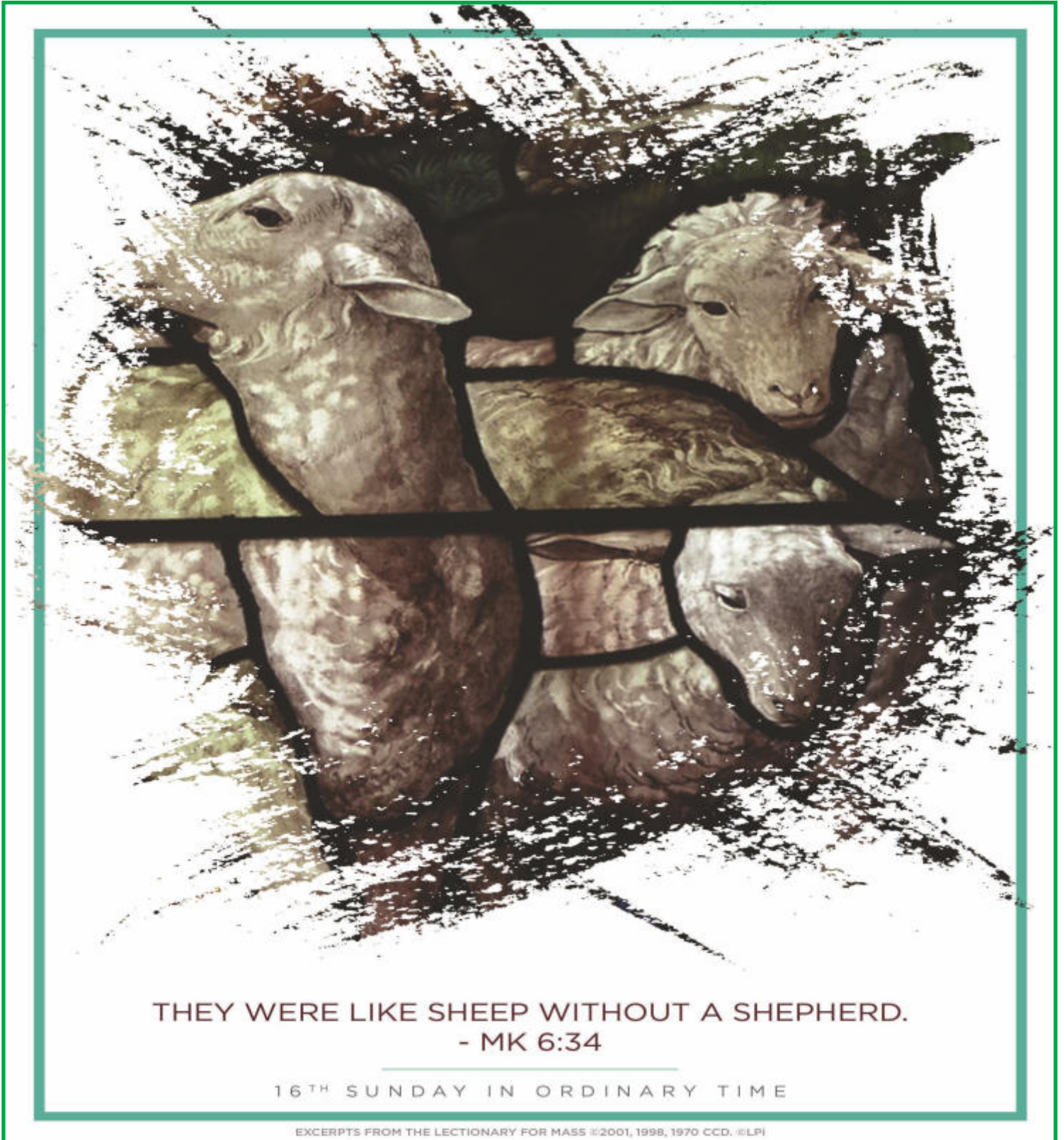




Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

July 18, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



THEY WERE LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD.
- MK 6:34

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Readings for the Week of July 18, 2021

Sunday: Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34
Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc,-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday: Ex 14:21—15:1/Ex 15:8-9, 10 and 12, 17 [1b]/Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28 [24b]/Mt 13:1-9
Thursday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Friday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [cf. Jn 6:68c]/Mt 13:18-23
Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 13:24-30
Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

There's an ordinary pine grove located on a tree farm not too far from town where life's stresses and demands seem to melt away. It is here that all that seemed so im-

portant out there no longer is and one can get lost in the rows of trees and majestic beauty. God is here and all is good. We need to connect with the Divine Source of all that is in order to understand what it is we are doing and why we are doing it. Otherwise, things stop making sense and bitterness can overcome one's spirit. It's okay to play once in a while and to discover that place of profound life and peace. People always have needs and there is constantly something to do. And while all of that is necessary and we are needed, there is also that inner solitude within that needs to be celebrated and released.

We all need a pine grove. It's that little place we can go and leave all that consumes us behind. It's a place where technology can be set aside and wonder, and awe given some time. We don't have to text, calculate, or orchestrate anything in the pine grove. It is a somewhat deserted place where all of that can be set aside and we can just be. The anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and occasional apathy, all can fall to the ground like all of those pine needles that once held their place on the branch of a Frasier Fir. The needles can let go. We can let go. We are beings connected with Being and we all need to remember what really matters, who really matters and what life is truly all about. We need to find that place where we can rest and let go of all of the barnacles we accumulate. Rest, breathe, seek, and love.

The world will need us again when we leave the pine grove. It will all be waiting for us, beckoning for our attention. But we will have prayed and will have marveled at the silence and the beauty of goodness. We can go back, ready, and eager to listen, to help, to heal, to cry, to embrace, and attend to all that is asked of us. But, having let go of the distractions in that deserted place we will have a renewed sense of purpose. We will know better Who it is we serve and what we are meant to do. It will all be clearer now that we have been Divinely touched and refreshed.



Feast Day, July 22nd

St. Mary Magdalene or Mary of Magdala, is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during his public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.

Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in western Christianity, but this is not supported in the scriptures. It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. After this, she told several women she with whom she associated, and these women also became followers.

There is also debate over if Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed women, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are skeptical this is the same person.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God. During Jesus' ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semi-permanent entourage who served Jesus and his Disciples.

Mary likely watched the crucifixion from a distance along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. Mary was present when Christ rose from the dead, visiting his tomb to anoint his body only to find the stone rolled away and Christ, very much alive, sitting at the place they laid Him. She was the first witness to His resurrection.

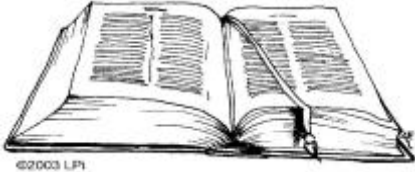
After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude, in a cave.

St. Mary Magdalene is the patroness of converts, repentant sinners, pharmacists, tanners, and women.

*Surely, dear St. Mary Magdalene,
He who refused nothing to your love on earth
will graciously fill us with those blessings
which we seek through your intercession. Amen.*

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Enjoy the week.
See you next Sunday!



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A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel "the apostles gathered around and told Jesus all they had done." Listening allows the other person to express, understand, and appreciate their experiences. Whether it is the excited chatter of a young child or the repetitious stories of an aging grandparent, listening is important. It is not just time well spent, it is sacred time.

The Steward's Work Is Never Done

Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock! When you hear these strong words from the Old Testament, you're probably thinking, thank goodness I don't have any sheep — dodged that bullet. Nobody misled here! No flock scattered on my watch! However, we are all shepherds of a kind, called to tend our own sheep: our families, our parishes, our communities.

But it's exhausting. Don't we all sometimes just want to take a break from being a steward? The excuses are so familiar: we're tired, we've done enough, we've given all we can, what more does the parish (or my spouse, or my kids, or my boss, or my friends, or my community) want? We give ourselves permission to be selfish. So, what if the flock scatters just a little?

Jesus gets that. We can just imagine him weary with exhaustion, can't we? We see him on his boat, attempting to sneak away for a quick break — maybe just a chance to eat a bite of food in peace. He is God, but he was still human, after all. Even the most dedicated shepherds need to sleep. But people couldn't leave him alone. They were hungry for him. They needed what he could offer, and they needed it now.

As tough as it is, that's the example we are tasked with imitating. Everyday Stewardship demands accountability. It demands our showing up even when we are tired. It demands that we look at our lives, our time, our energies, our talents, our hearts, our bank accounts and think: where do I still have more to give?



CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



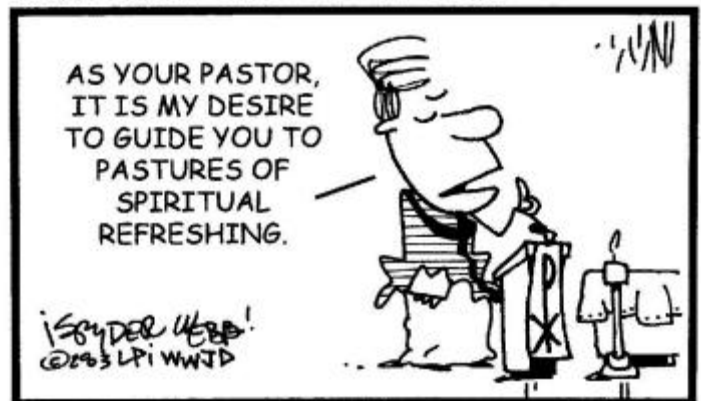
Witnessing Christ - May I make my CSA gift through my IRA?

Yes, if you are at least 70 ½, you can make your CSA gift from your IRA directly to the Catholic Services Appeal, and the distribution will be tax-free. To take advantage of an IRA charitable rollover to the CSA, you should contact your IRA administrator before making the gift to arrange for the proper transfer of funds directly to the Archdiocese from your IRA. Please instruct the administrator to indicate your parish on the distribution to the CSA to ensure your parish gets credit for the IRA gift.

Prayer for a Good Vacation

*Heavenly Father,
You have mercifully allowed human beings to
have periods of rest and restoration
on our long journey through life.
This is my extended period of rest this year —
my vacation from the usual cares of every day life
and my time to be renewed —
physically, mentally, and spiritually.
Grant that this vacation will bring me
a new awareness of the good things in life
increased knowledge of your wondrously
versatile creativity,
delightful travel through fascinating places,
and genuine leisure facilitating revitalization.
Let me be ever mindful of you
and my true goals in life.
And bring me back to carry out my daily tasks
with cheerfulness and goodwill,
and to the best of my strength and ability.
Amen.*

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

Liz Smith

Liz Foley-Dunstone

SERVERS

Ian Campbell

Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Saturday, July 24, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 25, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, July 17 - Vigil: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2:00 p.m. - Nowicki / Novelly Nuptial Mass
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, July 18 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Mary Noreen Kaminski, James Brus, Jr. (9th Anniv)

Monday, July 19 -

Tuesday, July 20 - St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr

9:00 a.m. - Bienvenido M. Fajardo (2nd Anniv)

Wednesday, July 21 - St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

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

Thursday, July 22 - St. Mary Magdalene

Friday, July 23 - St. Bridget, Religious

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

Saturday, July 24 - Vigil: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sunday, July 25 - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Chuck Schuster, William Solomon (40th Day)

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FOR YOU, O LORD, AND
THEY ARE RESTLESS UNTIL
THEY REST IN YOU."

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