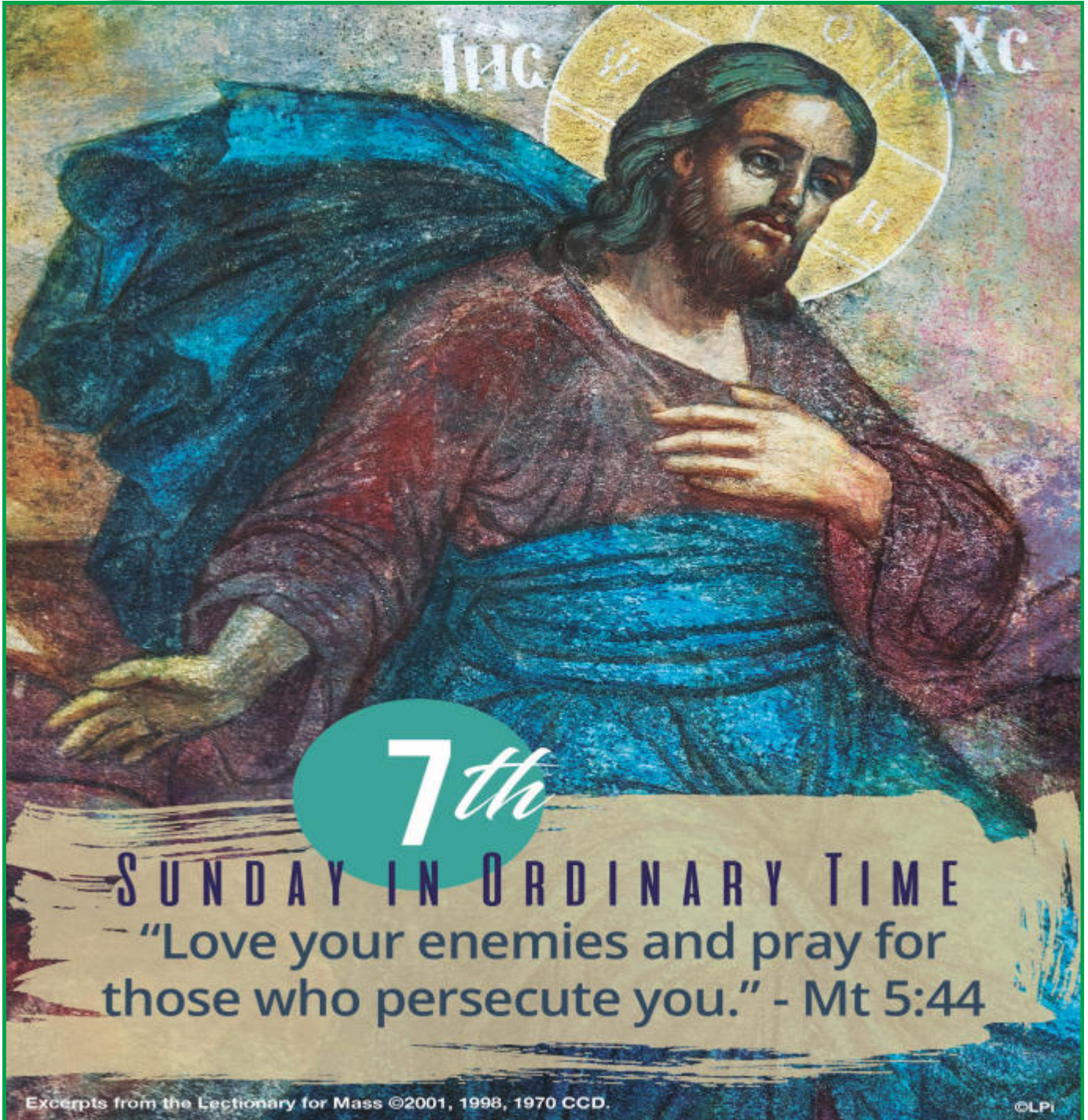




# *Saint Matthew Church* **The PULSE**

February 23, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



**7<sup>th</sup>**

**SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
— "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

**ASHES DISTRIBUTED AT THE  
9:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M. MASSES**

**Readings for the Week of February 23, 2020**

Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48  
 Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [9a]/Mk 9:14-29  
 Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23 [23a]/Mk 9:30-37  
 Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
 Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 9:22-25  
 Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/Mt 9:14-15  
 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/Lk 5:27 -32  
 Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 [cf. 3a]/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

**~ Black History Month ~  
We Celebrate**



On June 12, 2019, Fr. Augustus Tolton advanced along the path to sainthood making the runaway slave-turned-priest one step closer to being the first black American saint.

Pope Francis recognized the heroic virtue of Fr. Tolton making him “venerable” within the Church, only two steps away from canonization. With the decree, Catholics are now authorized to pray directly to Fr. Tolton as an intercessor before God.

Venerable John Augustus Tolton was born into slavery in Monroe County, Missouri in 1854. He escaped slavery with his family during the Civil War by crossing the Mississippi River into Illinois. “John, boy, you’re free. Never forget the goodness of the Lord,” Tolton’s mother reportedly told him after the crossing.

The young Tolton entered St. Peter’s Catholic School in Quincy, Illinois with the help of the school’s pastor, Fr. Peter McGirr. The priest went on to baptize Tolton, instruct him for his first Holy Communion, and recognize his vocation to the priesthood.

At that time, no American seminary would accept Tolton because of his race, so he studied for the priesthood in Rome. However, when Father Tolton returned to the U.S. after his ordination in 1889, thousands of people lined the streets to greet him. A brass band played hymns and Negro Spirituals, and black and white people processed together into the local church.

Father Tolton was the first African American to be ordained a priest. He served for three years at a parish in Quincy, before moving to Chicago to start a parish for black Catholics, St. Monica’s, where he remained until his death in 1897.

After two miracles through his particular intercession are verified by the Vatican, Father Tolton can be declared a saint of the Catholic Church and celebrated for his sanctity.

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**7th Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**

The Gospels continue to challenge us to the core. This is especially true in the way our social relationships have developed. Feeling safe and secure in the world are

not things that come easily these days. Actually, we may find ourselves feeling more reservation, caution, reluctance, and fear than ever before. In a moment’s notice, life can drastically change. When someone has been intentionally and violently hurt, especially someone we love, we can all too easily find ourselves very attracted to the Old Testament philosophy of “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.”

Intellectually, we know this is not what Jesus wants us to do. But on some level it just seems to make practical or even political sense. After all, why should we allow someone to get away with a heinously violent act? Yet, Jesus cannot be any clearer than he is with this! Offer no resistance to one who is evil. Turn the other cheek as well. When pressed into service, go two miles. Do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Love your enemies. Now, take a moment to reflect on all of this. Consider a horrible act of violence committed against someone you love. Listen. Think. Be honest. Can you do as Jesus directs?

We want to be holy. But we are more comfortable with a definition of holiness that can keep us saying our prayers and on our knees in church. We are not comfortable with a definition of holiness that has something to say about to how we react to and negotiate life. We like to keep a sharp and strong line between the secular and the sacred. In fact, we would prefer that the doors between them be kept closed. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. If God sees this one way and we see it another, then where does this leave us on our journey to God?

Our minds like the practical, worldly, and secular answers to things. They are more black and white and at first glance appear to make more sense. Holiness wells up from our souls and is beyond reason. It cannot be explained. It is something we just simply know comes as a result of deep prayer. The truly contemplative eye knows inwardly that what Jesus asks is true and then willingly does it. It may not be easy.

**A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar**

Giving the shirt off your back, turning the other cheek or walking / driving the extra mile is normal stuff in families. We do that for one another. Today’s Gospel reminds us all people, even those we don’t like, are our brothers and sisters. Our family should prepare us to be FAMILY to others.

**Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence**

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

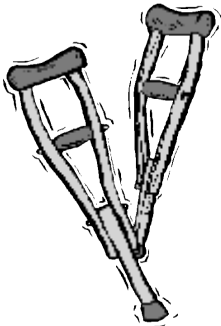
Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

**Ash Wednesday, February 26, 9 am and 7 pm Masses - Distribution of Ashes**

**Saturday, February 29, and Sunday, March 1, 4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively - Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe**



**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR FATHER DUANE AS HE RECOVERS FROM RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY ON HIS ANKLE.**

**PROGRESS IS SLOW BUT STEADY, AND THE RETURN TO HIS FULL ACTIVE MINISTRY WILL TAKE SEVERAL MORE WEEKS.**

**LORD JESUS,  
HEAR OUR PRAYER!**

### The Church in Central and Eastern Europe

Belarus is situated between Russia, Ukraine, Poland, and the Baltic states of Lithuania and Latvia. One of the first republics to be incorporated into the Soviet Union, Belarus suffered under communism for over 70 years. Although Belarus declared independence in 1991, the work to restore the Church continues even now, decades after the fall of the Iron Curtain.

In Baranovichi, Belarus, the parish of Divine Mercy and Our Lady of the Gate of Dawn was created in November 2013, by Bishop Antoni Dziemianko of the Pinsk diocese to meet the growing need of the faithful in the region. This residential region of the city, built in the Soviet era, has no churches. However, as the town of Baranovichi grows, the Catholic community grows—and with it grow spiritual and social needs that include a parish church building in which to worship and a place to meet as a community for religious education and other pastoral programs. Now that the diocese has secured land, the parish needs help to construct a church and pastoral center, which includes facilities for children's catechesis, youth meetings, pastoral care for families, and social gatherings for the community.

Through local efforts, plus supplementary funding from the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, this dream of building a parish home for the Catholics of Baranovichi, Belarus, is becoming a reality.

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 20 countries such as Belarus. Funds support the pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Please be generous in this collection. Envelopes are in the pews for your convenience.

### **St. Matthew Presents BROADWAY**

**“and all that Jazz” (Nite!)  
April 25, 2020, 6:30 to 11 pm  
Assumption Greek Orthodox  
Banquet Center  
Drinks ~ Dinner ~ Dancing  
Featuring: Heart ‘n Soul  
Tickets on Sale Soon!  
Sponsorships Available!**

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



**Principal Formation Institute (Catholic Schools)** - Well-formed, qualified leaders are necessary to continue the good work happening in our Catholic Schools. To better equip future principals, the Department of Catholic Schools is offering its second Principal Formation Institute. Over six sessions, educators interested in Catholic School leadership in the Archdiocese of Detroit will learn about personal discernment, formation, and the development of administrative skills. The goal of the program is to build, nurture, and support qualified principal candidates.

The archdiocesan Department of Catholic Schools offers resources for teachers and principals, parents and students, and alumni. To learn more about Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, or to find a Catholic school, visit the department's website at [detroitcatholicschools.org](http://detroitcatholicschools.org).

### **Lenten Prayer for Transformation**

*Loving Father,  
I invite you into my life today  
and make myself available to you.  
Help me to become the-best-version-of-myself  
by seeking your will and becoming a living example  
of your love in the world.*

*Open my heart to the areas of my life that need to change  
in order for me to carry out the mission  
and experience the joy you have imagined for my life.  
Inspire me to live the Catholic faith  
in ways that are dynamic and engaging.*

*Show me how to best get involved in the life of my parish.  
Make our community hungry for best practices  
and continuous learning.  
Give me courage when I am afraid,  
hope when I am discouraged,  
and clarity in times of decision.*

*Teach me to enjoy uncertainty and lead your Church  
to become all you imagined it would be  
for the people of our times. Amen.*

### ASH WEDNESDAY



## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

6021 Whittier, Detroit 48224-2637  
Rectory Office: (313) 884-4470  
Rectory Fax: (313) 884-4276  
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Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*  
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday 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-Godoshian,  
Bryan Jones, David Smydra ~ *Members at Large*  
Sharon & Jerry Mielke ~ *VPC Representatives*

### 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.*

Chuck Schuster	Michelle Harter
Lolita Dorado	Jo Marie Nardi
Albert Fajardo	David Beaupre
Virginia Fajardo	Kenneth Beaupre
Madeline O'Neill	Anthony Crimauo
Kurt Beghuyn	Rosemary Schoolcraft
Sebastiano Stellino	Tiffany Gelle
Teresita Covacha	Robert Stark
Richard Gargulinski	Pauline Williams
Joe Petrylka	Bill Solomon
Roger Sharpe	Eloise Parker
Nenette Ferreria	Kelly Kranson
Anthony Mastronardi	Herb Damman
Eduardo Fajardo	Jeanne Damman
Kathy Bush	John Reinhardt
Glenda Johnson	
Stephanie Smith	
Janet Law	
Laura Alix	
Betty Leone	

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## EUCCHARISTIC

### MINISTERS

### LECTORS

### SERVERS

*Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 9:00 a.m.*  
Sr. Marie Cyril, IHM     Marie Vortkamp  
*Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 7:00 p.m.*  
Marilyn Lynn     Bill Zuerblis     Julia Zuerblis  
Beverly Goll

*Saturday, February 29, 2020, 4:30 p.m.*  
Janet Bielman     Bruce Campbell     Ian Campbell

*Sunday, March 1, 2020, 10:00 a.m.*  
Marilyn Lynn     Bill Zuerblis     Jermaine Donaldson  
Keith Arcicovich     Lauren Gross  
Beverly Goll     Julia Zuerblis  
Linda Holster  
Michael Holster  
Greg Redman  
Jean Solomon

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, February 22 - Vigil: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush-Terry, Fr. Duane Novelly

**Sunday, February 23 - 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Laura Bush-Terry, Frank Amara (20th Anniv), Fr. Duane Novelly, For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

**Monday, February 24 -**

**Tuesday, February 25 -**

9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

**Wednesday, February 26 - Ash Wednesday**

9:00 a.m. - For the Sick, Suffering, and Dying

7:00 p.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

**Thursday, February 27 -**

**Friday, February 28 -**

9:00 a.m. - For the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

**Saturday, February 29 - Vigil: 1st Sunday of Lent**

4:30 p.m. - Laura Bush-Terry

**Sunday, March 1 - 1st Sunday of Lent**

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Mary Merlo (29th Anniv), Laura Bush-Terry



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