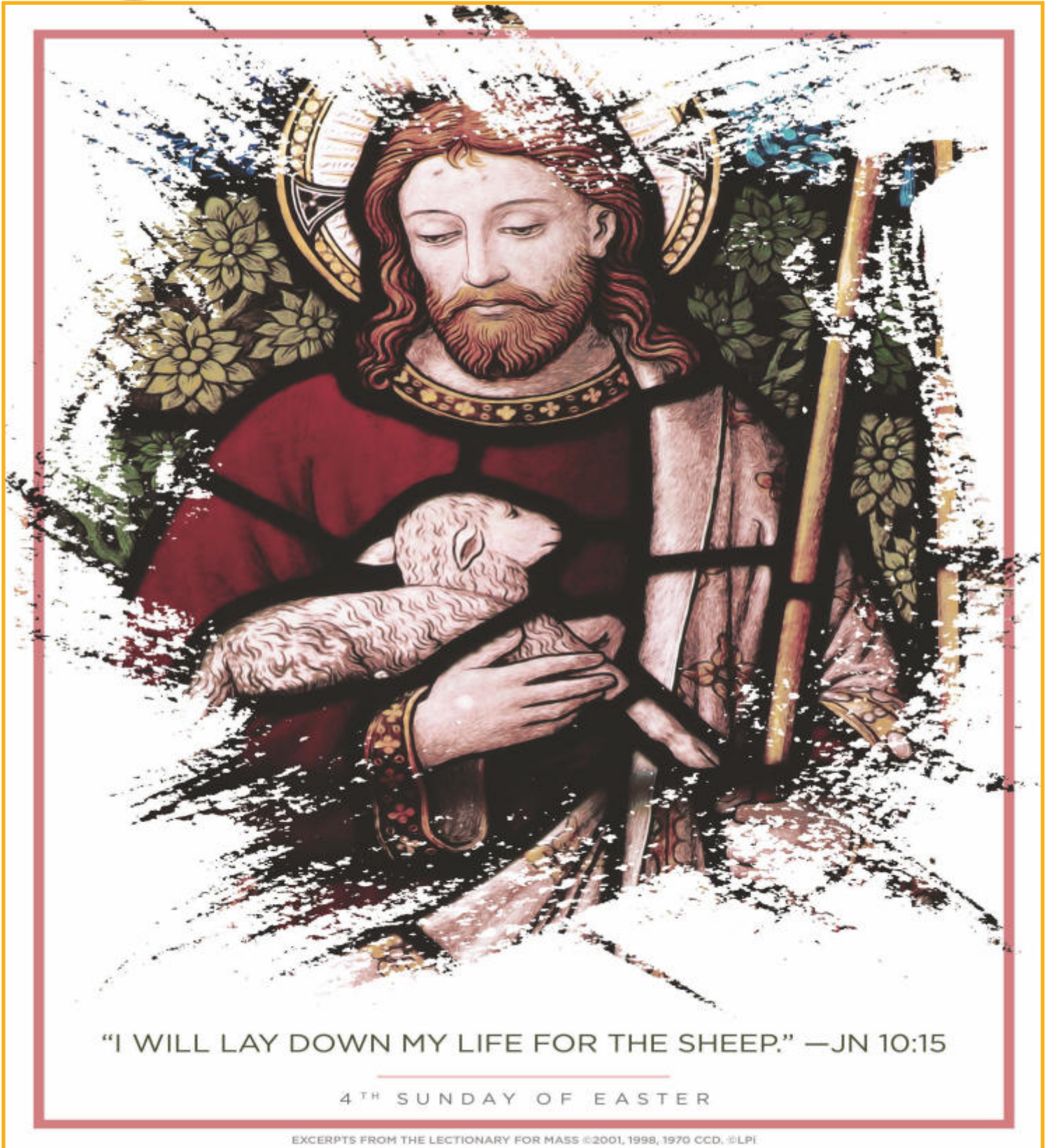




# *Saint Matthew Church* **The PULSE**

April 25, 2021

Detroit, Michigan



“I WILL LAY DOWN MY LIFE FOR THE SHEEP.” —JN 10:15

4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

## Readings for the Week of April 25, 2021

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18  
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/ Jn 10:1-10  
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [117:1a]/ Jn 10:22-30  
Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/ Jn 12:44-50  
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/ Jn 13:16-20  
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/ Jn 14:1-6  
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/ Jn 14:7-14  
*St. Joseph the Worker:* Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58  
Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8



### **4th Sunday of Easter**

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures.

**St. Catherine of Siena**, (born March 25, 1347, Siena, Tuscany and died April 29, 1380, Rome; canonized in 1461. Her feast day is April 29. She was a member of the Third Order of St. Dominic, a mystic, and one of the patron saints of Italy. She was declared a doctor of the church in 1970 and a patron saint of Europe in 1999.

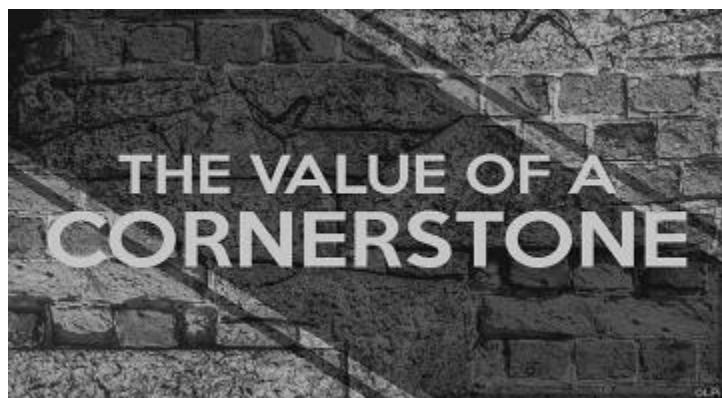
Catherine was the youngest of 25 children born to a lower middle-class family; most of her siblings did not survive childhood. At a young age, she is said to have consecrated her virginity to Christ and experienced mystical visions. Catherine became a tertiary (member of a monastic third order who takes simple vows and may remain outside a convent or monastery) of the Dominican order in 1363, joining the Sisters of Penitence of St. Dominic in Siena. She rapidly gained a wide reputation for her holiness and her severe asceticism. In her early twenties, she experienced a "spiritual espousal" to Christ and was moved to immediately begin serving the poor and sick, gaining disciples in the process.

Her ministry eventually moved beyond her local community, and Catherine began to travel and promote church reform. When the rebellious city of Florence was placed under an interdict by Pope Gregory XI in 1376, Catherine determined to take public action for peace within the church and Italy and to encourage a Crusade against the Muslims. She went as an unofficial mediator to Avignon with her confessor and biographer Raymond of Capua. Her mission failed, and she was virtually ignored by the pope, but while at Avignon she promoted her plans for a Crusade.

It became clear to her that the return of Pope Gregory XI to Rome from Avignon—an idea that she did not initiate and had not strongly encouraged—was the only way to bring peace to Italy. Catherine left for Tuscany the day after Gregory set out for Rome in 1376. At his request in 1378, she went to Florence and was there during the Ciompi Revolt in June. After a short final stay in Siena, during which she completed *The Dialogue* (begun the previous year), she went to Rome in November, probably at the invitation of Pope Urban VI, whom she helped in reorganizing the church. From Rome she sent out letters and exhortations to gain support for Urban and tried to win back Queen Joan I of Naples to obedience to Urban who had excommunicated her for supporting the antipope, Clement VII.

Catherine's writings, all of which were dictated, include about 380 letters, 26 prayers, and the 4 treatises known as *The Dialogue* (c. 1475). The record of her ecstatic experiences in *The Dialogue* illustrates her doctrine of the "inner cell" of the knowledge of God and of self into which she withdrew.

St. Catherine of Siena is the patroness against fire, those suffering illness and miscarriages, people ridiculed for their faith, and nurses, and a patron of the United States and Italy.





## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Tuesday, April 26, 2021, 6:30 pm - Father Novelty Zoom Meeting with AoD

Saturday, May 1, 2 pm - Ridella / Chin Nuptials

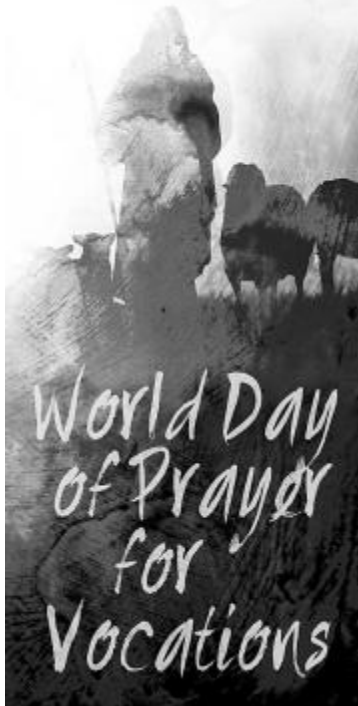
Weekend of May 8 and May 9 - Mother's Day Layette for Pregnancy Aid

### TODAY IS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Today the Holy Father has asked all Catholics to intercede for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests and deacons in prayer throughout the week.
- Encourage your children or grandchildren to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

Remember always in your prayers Father Duane, who is our own Good Shepherd.



### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O Father, you desire all of us to be happy.  
Stir up the grace of a religious vocation in the hearts  
of many men and women.

Grant to them the willingness and generosity  
to give of themselves, their lives, their time,  
and their talents to the service of Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
Our Lord and Savior, and to His Holy Church.

May more men and women go forth as priests, deacons,  
brothers and sisters to bring the truths of our Catholic faith  
to all others so that soon they, too,  
may know You better and love You more...  
and serving You, be truly happy. Amen.



### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Today's Gospel is a job description for Christian parents. For most people, the most influential shepherds in their lives are their **parents**. Every parent is called to be a "good shepherd" to "freely lay down their life" for their children, to "love" and "know" their children, and to "lead" them so "they know your voice."

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



**Your Gifts Make a Difference: Witnessing Christ as one of His priests** - Like many young people, Derik Peterman fell away from the Catholic faith when he went away to college. But when he found his way back to the Church, God reminded him of "this call He had placed in my heart" years before, to serve as one of His holy priests.

"Although the priesthood was always in the back of my mind, I really didn't know how to respond to that calling," he said. Then, at the first Mass he attended following a long absence, the pastor asked any men thinking about the priesthood to come talk to him. "I was blown away," Derik said.

After attending a discernment group with other college-aged men and then exploring different religious orders and seminaries, Derik found his spiritual home at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. He has been preparing to serve as a priest for our Archdiocese for the past six years. "I've had a lot of peace — each year growing in that confidence that this is indeed, where the Lord has called me," he said. "God willing, I'll be ordained a priest in June."

"I'm looking forward to walking with people in their journeys and helping to bring them closer to Jesus," Derik said. "However God wants me to serve them."

Gifts to the CSA support men, like Derik, who are studying for the priesthood at Sacred Heart, as well as men in formation for the permanent diaconate.

### Mother's Day Layette For Pregnancy Aid



This year we will hold our annual Mother's Day Layette on the weekend of May 8 and 9. The Pregnancy Aid offices moved in late summer last year from their location on Mack Avenue in Detroit to Eight Mile Road in Eastpointe. The new location is working well for them offering the same services, counseling, medical help, and, of course, the necessities for baby care.

Next week, there will be a list in The Pulse of those items most needed. The bassinette will be placed at the Blessed Mother's altar to accept your donations. It was also suggested by Nancy Antner, Director, that gift cards to Meier, Walmart, and Aldi would be welcome in any amount. Please be generous in this effort; Nancy said that they truly depend on the goodness and kindness of others in their ministry.



### On the Lighter Side ~ Fiscal Riddles

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

## ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Rick Cucchi ~ *Music Minister / Choir Director*  
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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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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.*

Joe Petrylka  
Anthony Mastronardi  
Stephanie Smith  
Janet Law  
Laura Alix  
Betty Leone  
Jo Marie Nardi  
Anthony Crimaudo  
Rosemary Schoolcraft  
Tiffany Gelle  
Robert Stark  
Pauline Williams  
Bill Solomon  
Eloise Parker  
Herb and Jeanne Damman  
Doreen Redman  
Sarah Wagner  
Nenette Ferreria  
Lolita Dorado  
Albert Fajardo

Eduardo Fajardo  
Aurora Guinto  
Jesse Ocampo  
Mary Spansky  
Marie Kane  
Mike Dulapa  
Kathy Bush  
Mary Zainea  
Sue Allasio  
Richard Goll  
Tim Fitzgerald

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

## SERVERS

Saturday, May 1, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Julie Smith

Lauren Smith

Sunday, May 2, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

William Zuerblis

Lauren Gross  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday, April 24 - Vigil: 4th Sunday of Easter

4:30 p.m. - Roger Sharpe

### Sunday, April 25 - 4th Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Paul Coen (7th Anniv), Brent Jacob (2nd Anniv), Stella Urso (12th Anniv), For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

### Monday, April 26 -

### Tuesday, April 27 -

9:00 a.m. - For all Healthcare Workers

### Wednesday, April 28 - St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest

9:00 a.m. - For all Public Officials

### Thursday, April 29 - St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

### Friday, April 30 - St. Pius V, Pope

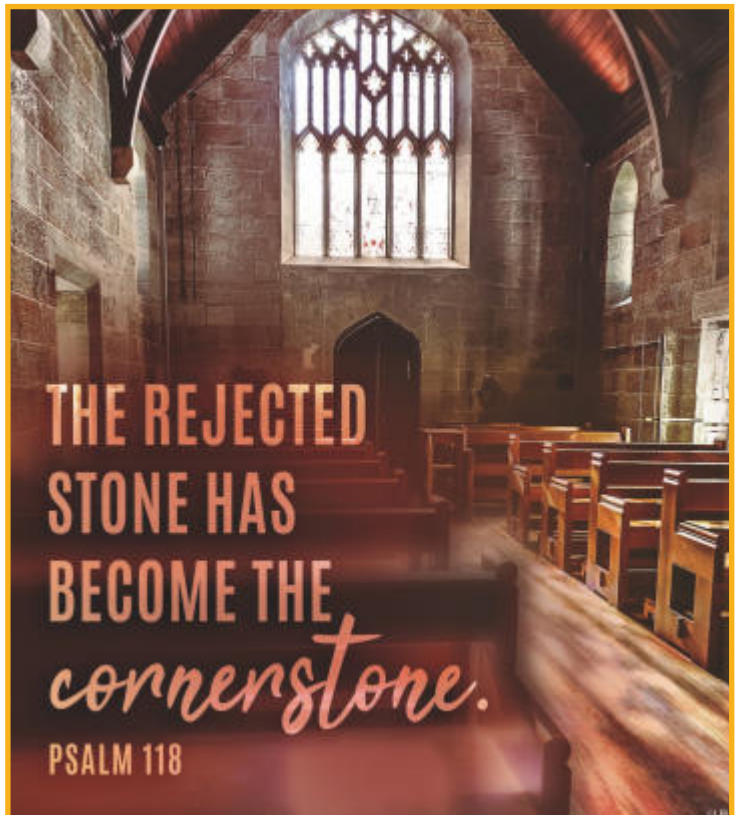
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

### Saturday, May 1 - Vigil: 5th Sunday of Easter

4:30 p.m. - The People of St. Matthew Parish

### Sunday, November 1 - Feast of All Saints

10:00 a.m. - Chuck Schuster, Helen Quirk Nowak



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