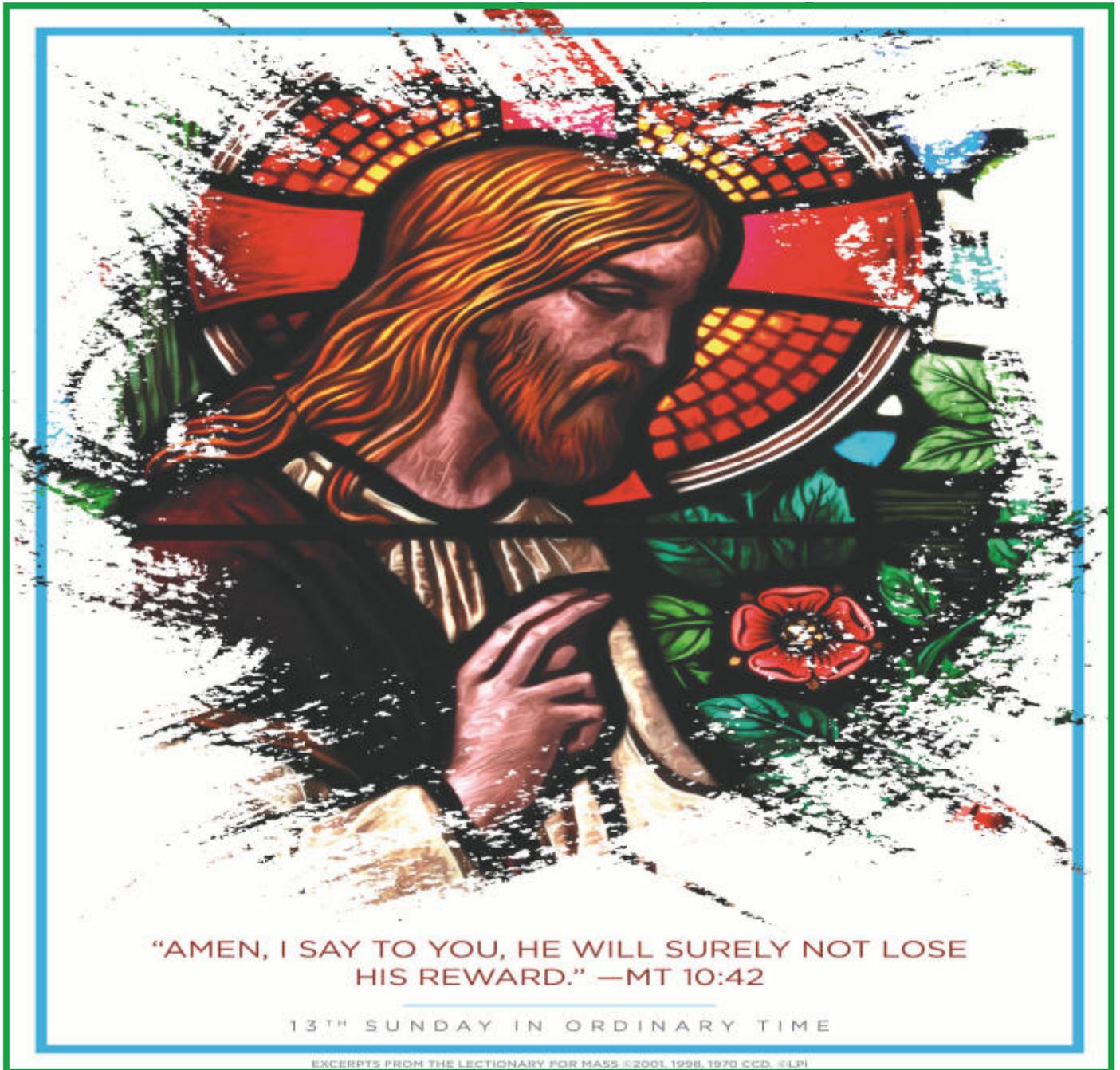




Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

June 28, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



**"AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, HE WILL SURELY NOT LOSE
HIS REWARD." —MT 10:42**

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



Happy Fourth of July!

Rectory Office Is Closed Friday, July 3rd, Reopens Monday, July 6th

Readings for the Week of June 28, 2020

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42
Monday: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/
2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 [9a]/
Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13,
16bc-17 [23b]/Mt 8:28-34
Thursday: Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10cd]/Mt 9:1-8
Friday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/
Jn 20:24-29
Saturday: Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14
[cf. 9b]/Mt 9:14-17
Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14
[cf. 1]/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30



13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When we were baptized, we were baptized into Christ's death. Take a moment to ponder these profound words. We were baptized into death. In every sense of the word, we are asked to die. This is not

just about our final death but about daily deaths due to inconvenience, discomfort, pain, loss, or others' needs. This is an incredible epiphany given the way we very often approach our lives. We do everything to avoid death, let alone encounter it! Many avoid pain, discomfort, inconvenience, uneasiness, change, interference, and suffering of any kind. We put a lot of energy into finding the easiest and least inconvenient way through many things. Even holding the door open for a stranger or saying hello to someone in the store can be major undertakings.

We are called to die. One of the biggest wake-up calls we can have is realizing that life is not about us! There are millions of other people sharing life on this planet with whom I have a relationship. Does my life celebrate those relationships? The most distracting question we can ask is, "What do I want to do?" The more focused, faith-filled question is, "What do I need to do?" What I need to do may not be what I want to do. However, asking this question more frequently will teach us how to more purposefully and intentionally live so we can be a life giving vessel for others. When we learn to live more sacrificially, to put the needs of others before our own, and to not always seek our own self-interest, we become aware of what baptism into Christ's death is really all about. These are the roots of virtue and the seedbed for justice, tolerance, solidarity, love, and peace.

Learning how to accept all the "small deaths" and sacrifices life calls us to teaches us how to approach our final death. All deaths ask us to empty ourselves into something or someone else. Whether we empty ourselves into the heart and soul of another human being or empty ourselves into God at the moment of our final death, new life is always received and nurtured. A heart that exclusively seeks its own interest is a heart that is closed to love. A heart that pours itself out to others and is content with being emptied is a heart that has been touched by and open to mercy. It is a heart that overflows with joy.

First Martyrs of the Church of Rome

~ June 30th ~

There were Christians in Rome within a dozen or so years after the death of Jesus, though they were not the converts of the "Apostle of the Gentiles" (Romans 15:20). Paul had not yet visited them at the time he wrote his great letter in 57-58 A.D.

There was a large Jewish population in Rome. Probably as a result of controversy between Jews and Jewish Christians, the Emperor Claudius expelled all Jews from Rome in 49-50 A.D. Suetonius, the historian, says that the expulsion was due to disturbances in the city "caused by the certain Chrestus" [Christ]. Perhaps many came back after Claudius' death in 54 A.D. Paul's letter was addressed to a Church with members from Jewish and Gentile backgrounds.

In July of 64 A.D., more than half of Rome was destroyed by fire. Rumor blamed the tragedy on Nero, who wanted to enlarge his palace. He shifted the blame by accusing the Christians. According to the historian Tacitus, many Christians were put to death because of their "hatred of the human race." Peter and Paul were probably among the victims.

Threatened by an army revolt and condemned to death by the senate, Nero committed suicide in 68 A.D. at the age of 31.

This feast first came into the General Roman Calendar in the 1969 calendar reforms. The intention of the feast is to give a general celebration of early Roman martyrs. Prior to the calendar reforms, there were dozens of relatively minor Roman martyrs celebrated or commemorated in the calendar. Several of these had scant historical evidence but did benefit from immemorial tradition.

This feast is a replacement for the many Roman martyr feasts whose absence allowed for a less cluttered calendar and made room for more major saints. It also permitted the greater celebration of *ferias*, partially enacting the Second Vatican Council's call for the Proper of Time to take a greater precedence.

All of the early Roman martyrs retain their place in the Martyrology and can be celebrated in local calendars or privately unless impeded by a greater observance.

Reflection: Wherever the Good News of Jesus was preached, it met the same opposition as Jesus did, and many of those who began to follow him shared his suffering and death. But no human force could stop the power of the Spirit unleashed upon the world. The blood of martyrs has always been, and will always be, the seed of Christians.



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Today's Gospel challenges us to resist the individualism of our culture. Everything we are and have is pure gift which we are expected to share especially to the "lowly ones." What has been freely given needs to be shared freely. No strings attached.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28, respectively - Peter's Pence Collection has been moved to October 4 and 5, 2020

Friday, July 3 - Rectory Office is Closed, Re-opens on Monday, July 6

Saturday, July 4, 4:30 pm Mass - Remembrance of Independence Day

Lenten Almsgiving ~ Rice Bowls

Donations are welcome at the rectory until next weekend. Please do not return your contribution in the Rice Bowl box. This is important for the safety of those reconciling this collection. Thanks for your generosity.



O GOD, OUR CREATOR

From your provident hand, we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.

We ask you to bless us

in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty.

Give us the strength of mind and heart

To readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard

on behalf of the rights of your Church

and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your church

in this decisive hour in the history of our nation,

so that, with every trial withstood

and every danger overcome -

for the sake of our children, our grandchildren,

and all who come after us -

this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ

Catholic Services Appeal will start planning its 2020 campaign in mid-August. More information on the details regarding pledges and gift-giving will appear in this article in the coming weeks.

Please pray for our continued success and how you can best make a pledge.

Your generosity in the past has been a gift from God and much appreciated.

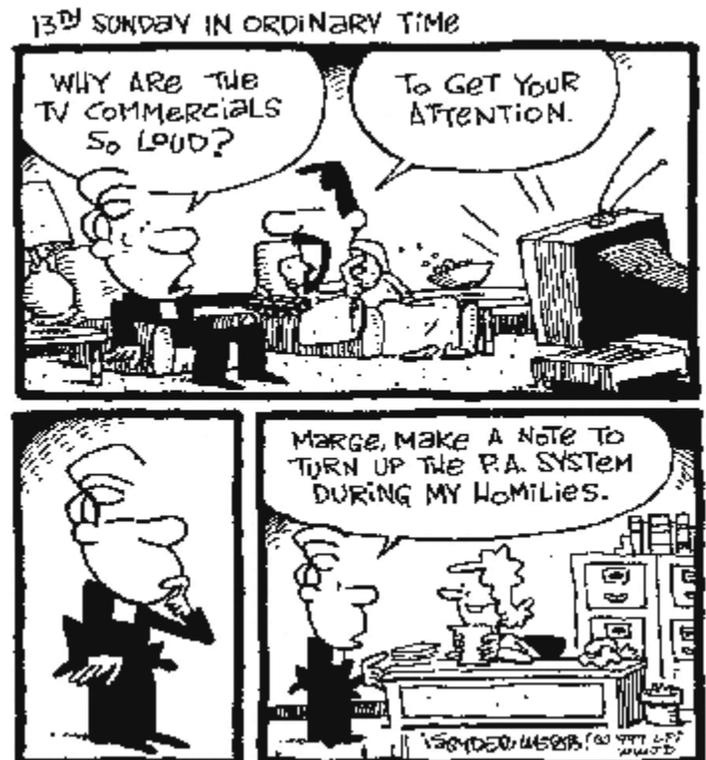


Peace be with You

There is much unrest and fear still going on from the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic and also reactions against unfair actions by many, which are upsetting. Yet we cannot find peace outside unless we also find peace within, and this does not mean approval of wrongdoing by ourselves or by others. Real peace is something else.

Without Christ's peace in us, we will be unable to clearly see anything as it really is, and as He truly sees this. Since Christ's first words to His disciples after His Resurrection, as they lived in fear of their immediate and unjust political and religious persecution, was His Gift of Peace, so we too should ask for His Peace in us to see how to think and act towards all that is around us, and not just react. It is a wise path to follow.

May we give the best part of us to God and towards others, who are in the end all made in His image and likeness no matter how buried that image may be. Then we will be like His most dear children.



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Website: www.stmatthewdetroit.com
Office Hours: Monday through Friday
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Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*
Joe Balistreri ~ *Saturday Organist*
David Troiano ~ *Weekday Organist*

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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, July 4, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

Bruce Campbell

Ian Campbell

Sunday, July 5, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

David Smydra

Cory Fullilove
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, June 27 - Vigil: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. - John P. Langan, Anna Martinelli (25th Anniv) moved from May 9

Sunday, June 28 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Joseph Wilk (31st Anniv), Edward Ryccek, Jim Krause, For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

Monday, June 29 - Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles

Tuesday, June 30 - The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

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

Wednesday, July 1 - St. Junipero Serra, Priest

9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

Thursday, July 2 -

Friday, July 3 - St. Thomas, Apostle

9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Saturday, July 4 - Vigil: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Remembrance of Independence Day)

4:30 p.m. - For the Military Men and Women of the United States and their Families

Sunday, July 5 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark

"IT IS
LOVE ALONE
THAT GIVES
WORTH TO
ALL THINGS."

ST. TERESA OF AVILA



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