



Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

October 3, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?"
They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce
and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of
your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning
of creation, God made them male and female." - Mk 10:3-6

Readings for the Week of October 3, 2021

Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/
Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12
Monday: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 [3]/
Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 [15]/
Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/
Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 [9]/
Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12a]/
Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [14]/
Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, "It takes three to make love, not two: you, your spouse, and God." Apart from the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, nothing speaks better of God's incarnate love than marriage. God designed it this way. We place great value on love and rightly so. What we fail to realize, however, is that love, its very presence and place in our lives, is not simply part of the human package deal. Love comes from God. It is one of God's greatest gifts to human beings. When we begin to realize that our very ability to love is sacred, it changes up how we see the essence of life, and purpose and sanctity of marriage.



God is love. It stands to reason then that if we follow the path of unconditional, self-emptying love we will then stumble upon God. It is precisely this intimate wedding of God with love that gives such eloquence and honor to the love between husband and wife. As a living sign of Christ's love for the Church and for humanity, husbands and wives speak volumes of God's unconditional incarnate love for all of his children! The Divine power that brings unity and life to marriage is so strong that once joined, it really cannot be separated.

Admittedly, marriage covenants can be extremely difficult to negotiate and, at times, very painful to experience. God's perfect divinity always meets our broken and imperfect humanity. God is okay with this setup as he created it this way. Our loving is never as unconditional as God's and often tainted by our own imperfections, needs, memories, hurts, sinfulness, and weakness. All of this baggage negatively impacts even the most well-intentioned marriages, causing them to be hurtful and empty. We are love works in progress. God can succeed in perfecting our love only if we keep our eyes fixed on him as the source of that love. That's why marriage is always about three and not just two.

The Divine intimacy at the heart of marriage is what can make them celebrations of great union and happiness. Couples who are still madly in love with each other after many years, still looking at each other with that timeless twinkle in their eyes, best tell the story of God's oneness with humanity. Honor, celebrate, and support those who have accepted a vocation to marriage.

Living in a world that easily pulls relationships apart, may they find hope and inspiration from their faith companions who are on the same journey!

St. Francis of Assisi (1181 - 1226) left a life of luxury for a life devoted to Christianity after reportedly hearing the voice of God, who commanded him to rebuild the Christian church and live in poverty. He founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare, the Third Order of St. Francis and the Custody of the Holy Land.

Born in 1181 in Italy, St. Francis of Assisi was renowned for drinking and partying as a youth. During a military expedition/battle between Assisi and Perugia, he was captured and imprisoned for ransom. He spent nearly a year in prison and began receiving visions from God.

After his release from prison, St. Francis of Assisi claimed to have heard the voice of Christ, who told him to restore the Christian Church and live a life of poverty. As a result, St. Francis of Assisi abandoned his life of luxury and became a devotee of the Catholic faith. Today, St. Francis of Assisi, known for his deep love of nature and animals, is the patron saint of the environment and animals. Each October, many animals are blessed on his feast day.

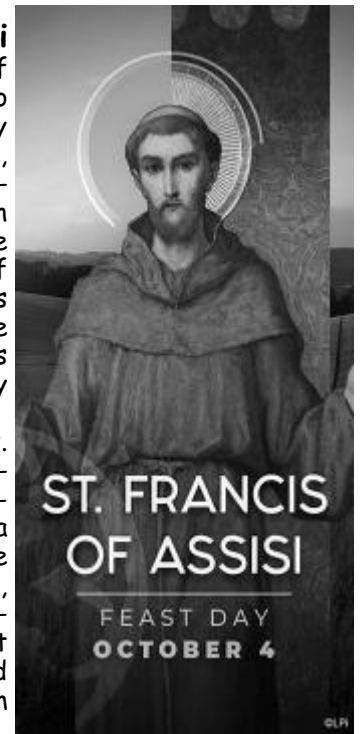
The Prayer of St. Francis

The prayer of St. Francis has many of the biblical truths of what it means to be a Christian - to seek to give, and in so doing, receive blessings; that the Lord's Prayer asks God to forgive us as we forgive, and that the goal of eternal life can only result from us putting to death our old sinful lives.

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;*

*O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to
be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus encourages married couples to throw away the marriage rule book. Rules are for those with "hardened hearts." Married couples are called to be a sacramental reflection of God's faithful and selfless love, a place where people live and love beyond rules and formulas.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

~ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ~

Saturday, October 16,
and Sunday, October 17
2021 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Kick off!



"SOCK IT TO US"

Help "sock it to us" and keep people in our community warm this winter.

Until October 31st, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Wayne County sponsored by Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan are holding their 29th annual sock collection. This effort is part of "A National Day of Service and Remembrance" Project and is meeting an important need in the community. Socks, while necessary, are rarely collected and distributed. Socks collected will be distributed to veterans and their families and human services agencies throughout Wayne County.

New socks of all sizes, colors, and patterns for men, women, and children are needed. Patterned and colorful socks for pre-school age children are particularly welcome. In 2019, 9,868 pairs of sock were collected by 22 different agencies and individuals and then distributed to 18 community organizations.

This year, St. Matthew Parish is joining the effort to continue to help keep people warm this winter in Michigan. It is the goal to collect more socks than ever before, maybe reaching a total of over 10,000 socks!

A special "laundry basket" will be placed at the St. Matthew statue for your donations. Please help in this most simple and easy way. If you desire, monetary donations are welcome to help purchase socks. **Please do not remove any labels on the socks.** These are needed for the sorting process.

Let St. Matthew parishioners make a difference by "socking it to us." With thanks from Catholic Charities of SE Michigan.

Capuchin Soup Kitchen TELETHON

Tuesday, October 5, 2021
6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tune in to WDIV (Ch. 4)

Telethon and virtual auction to support
the work of the Capuchins ~

Two soup kitchen sites
On the Rise Bakery
Earthworks Urban Farm Program
Jefferson House Program
Rose Parks Children's Program
Capuchin Services Center

Thank you for being a friend to those in need!

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."

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.

Therein lies the...rib - "If I were God..." is a dangerous way to start a sentence, but how many of us do this? Probably more regularly than we would like to admit. Even if we don't verbalize the sentiment, we likely think it from time to time. Most of us finish that statement with some genius, original idea for eradicating difficulty and pain from the world. *If I were God, I wouldn't let anyone go hungry. If I were God, all wealth would be equally distributed. If I were God, war wouldn't exist.*

I imagine that, when we think thoughts like these, God shakes His head and wonders why we don't look a little harder at the whole of His creation — because I can promise you, it's never lacking.

When Adam had a need for a companion, God used what was available: Adam's rib. Everything that He had put into place was already perfect, already complete. Woman was a new creation, but not a new species. Adam searched through all of creation to find the perfect mate, but God had tucked the answer inside of His creation all along.

I'm guilty of it as much as anyone else — looking to Heaven with a chip on my shoulder. "Why haven't you sent me what I need? I've been asking over and over again." But have I even thought to look inside of myself?

Where is the rib you are missing today? What are the opportunities God has set before you? What are the needs that He is ready to fulfill, if only you would stop wasting time lamenting all the solutions that don't fit the bill?

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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

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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.

Anthony Mastronardi
Stephanie Smith
Janet Law
Laura Alix
Jo Marie Nardi
Anthony Crimauco
Rosemary Schoolcraft
Tiffany Gelle
Robert Stark
Pauline Williams
Eloise Parker
Herb and Jeanne Damman
Doreen Redman
Sarah Wagner
Nenette Ferreria
Lolita Dorado
Albert Fajardo
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Aurora Guinto
Jesse Ocampo

Mary Spansky
Marie Kane
Mike Dulapa
Kathy Bush
Sue Allasio
Richard Goll
Tim Fitzgerald
Kristen Freiburger
Joanne Papineau
Elsa Camazzola
William Walker IV

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, October 9, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Dan McBride

Sunday, October 10, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Liz Foley-Dunstone

Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, October 2 - Vigil: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m. - William Walker IV

Sunday, October 3 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 a.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Church

Monday, October 4 - St. Francis of Assisi

Tuesday, October 5 - Blsd. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest
9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

**Wednesday, October 6 - St. Bruno, Priest; Blsd. Marie Rose
Durocher, Virgin**
9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

Thursday, October 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary

Friday, October 8 -
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Saturday, October 9 - Vigil: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m. - Raphael and Emma Marchi

Sunday, October 10 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 a.m. - The Rowe Family, Paul Coen, Jaclyn Scott, Dorothy
Ross, John Brunori



IN HIS IMAGE

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