



Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

August 28, 2022

Detroit, Michigan



22nd Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

“Do not recline at table in the place of honor.
A more distinguished guest than you may
have been invited.” - Lk 14:8bc

Readings for the Week of August 28, 2022

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/
Mk 6:17-29
Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab,
13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/
Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/
Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/
Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

People who are concerned with their own advancement and agenda have little room for anyone else. With an almost addictive pursuit of esteem and acknowledgment from others, they become little more than entitled embodiments of the vice of pride. Public humiliation or embarrassment can hit them hard. While avoiding humiliation and embarrassment may be advantageous to obtaining worldly success, they are much less desirable motivations for entering the Kingdom of God. Avoiding embarrassment is a self-serving motivation. Pride and all of its manifestations have no place on God's agenda, neither do worldly success and fulfillment. In fact, we have been clearly told that if we love our lives, we will lose them. Therefore, if you really want to find your true station in life, learn to give yourself away.

While this may sound foolish to secular ears, it actually makes perfect sense. God, who is love, makes each of us in His image. Love, and therefore God, is in our DNA. That being the case, love is never love if it is kept to oneself or hoarded. Love needs to be shared and given away. Therefore, it is the only proper motivation for entering the Kingdom of God. The door to happiness is only opened when we realize that all we are and all we have is due only to God's grace. Without God we are nothing.

Love is the remedy for pride and protects us from ourselves. God asks us to be humble. Only when we are free from the traps of pride and arrogance that we can begin to follow the path to true humility. Only one who is humble can rightly love and be of service to God. "God makes use only of the humble as his instruments (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)." The humble one does not need others to give them worth and value. Their self-esteem comes from the much more secure foundation of God. Only those who are entirely free can give themselves freely to others. Love must always be our motivation for doing all things. Be content that God has invited you to the banquet of life. Concern yourself with accepting the invitation, and don't worry about where you will sit.

THE PASSION OF

St. John the Baptist

**A desert-dwelling, locust-eating, weed-wearing,
celibate ascetic dies for marriage!**

St. John Vianney was so opposed to the dances held routinely in his small town of Ars that he dedicated a small chapel in his parish church to St. John the Baptist. At its entrance was painted, perhaps somewhat tongue in cheek, a warning of the evil effects produced by lust and drink: "His head was the price of a dance."

St. John the Baptist's head was, indeed, the wage rendered by an older man for the satisfaction of watching a young girl dance at his birthday party. However, John's beheading was not caused by a suggestive dance. He paid with his head for poking the bear. John denounced King Herod Antipas, to his face, for divorcing his lawful wife and taking as his own Herodias, his sister-in-law, the wife of his still living half-brother Philip. John the Baptist died a martyr for marriage.

Herod Antipas was a tetrarch—one of four rulers who co-governed ancient Palestine as client kings under the oversight of a Roman governor. Herod Antipas learned cruelty at home on his father's knee. His father, Herod the Great, had two of his own sons strangled to death, murdered his favorite wife, and ordered the slaughter of all the male babies of Bethlehem. Herod Antipas' imprisonment and execution of John was more aggressive than his restrained interaction, a few years later, with John's cousin.

Jesus had called Herod a "fox" when some pharisees told Jesus that Herod was plotting His death. Pontius Pilate later sent Jesus to Herod for interrogation after Pilate determined that the Jew's complaints about Jesus fell more under Herod's jurisdiction than Pilate's own. At this strange audience in Jerusalem between Herod and Jesus, Herod wanted Jesus to perform a miracle for him, as if Jesus were a mere magician who pulled rabbits out of hats. But Jesus said not a word to the man who killed His beloved cousin. Jesus, after all, did not come to provide bread and circuses to the curious. He performed miracles to elicit and to reward faith. So the fox sent Jesus back to Pilate for what we know happened next.

Herod is to John the Baptist what Pilate is to Jesus. Neither Herod's nor Pilate's first choice was to order an execution. But cowardice and fear coalesced until commanding the death of an innocent man was more expedient than braving the ridicule and threats of subordinates. According to St. Mark, "Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man...When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him" (Mk 6: 20). "[Herod] was deeply grieved" (Mk 6: 26) that he had to order John's death. But he didn't actually have to order John's death. If he were truly grieved, he could have stood up in the midst of the happy crowd, said "I made a stupid promise which I now regret," and granted Salome (her name is not found in the Bible) some other handsome gift instead of a blood-splattered plate. Herod beheaded a man to save face, to avoid embarrassment, and to avoid having to say "I made a mistake."

The Passion, or Beheading, of St. John the Baptist is one of the very oldest liturgical feasts on the Church's calendar. John's birth may be the oldest feast. Along with the feasts of Holy Week, the original event of John's death is right there on the surface of Holy Scripture, and so likely was commemorated as soon as the Church started commemorating anything. John the Baptist's colorful life on the edge of respectability came to an abrupt end due to the weakness of a weak man, Herod, and due to the revenge sought by the troubled conscience of Herodias, who despised John for mentioning the obvious. St. Jerome writes that Herodias's rage was not satiated by the grisly head of her tormentor on a platter, but that she rabidly stabbed the tongue which had indicted her even after it was silenced.

Saint John the Baptist, your penitential life ended abruptly
when you spoke the truth to power.
You did not flinch, vacillate, or equivocate.
You were imprisoned and then killed for defending the dignity
of marriage. Help us to be as courageous and plainspoken as you.



St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Sunday, August 21, through Sunday, August 28 - St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Matthew Conference, School Supplies Appeal

Monday, September 5, Labor Day
Rectory Office Closed
No Mass on Labor Day

~ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ~
Saturday, October 15,
and Sunday, October 16,
2022 Gold'n Harvest
50/50 Raffle Kick off!

St. Vincent De Paul School Supplies Drive

Schools are opening up again this year as scheduled, and our conference of St. Vincent de Paul is asking for your help this year with donations of school supplies for elementary and middle-school age students. Any items you can purchase that would include backpacks, calculators, Trapper keepers, 3-ring binders, 2-pocket folders, spiral notebooks, age appropriate scissors, rulers, crayons, construction paper, glue sticks, pens, highlighters, markers, erasers, and age appropriate books would be greatly appreciated.

Many of our SVdP families have school age children and simply can't afford to buy these items themselves so they turn to us for help.

Please place your donations in front of the St. Matthew statue this weekend of **August 27th and August 28th**. Or you are welcome to **drop off your donations at the rectory during regular office hours** until the day the volunteers gather to sort the supplies for distribution to deserving families on Sunday, September 4th.

Thank you again and again for all you do each and every time we ask ... Please know that many families and many children were assisted by your generous donations in the past.

Mass with a Musical Setting that Honors the Culture of Jazz in Detroit

Sunday, September 4, 2022, 2:00 p.m.
St. Moses the Black Catholic Church
1125 Oakman Blvd., Detroit 48238

Come be inspired by Gospel and Jazz music forms that both draw upon the heart and spirit of the people. Learn about Gospel and Jazz blended into one genre form called "Gospel Jazz". To be performed during Mass on September 4th to glorify the Lord. Featuring legendary Detroit jazz artists Alvin Waddles, Dorothy Duensing, Nate Winn, Jonathan Muir Cotton, Deblon Jackson and the William S. Harrison Chorale.

Presider: Fr. Marko Djonovic
Homilist: Fr. John McKenzie



CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



The mission of the Church is to proclaim and establish the Kingdom of God on earth. Advancing this mission requires our clergy, religious, and lay faithful to unite in our common goal of pursuing the pastoral priorities of the Church. For over 30 years, the Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) of the Archdiocese of Detroit has been a particularly successful way we have come together to advance our mission.

Together, as Christian stewards, we live out the Gospel mission of our Church through our support of the CSA. The ministries, programs and services funded by our annual appeal reach every soul in our six-county Archdiocese, strengthening urban and rural faith communities alike. No one individual or parish could possibly accomplish all these good works themselves. Truly, the CSA transforms our diverse family of believers into, in the words of Pope Francis, a "band of joyful missionary disciples."

We are grateful to our pastors, who lead this effort in their parishes, and to our parish and archdiocesan staff and lay volunteers who do the hard work of annually conducting the CSA. We are particularly grateful to our many faithful stewards who so generously give their treasure to the CSA, benefiting all their brothers and sisters in Christ throughout south-east Michigan.

If you have not as yet pledged or given to the 2022 CSA, please prayerfully consider your contribution. There is still time, and your parish of St. Matthew's will be eternally grateful!



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Family life well lived confirms the words of Jesus in today's Gospel, "Those who humble themselves will be exalted." Commitment, intimacy, loyalty, and love are the rewards of humble service and care for one another.

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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*

David Troiano ~ *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
Pauline Williams
Herb Damman
Sarah Wagner
Albert Fajardo
Aurora Guinto
Jesse Ocampo
Mary Spansky
Mike Dulapa
Kathy Bush
Kristen Freiburger
Joanne Papineau
Elsa Camazzola

William Walker IV
Nancy Clemons
Madeline Jozwiak
Robert Rabe
Lynn Simoncini
Joan Nardi

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
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

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 - 10:00 PM

~ Available with Door Dash/Grub Hub ~

LET US
PLACE
YOUR AD
HERE.



LICENSED & INSURED
MASTER PLUMBER

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.elitedrivingschoolscs.com

GROW YOUR
BUSINESS
BY PLACING
AN AD HERE!

Contact Richard Brogna
to place an ad today!
rbrogna@4LPi.com
or (848) 225-5120

CONTACT US!



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.

LPI Buy a bulletin ad space today!

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase an ad with

**AD
CREATOR
STUDIO**



4lpi.com/adcreator



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

14-0308