
Lolita Dorado	
Albert Fajardo	
Eduardo Fajardo	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, June 19, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Julie Smith

Lauren Smith

Sunday, June 20, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

David Smydra

Jermaine Donaldson
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, June 12 - Vigil: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m. - Albino Martinelli

Sunday, June 13 - 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 a.m. - Jack Ment, Chuck Schuster, William Solomon

Monday, June 14 -

Tuesday, June 15 -
9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

Wednesday, June 16 -
9:00 a.m. - For Military Families, Here and Abroad

Thursday, June 17 -

Friday, June 18 -
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Saturday, June 19 - Vigil: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, June 20 - 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 a.m. - Chuck Schuster, August Kaminski, Maximo M. Fajardo, Jr. (1st Anniv)

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words teach
and your
actions speak.”

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