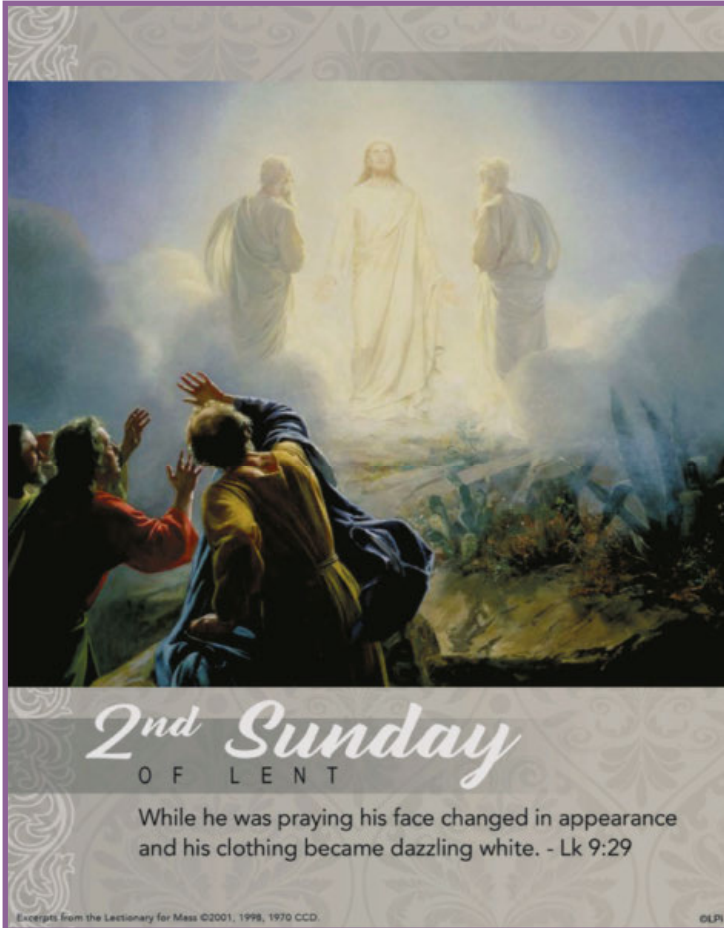




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

March 13, 2022

Detroit, Michigan



From Father Duane's Desk



I announced last week that Rick Cucchi, our Sunday Music Director and organist, was leaving us. He was here for five years and 10 months. I must say, I was saddened by his departure because I really liked his style of leading community liturgical singing, and I liked his voice. I certainly tried to talk Rick into staying; but due to distance of travel and commitments, he thought he could no longer be here. I'm sure we will miss him as the overwhelming applause of appreciation indicated last Sunday.

I immediately got to work; and because we were so close to Lent and Easter, I went into a panic thinking how would I find someone. But God was good to us (an answer to my prayer), I have been able to fill the position at least temporarily through to Easter and through the summer.

I am happy to introduce to you this week, Dr. Ron Prowse and his wife, Cathy, who will take on the music ministry through Lent, the Triduum, and Easter Sunday. Dr. Prowse and I are not strangers to each other. I worked with Ron at St. Joan of Arc when I was an associate pastor. He was marvelous to work with. Obviously, in the ensuing years he married Cathy; and I've had the good fortune to work with her for funerals and weddings throughout the diocese. She is certainly a talent in her own right. Dr. Prowse also was the organist at Sacred Heart Seminary and taught on their faculty and still is an adjunct professor at Sacred Heart.

I was so pleased that they accepted the position albeit temporarily. It will make for a beautiful and prayerful Lent and Easter.

Also, this week, I was able to secure the talents of one Rob Abbott who was formerly the organist at Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica. Although I don't personally know Rob, I have spoken to him on the phone, and he has accepted the position from the Sunday after Easter through the beginning of August. He comes highly recommended, and I'm looking forward to working with him.

He will also be playing an earlier Mass at St. Daniel's in Clarkston. So he will have a bit of a journey coming down here to St. Matthew. He will be coming in only 15 to 20 minutes before Mass starts. But I indicated to him that would be just fine especially during the summer, since we, ourselves, have the two-minute miracle every Sunday. (I'm worried about attendance at quarter to the hour, and then miraculously everyone appears as we begin!!).

So, I ask you please pray for our new musicians, sing loudly, it will make them feel good. Have a great Lent!

God bless all of you,
Father Duane



Readings for the Week of March 13, 2022

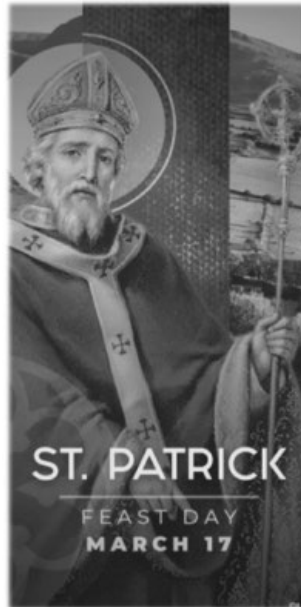
Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/
Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/
Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-
19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27
and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-
21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Next Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11
[8a]/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

2nd Sunday of Lent

There is so much wisdom in the first commandment. The daily demands of life, current political ideologies and dynamics, social expectations, corporate philosophies, and even technology can easily become lesser gods. We can find ourselves beholden to and held captive by these secular constructs and systems. Even for those who profess a faith in the one true God, these lesser, attractive but false gods are a temptation. Being overly preoccupied and even obsessed with the state of our present lives, we lose sight of our real destiny and purpose.

Jesus showed his disciples a glimpse of this destiny when he was transfigured before their eyes. In fact, Peter was so caught up in the brilliance, awe, and sacredness of these fleeting moments that he wanted to extend them as long as possible. Wonderful things happen when we leave our illusions and discover something that is true. This is why creating some sacred space in our lives for reflection, prayer, renewal, refreshment, centering ourselves, and disconnecting from the noise is so important. It shows us how false and shallow our lives can be and what is really of importance. Do you create some kind of sacred space in your life? Lent is a perfect time to do so.

St. Irenaeus, one of the early fathers and martyrs of the Catholic Church, said that, “he who was the Son of God became the Son of Man that man ... might become the son of God.” We mistakenly believe that life is all about us. It’s not. Ours is a journey of transformation in which we become more and more one with the mind of Christ and Christ himself. St. Augustine saw this same transformation occurring when the Eucharist is received. In receiving the Eucharist, we become what we eat, the Body of Christ. Honestly acknowledging false gods that we cling to can open the door for God to show us the wholeness and holiness to which we are called. Take time to discover the sacred. When we do, we will want to stay there for a while. Then, when we return to our personal affairs, we will see more clearly.



St. Patrick was born in either Great Britain or Gaul (present day Northern France, the sources do not agree) at a time when the Roman Empire was losing its grip on Western Europe. Patrick was raised if not in luxury, living in the benefits of an important Roman family.

So when at the age of 16, he was captured by pirates from Ireland and sold into slavery, it had to be a great shock. He lived in captivity for six years, learning the Celtic language and having time to pray as he guarded his cruel master’s sheep throughout the night. The time for prayer led him to make a deep commitment to Christianity.

After six years he escaped, managed to walk 200 miles to a seaport, and convince a local ship master to give him passage back home. But for Patrick home was no longer in the circle of his family. He felt an irresistible call to return to Ireland as a bishop and missionary.

Patrick returned to Ireland about 432, and for the next 30 years or so preached especially to the pagans bringing them the message of Jesus Christ saving all from their sins. Tradition tells the stories of many miracles, much suffering on the part of Patrick as he was imprisoned at least 12 times by his enemies. One time he was bound in heavy chains marked for death. His continual suffering was so great that some of the ancient lists of martyrs include his name. As bishop, Patrick not only preached and baptized but also organized the churches in Ireland, taught against heresies as they showed themselves, and left members of his missionary band behind to continue the organization.

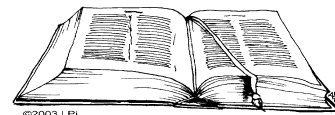
St. Patrick is one of the most popular saints in Western Christianity. He is the Patron Saint of Ireland and is said to have banished the snakes from Ireland. St. Patrick is most often seen in the miter and vestments of a bishop carrying a bishop’s crozier and a shamrock. Legend says he used the shamrock as a teaching aid when preaching on the Trinity.

While his feast day on March 17 is celebrated with singing, parades, and dancing, it is important to remember St. Patrick is a saint who knew all the trials of life on a painful journey. He is a saint who understands our trials as we walk with Jesus and one another, and is a willing intercessor on our behalf. Patrick was a humble, pious, gentle man, whose love and total devotion to and trust in God should be a shining example to each of us. So complete was his trust in God, and of the importance of his mission, he feared nothing -not even death.

The Breastplate

*Christ be within me, Christ behind me,
Christ before me, Christ beside me,
Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ inquired, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

St. Patrick, Bishop



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Jesus “went up the mountain to pray,” and he was “changed.” Prayer has the power to change us. This Lent set aside a few minutes each day to pray for members of your family. Pray before each meal; and if you are married, spend five minutes in prayer together.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Next Weekend, March 12 and 13
Daylight Saving Time Begins

Tuesday, March 15, 6:30 pm - Fund-
raising Committee Meeting, Church Auditor-
ium

Our Lenten Journey A Story of Hope from Guatemala

It's 5 a.m. in the village of Xequemeyá, Guatemala, but Raúl and Lilian Chanchavac are already starting their day. First, they thank God for all he has given them—their two sons, a field full of plants and a successful business. They certainly have a lot to be thankful for. It all started with a dream to flourish and to help others do the same.

"All things are achieved when one sets out to do so," Raúl says. In their village, malnutrition is high, which is especially dangerous for children. The community also struggles with water scarcity, poor education, poverty and a changing climate. But Raúl and Lilian believe all this can be overcome.

They started working toward change by growing tomatoes. They dedicated long hours in their field, but plant diseases and other problems destroyed their crops. They felt defeated and humiliated, Raúl says. But they pushed onward.

Then Lilian heard about Catholic Relief Services' SEGAMIL program and how they could receive agriculture training and nutrition education for their children. Raúl and Lilian learned to manage and care for their crops. From there, they began growing for their business—adding onions, chili peppers and oranges to their crops. Produce was plentiful, but they continued to struggle—this time with selling it at markets.

Still determined, they entered CRS' Nuestra Cosecha program that helped them register with the government to begin selling their produce to 16 local schools. Soon, they hired family and community members to harvest and pack the food. Today, they are proud to be able to help others in their community—especially children.

"It helps them be stronger and to learn better ... and to avoid malnutrition in our village," Lilian says.

Today, Lilian and Raul are looking forward to the future. Together with Lilian, Raul says, "Now that I am living a dream, other dreams come. Now, my dream is to expand the business ... so other people can benefit too."

Reflection: We all need food to nourish us and keep us healthy. Without food, we find it hard to concentrate, study, do our work or even play. Jesus often shared meals with friends and even strangers, and he teaches us to be generous in sharing what we have to eat with others.



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CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



We thank you for your generous support of CSA through St. Matthew Parish. You have truly supported our efforts to remain a beacon of light and sign of hope to many in our eastside neighborhood.

There are only a few weeks left before the close of the 2021 CSA campaign. The 2022 CSA will begin the first of May. However, if you are interested in helping to Fuel the Mission by supporting the 2021 CSA, please consider making a gift today. Contact the rectory office for further information or go to the archdiocesan website at aod.org.

Relief Help for the People of Ukraine

If you are interested in helping the people of Ukraine as they experience the hardships of war and the displacement of their people, you are invited to send a check to the Archdiocese clearly marked **Relief for Ukraine**, 12 State Street, Detroit 48226. Or you can donate on line at: www.aod.org/collectionforukraine.

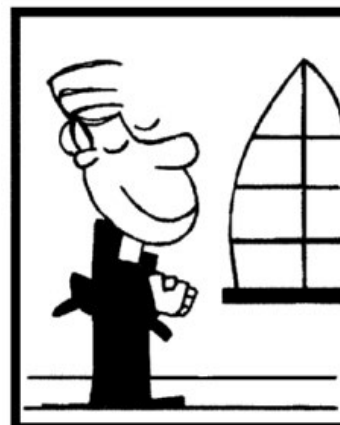
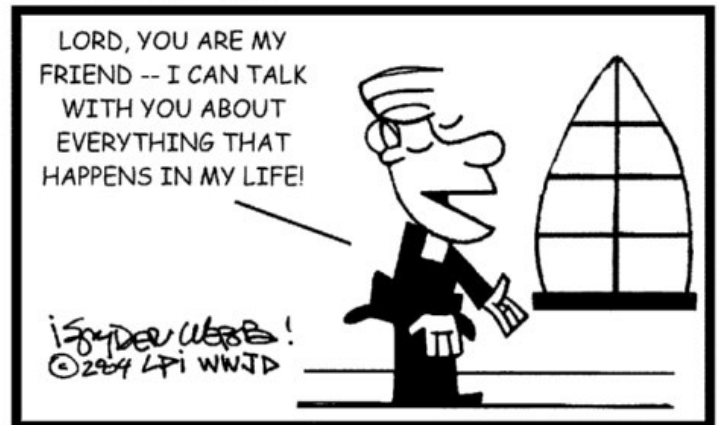
*Loving God, We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.*

*We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom
to guide their choices.*

*We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.*

*May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world. Amen.*

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Dr. Ron Prowse and Cathy Prowse ~ *Music Ministers*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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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
Sarah Wagner
Lolita Dorado
Albert Fajardo
Eduardo Fajardo
Aurora Guinto
Jesse Ocampo
Mary Spansky
Mike Dulapa

Kathy Bush
Richard Goll
Kristen Freiburger
Joanne Papineau
Elsa Camazzola
William Walker IV
Nancy Clemons
Cathy D'Agostini
Madeline Jozwiak
Marc McEachern

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

Saturday, March 19, 2022, 4:30 p.m.
Bruce Campbell

Sunday, March 20, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Liz Smith

SERVERS

Bruce Campbell

Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, March 12 - Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Lent
4:30 p.m. - Tim Fitzgerald

Sunday, March 13 - 2nd Sunday of Lent
10:00 a.m. - Bruno Bush, Tim Fitzgerald, Laura Coronel, Clara Marquel, Rustico Puledo, Betty Wilk (96th Birthday)

Monday, March 14 -

Tuesday, March 15 -
9:00 a.m. - For Peace among all Nations

Wednesday, March 16 -
9:00 a.m. - For Refugee and Migrant Families

Thursday, March 17 - St. Patrick, Bishop

Friday, March 18 - St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Saturday, March 19 - Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent (St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, March 20 - 3rd Sunday of Lent
10:00 a.m. - Faustina (Nenette) Ferreria, Aracelli and Gertrude Ferreria, Marcella Adams, Tim Fitzgerald



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