



# *Saint Matthew Church* **The PULSE**

**March 20, 2022**

**Detroit, Michigan**



## *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday* O F L E N T

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down.’” - Lk 13:7a

## Readings for the Week of March 20, 2022

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  
Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30  
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25: 4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/ Mt 18:21-35  
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/ Mt 5:17-19  
Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23  
Friday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/ Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38  
Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14  
Next Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [9a]/ 2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

### 3rd Sunday of Lent

Deserts can be lonely, isolated, and treacherous places. When a person wanders in a desert, they can easily get disoriented, dehydrated, confused, lost, and vulnerable. Temptation is at its peak, especially when confronted with something that may offer some respite or relief, even a mirage. Deserts can bring us to our weakest moment and tempt our faith. The Christian journey can be described as a desert experience as we vacillate back and forth, falling victim to the mirages of our lives versus the true, life-giving water offered by God. We need a burning bush experience in our lives that convinces us of the power of God and reveals Him as the “I am” of all existence.

Moses was leading his flock across the desert when he found himself at Mount Horeb. Mountains give us a fuller perspective of life, a panoramic view of what would otherwise be hidden from the limitations of our sight. That’s when Moses met God. We have to find our way to a mountain experience where our vantage point can take on a wider view of life. Many things can do this for us: the birth of a child, the death of someone we love, the joy that comes from marveling at the beauty of God’s work, the pondering of life’s mysteries, and the ache of longing found deep within our souls. There are many things in life that can wake us up, give us a clearer, better view of things and become occasions where a bush may burn and God’s presence as the eternal uncreated One is revealed.

God is very patient and gives us the time and space we need to figure things out and bear some good fruit. He doesn’t rush to cut us down or get frustrated with our barrenness. But we have to remember that the desert journeys of our lives come with some risks. The major risk is that we will mistakenly believe that the mirages are real. Thus, we fall victim to thinking that the respite and refreshment we seek is discovered in a place other than where it actually is. Our faith and the life of the Church are the safeguards we need to keep us properly orientated so that we don’t get lost or confused and stay on course.

## Our Lenten Journey ~ Overcoming Disaster

Monpura, Bangladesh, is a beautiful island surrounded by the Meghna River. To the south, beach views stretch into the Bay of Bengal. To the west are forests and gardens where wild deer roam. But in some areas, natural disasters like cyclones damage the landscape in the summer and autumn months. Houses are lost, farmlands flood, and roads and dikes break. Residents like Noornobi, who lives on Monpura with his family of 11, are always looking for new ways to protect their homes.

Noornobi says his family was poor when they lived in a small hut with a tin roof and hay walls. Their land would flood often, making it difficult to grow vegetables year-round. Noornobi found day labor catching hilsa fish in the river, but some days work was limited. This made it difficult for his family to eat well.

When Noornobi joined Catholic Relief Services’ Mutki Project, he learned how to prevent his land from flooding, farm using chemical-free and organic fertilizers and raise chickens and ducks to sell. Now, with the help of his father and nephew Abdul, Noornobi farms more than half of his land and grows a variety of vegetables—including tomatoes, chilies, eggplant and lal shak, which is like a red spinach. He sells the vegetables at market.

“We have been improving because of vegetable farming ... we slowly began to make a profit,” Noornobi says. With that profit, the family bought a larger tin house. Noornobi also helped his brothers open a shop to support their family and pay for private schooling for Abdul, who wants to be an engineer, and his sister Nihar, who dreams of being a schoolteacher. “If I can build a nice family ... I will be grateful,” Noornobi says. And for his community, he hopes everyone can “have a full stomach by working hard in the field.”

*Reflection: God created our world, and it is our responsibility to take care of it. Why is caring for creation so important, and what is the impact—locally and globally—when we don’t care for it?*

### THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

This great festival takes its name from the happy tidings brought by the angel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary, concerning the incarnation of the Son of God. It commemorates the most important



ambassador that was ever known: an ambassador sent by the King of kings, performed by one of the chief princes of his heavenly court; directed, not to the kings or emperors of the earth, but to a poor, unknown, retired virgin, who, being endowed with the most angelic purity of soul and body, being perfectly humble and devoted to God, was greater in his eyes than all the universal monarchs. God, who is almighty, can do all things by himself, without making use of the concurrence of creatures. Nevertheless, in his exterior works, he most frequently uses their co-operation. If he reveals his will and speaks to men, it is by the intervention of his prophets, and these he often enlightens by the ministry of angels.

When the Son of God became man, he could have taken upon himself our nature without the co-operation of any creature but was pleased to be born of a woman. The design of this message of the archangel is as extraordinary as the persons concerned in it. It is to give a Savior to the world, a victim of appeasement to the sinner, a model to the just, a son to this Virgin, remaining still a virgin, and a new nature to the Son of God, the nature of man, capable of suffering pain and anguish in order to satisfy God’s justice for our transgressions. And the Son of God took a human body formed of her substance, the Holy Ghost, who, by a power all-divine, was to her in place of a spouse, not only to render her body capable of giving life to a Man-God, but enriched her soul with a fulness of grace, that there might be proportion between the cause and the effect, And she, Mary, was qualified to co-operate fully in this mystery of sanctity.



## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

**Saturday, March 26, and Sunday, March 27, 4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively - Catholic Relief Services Collection (not Rice Bowl)**

### Stoking the Lenten Fire

We all can acknowledge that there's a certain fatigue that comes over us as we near the end of the Lenten season. Next week is Laetare Sunday, and as soon as those pink vestments start coming out of storage, our collective motivation begins to wane.

We understand that. Maybe we are fatigued. Maybe we are doing well in our resolutions and devotions, but we feel we are in danger of coasting. Or maybe, like in past years, we just don't feel that we have even really begun our Lenten journey.

Either way, chances are that the fire that was in our bellies on Ash Wednesday are burning a bit low. All fires eventually do, once they consume whatever fuels them. So here we would do well to remember what fuels our Lenten fire.

Sometimes we make resolutions that have the appearance of being spiritual, but also have an earthly motive. We give up chocolate hoping to lose weight. We stop gossiping so our friends may like us more. There is nothing wrong with these sacrifices — just with their motivations.

As Moses removes his sandals to approach the burning bush, he sees that the fire burns brightly, strongly — but does not consume. It is propelled by something inexhaustible, something which is not of this world.

Is our Lenten fire fueled by God? Are we daily surrendering ourselves to the same voice that boomed from the bush in Genesis — the voice that commanded the Israelites to do what seemed like the impossible?



### Catholic Relief Services Support Relief Efforts in Ukraine and Neighboring Countries

As the war in Ukraine continues, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is supporting Caritas Ukraine (of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church) and Caritas Spes (of the Romanian Catholic Church) to provide safe shelter, hot meals, hygiene supplies, transport to safe areas, counseling support, and more for displaced persons. In addition CRS is also assisting Catholic dioceses and Catholic relief organizations in Moldova, Poland, and Romania as these countries receive an influx of refugees from Ukraine. If you want to learn more about the CRS' work in Ukraine or to donate to these relief efforts, visit [crs.org](http://crs.org).

Or 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](http://www.aod.org/collectionforukraine).

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ

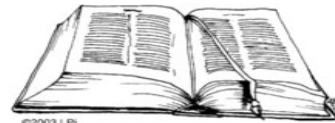


We witness to Christ when we do good toward others - In their pastoral letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, the U.S. bishops remind us that, as faithful disciples, we are obligated to witness Christ by blessing others in mercy and love: Disciples give thanks to God for gifts received and strive 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.

Thank you for your generous support of CSA through St. Matthew Parish. There are only a few weeks left for the 2021 CSA campaign. If you are interested in participating in the 2021 campaign, please contact the rectory for further information or go to [aod.org](http://aod.org) for more information.



### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

The owner of the fig tree was impatient because the tree did not live up to his expectations. In families there are those who don't live up to our expectations. Imitate the gardener and give them more time and help. Don't cut them out of your life. Love asks us to be connective, not productive.

### Fridays during Lent ~ St. Paul on the Lake 157 Lake Shore, Grosse Pointe Farms

Bring your family and friends for:

A simple supper from 5:30 to 6:45 pm in the cafeteria.

A free will offering will be accepted.

Stations of the Cross from 7:00 to 7:30 pm in the Church with reflections by Seminarian Charlie Giroux, 7:30 to 8:00 pm in the Church on Lenten practices and how they help us live the virtues, from the "The Art of Living" by Edward Sri.

Questions? Contact Anne Graves at 313-885-8855 or [agraves@stpaulonthelake.org](mailto:agraves@stpaulonthelake.org).

### St. Basil the Great Parish

St., Patrick / St. Joseph Celebration Dinner

**Today, March 20, 2 pm to 5 pm in the social hall  
22860 Schroeder, Eastpointe**

\$20 per person at the door, children 5 and under \$5  
Basket Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle with drawings throughout the dinner.

Menu: Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Sauerkraut, Kielbasa, Cucumber Salad, Coffee and Tea  
Desserts will be available.

## 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*

Ron Prowse ~ *Weekend 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, 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.*

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

## SERVERS

Saturday, March 26, 2022, 4:30 p.m.  
Dan McBride  
Bruce Campbell

Sunday, March 27, 2022, 10:00 a.m.  
Bryan Jones  
Lauren Gross  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, March 19 - Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent (St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary)**  
4:30 p.m. - Herb and Jeanne Damman, Julie Smith

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

**Monday, March 21 -**

**Tuesday, March 22 -**  
9:00 a.m. - For the End to the War in Ukraine

**Wednesday, March 23 - St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop**  
9:00 a.m. - For Migrant and Refugee Families

**Thursday, March 24 -**

**Friday, March 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord**  
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Saturday, March 26 - Vigil: 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)**  
4:30 p.m. - Tim Fitzgerald

**Sunday, March 27 - 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)**  
10:00 a.m. - Elizabeth "Rue" DeWaeltsche, Marcella Adams, For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life



# WE'RE HIRING

## AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community



Contact us at [careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com)  
[www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



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](http://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

7 Days A Week 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM

~ Available with Door Dash/Grub Hub ~

LET US  
PLACE  
YOUR AD  
HERE.



LICENSED & INSURED  
MASTER PLUMBER

[WaterWorkPlumbing.com](http://WaterWorkPlumbing.com)

**24 Hour  
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.elitedrivingschools.com](http://www.elitedrivingschools.com)

GROW YOUR  
BUSINESS  
BY PLACING  
AN AD HERE!

Contact Richard Brogna  
to place an ad today!  
[rbrogna@4LPI.com](mailto:rbrogna@4LPI.com)  
or (848) 225-5120

**CONTACT US!**



# We've Missed You!

Welcome Back to Mass



Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are  
by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

[www.ParishesOnline.com](http://www.ParishesOnline.com)

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.

**LPI** Buy a bulletin ad space today!



## ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection  
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



Authorized Provider

SafeStreets

**1-855-225-4251**



4-D-5-4

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

14-0308