



# St Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

Madison Heights, Michigan [www.stvincentferrer.net](http://www.stvincentferrer.net)

JUNE 26, 2022 † THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## From The Pastor

Selfishness is the enemy of the Christian life. Obvious as this is, what is not always obvious are the threads of selfishness that diminish life in the Holy Spirit. When St. Paul talks about freedom, as he does in the second reading, he knows what he is talking about. Prior to his conversion to Christ, Saul was not a free man. He believed himself to be free, but he was a slave to the Law and its ritual dictates as an expression of his zeal for God. Saul, later to become Paul, was trapped in the perfectionism of his ego that drove him to rigidly keep the Law as a matter of personal justification. He believed himself to be beyond reproach or liability in his religious practice. His stance before God was under his control.

Then it wasn't. Confronted with the Spirit of Jesus on the road to Damascus, everything changed. Through his transformation away from the Law, Paul went as far as to say he considered all things in the past pure rubbish compared to the life of the Spirit he had been given in Christ Jesus. He came to the awareness that God's justice given through the Cross of Jesus was pure gift. Secure in the love of Christ, St. Paul moves from a stance of selfishness to a radical freedom with complete peace in God, and a zeal to share the message with others.

How did Paul come to this awareness? Through the acceptance of the deep and saving love of Jesus revealed to him by grace. He did not earn it, merit it, or deserve it. The grace of his conversion was the transformation from ego driven selfishness to a full surrender in the acceptance of the love given him in Christ Jesus. This is the context of today's second reading and the tension it creates between living in the Spirit or living in the flesh.

When St. Paul talks about living in the flesh, he is not talking about sexual morality. He is talking about the strong tendency of human nature toward selfishness, living in the ways of the world, being in control for the betterment and defense of self. Living in the Spirit is living in the freedom of deeply trusting the love of God revealed and given in the Lord Jesus. Life in love heals selfishness because it secures a person in the value of their dignity and their importance to the Giver of Love. Secure in love frees a person to share themselves for the good of others. Free from the dictates of the Law, St. Paul is confident to say the Law is fulfilled in one statement, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' This is what it means to live in the Spirit; to go beyond the self for others because of the love of Christ so freely given to all.

This theme is consistent with the other two readings.

The first reading describes the transfer of prophetic power from Elijah to Elisha. The story indicates that Elisha was not actively seeking this way of life. As directed by God, Elijah finds Elisha in a field plowing, simply going about his business for the good of his family. As an elegant symbolic gesture, the retiring prophet throws his cloak over the shoulders of the younger man. Elisha knows instinctively what this means. His only request is to take leave of his parents and family. Notice his 'all-in' gesture indicating his full acceptance of God's call. Twelve oxen indicate his prosperity. Yet, he readily slaughters them, cooks them, and serves them to his family and the village. His commitment to God is a full-on yes, with full freedom and without selfish concern. In return, God blesses him with a double portion of Elijah's spirit.

The gospel describes a turning point in the ministry of Jesus. He is now turning with full resolution to Jerusalem to fulfill his saving mission through death on the Cross. Two movements are evident. First, the strong and gentle love of Jesus will not serve violence against those who resist him. He rebukes the disciples who wish to call down fire on the Samaritans. The path of Jesus will be unselfish surrender to the Cross in perfect love for the salvation of all.

Next, Jesus directs those who wish to follow him. The first would-be follower acclaims, "I will follow you wherever you go." He does not understand the nature of Jesus' mission. To follow Jesus is to imitate him wherever you are, not merely following him around. Jesus invites the second one, but the excuse comes to bury his father. Jesus responds, "let the dead bury the dead." In other words, let the unbelieving and the selfish bury the dead. Lastly, another wants to first say goodbye at home. Jesus calls for full heartedness. "No one who sets his hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God." To look back is to make crooked rows due to undivided attention. The way of Jesus calls for full awareness in love directed to God through others.

Consider your freedom in the Spirit. God is not a taskmaster demanding repayment for gifts given. To live in the Spirit is to live in love. Mature love is self-giving. It thinks of the other first. It seeks to live and act in the model of Jesus. In the generosity of Divine love, serving others comes as a freedom in the realization of all that has been given.

This reminds me of a saying posted in a high school religion classroom. "I am third." God is first. Others are second. I am third. This is not self-diminishment, but freedom in the Spirit to be of a mind for others.

Father John Esper

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday thru Thursday

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 9:00am

Church doors open 1/2 hour before Mass begins

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm  
in Adoration Chapel

Only one person allowed in chapel at a time. Persons seeking Sacrament of Reconciliation will be allowed in church to line up at 3:00pm



**Live Streaming of Mass**  
Monday thru Thursday  
8:00am and Sunday 9:00am

**One hour of Adoration on**  
Tuesday following  
8am Mass

### Livestream of Rosary on Thursday following Mass

Search for St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church (in Madison Heights) on youtube to find our channel or connect via our APP or website

## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

### ST VINCENT FERRER PARISH OFFICE

28353 Herbert St., Madison Heights, MI 48071  
248-542-8720 Fax 248-542-8721  
Website: www.stvincentferrer.net

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
9am to Noon - 1:00pm to 4:30pm  
Closed Friday, Saturday & Sunday

### Parish Staff

Reverend John C. Esper, Priest in Solidum  
Deborah Tourville, Business Manager/Spiritual  
Direction  
Sheryl Brown, Parish Secretary/Bulletin  
Jim Balistreri, Music Coordinator  
Mary Ann Przybysz, Evangelical Charity Coordinator/  
RCIA  
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor  
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

### FAITH FORMATION

For information on our Faith Formation Program contact the Parish office at 248-542-8720

**For information on Baptisms, RCIA and  
Funerals contact the Parish Office 248-542-8720**



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### MONDAY, June 27, 2022

8:00am Mass: Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom

### TUESDAY, June 28, 2022

8:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer

### WEDNESDAY, June 29, 2022

8:00am Mass: Robert Pipp† req. by Dan & Sue Sobocienski

### THURSDAY, June 30, 2022

8:00am Mass: Vocations to the Priesthood

### SATURDAY, July 2, 2022

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer  
Gerri Stann† req. by Todd & Charla Fluent  
Peter Conway req. by Mom

Johanna Piot†(R.A.) req. by Tina Gracey  
Daniel Osantowski† (R.A.) req. by Tina Gracey

### SUNDAY, July 3, 2022

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer  
Tom & Tim Espert† req. by Family  
Precila Selga† req. by Leny Lechniak & Family  
Michael Bush† req. by JoAnn Rearick & Family  
Cheri Fishert† req. by sister, Mary James  
Gina Cardent† req. by Jessie Giszczak

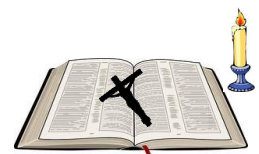


### June - Month of the Sacred Heart

*“In the Sacred Heart, every treasure of wisdom and knowledge is hidden. In that divine heart beats God’s infinite love for everyone and for each of us as individuals.”*

St. John Paul II

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF June 26, 2022



Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62  
Monday: Am 2:6-10, 13-16; Ps 50:16bc-23; Mt 8:18-22  
Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Ps 5:4b-8; Mt 8:23-27  
Wednesday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19 Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19  
Thursday: Am 7:10-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 9:1-8  
Friday: Am 8:4-6, 9-12; Ps 119:2, 10, 20, 30, 40, 131; Mt 9:9-13  
Saturday: Am 9:11-15; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 9:14-17  
Sunday: Is 66:10-14c; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 [1-9]

## Laws of Love

St. Paul has a unique vision of freedom. We often think that freedom means I can do what I want without interference from an outside source, such as a bureaucracy or a dictator. For most Americans, it means being able to take care of myself and my family, hopefully without having to pay too much in taxes. We usually associate that with the “pursuit of happiness” without thinking too much about what happiness is. What makes Paul’s idea unique is that his vision of happiness means serving one another in love. For Paul, freedom is not so much being free from oppression as being free to love and serve those around us.

What would stop us from loving others? It could be fear: “I’m not sure I would be able to do any good. I’m afraid of going into a bad neighborhood to help the homeless. I fear that if I were more generous to the poor (church, Red Cross, life issues, etc.), I would not have enough for my family.” Or it could be attachment to possessions or even to our family—the man in the Gospel wasn’t free to follow Jesus because he thought it meant leaving his family behind.

Paul talks about another kind of freedom when he says that following the Spirit means freedom from the Law (Galatians 5:18). He was not talking about ignoring the speed limit or pirating DVDs. He meant people who were obsessed with keeping all the laws and customs that were part of the Jewish tradition. It would be like someone who goes to Mass on Sunday only because he doesn’t want to break a Church law, or someone who drives the speed limit only because he doesn’t want to pay a fine. Taken to an extreme, you would have to memorize every law on the books to be sure you did not break one. The freedom of the Spirit is a life lived out of love. A person would go to Mass out of love for God; a driver would obey the speed limit to protect other drivers. As long as we love one another, we wouldn’t have to worry about breaking the law, for God’s laws are all examples of how to love one another.

Tom Schmidt,  
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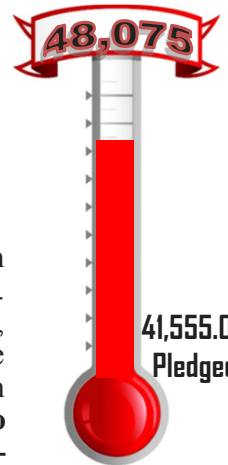
## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: St. Cyril of Alexandria
- Tuesday: St. Irenaeus
- Wednesday: Ss. Peter and Paul
- Thursday: The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
- Friday: St. Junípero Serra; Canada Day; First Friday
- Saturday: First Saturday; Blessed Virgin Mary



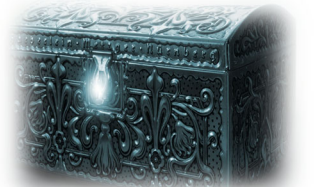
2022

Please help reach our target of \$48,075.00



CSA Campaign 2022 information has been mailed to parishioners. To pledge /contribute by mail, follow the instructions on the pledge letter and use the return envelope provided. **Checks need to be payable to Archdiocese of Detroit-CSA and mailed to the AOD gift center in Albert Lea, MN** Donations can be made online at our website: [www.stvincentferrer.net](http://www.stvincentferrer.net). Click on the donations tab and the click the CSA donation button.

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION



The pilgrim experience of going by foot to Santiago de Compostella, the shrine of St. James (pictured above), reaches its high point a month from now at the feast of the Apostle (July 25th). By now, tens of thousands of pilgrims are already on the road. Typically, they cover twelve to twenty miles a day through rough territory. The difficult journey and the often primitive lodging facilities are made bearable by the joy of the pilgrims, their songs and prayers. When their journey is documented properly, they receive the scallop shell, a reminder not only of James the fisherman, but also his call to fish for human beings and to baptize the nations. In the Middle Ages, those who wore this badge on their hats were granted lodging and hospitality wherever they went. Next to the palm, the sign of a Jerusalem pilgrim, the scallop shell was most highly prized.

In the Middle Ages, some people so enjoyed the pilgrim road, although it was filled with discomfort and danger, that they spent most of their lives on the road. Today, some people take up the route for exercise, but are drawn gradually into the spirituality of the journey. As you make your summer travels, always fold in an element of pilgrimage: a long walk through beautiful countryside, a visit to a church, a prayer of gratitude for your journey through life’s hills and valleys.

—James Field,  
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## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

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### Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

O God, who through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright light of truth.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

#### Reflection question:

Am I someone whom others see as standing in the bright light of truth?

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*Please pray  
for...  
....all government  
leaders to seek  
wisdom in finding  
a peaceful*

#### **resolution to the Ukraine crisis.**

**...medical and humanitarian aid for the wounded in Ukraine and the refugees fleeing the country.**

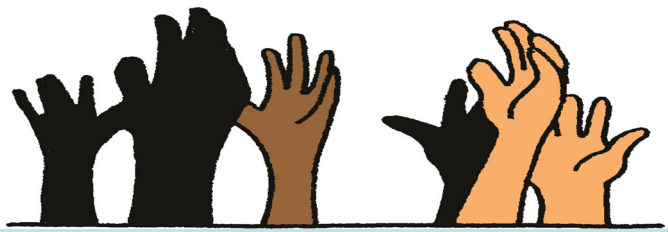
**...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.**

**...the homeless and all who are suffering physically and emotionally due to economic conditions.**

**...all who are sick, homebound, undergoing or recovering from surgery, medical procedures, treatments or testing, and those who have made specific prayer requests.**

Lord Jesus,

*You are the Divine Physician and Healer. To You, we lift up in prayer all who are lonely, homeless, sick or addicted; all who are unemployed or underemployed; all who are anxious or depressed and all who are suffering in any way spiritually, physically or emotionally especially during this crisis. In their pain and brokenness, we ask that you bring them the comfort of your loving presence. In You, may they find strength for the day and hope for the journey. Amen*



## EVANGELICAL SERVICE CORNER

### FOOD PANTRY

Parishioners in need of food at this time can contact Doris at St. Mary Magdalen Parish (248-542-8060)

### EYEGASSES & HEARING AID COLLECTION

We continue to collect hearing aids and eyeglasses for the Lions Club. Donation boxes are at the church entrances. Please do not leave eyeglass cases.

### JOM BUCKETS OF BLESSINGS OUTREACH JUNE 26TH THRU JULY 10TH



This outreach project from Jail and Outreach Ministry in Oakland County will enable families they serve to maintain

and clean their homes by providing them with cleaning supplies.

#### Suggested items for each "Bucket of Blessings:

One bucket	Reusable gloves
Heavy duty scrub sponge	Garbage bags
Mult-purpose cleaning cloths	Toilet bowl cleaner
Window cleaner	Small laundry basket
Laundry detergent	Fabric softener sheets
Dish detergent	Dish brush
All purpose cleaner	Paper towels
Toilet paper	

**All items can be purchased at the Dollar Tree  
(Please package items  
within laundry basket and or bucket)**

**Filled buckets can be dropped off at the Parish Office  
Monday through Thursday or left in church on the  
weekends.**

### PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

The prayer blanket ministry will meet this Thursday, June 30th at 6:30 in the Parish Hall.

*"Why do we equate the Sacred Heart with the Holy Eucharist? Because the Holy Eucharist is the whole Christ with His human heart. According to St. Margaret Mary, the Sacred Heart is the Holy Eucharist. So it follows that devotion to the Sacred Heart is devotion to the Holy Eucharist. It is infinite Love Incarnate living in our midst in the Blessed Sacrament."*

Fr. John Hardon SJ, Servant of God



# NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

July 19, 2022 thru July 17, 2024

**Mission: To renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist.**

## “Revival’s in the Air

### AN EXCITING JOURNEY AHEAD

Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith—his Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist. Watch the video (at eucharisticrevival.org) to learn more about the exciting journey ahead and how you can be a part of it!

### WHY NOW?

#### BECAUSE THE CHURCH NEEDS HEALING. AND THE WORLD NEEDS THE CHURCH.

Scandal, division, disease, doubt. The Church has withstood each of these throughout our very human history. But today we confront all of them, all at once. Our response in this moment is pivotal.

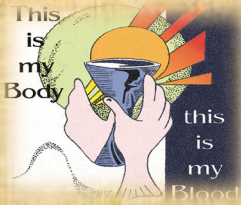
In the midst of these roaring waves, Jesus is present, reminding us that he is more powerful than the storm. He desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world.

How will he do it? By uniting us once again around the source and summit of our faith—the Holy Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation.

### WHAT’S NEXT?

It takes time to kindle a living, loving relationship—and a relationship with Jesus Christ is no exception. That’s why the Eucharistic Revival allows three years for discernment, encounter, and grassroots response on the diocesan, parish, and individual levels. Find out what to expect in the months ahead: visit <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/>

Additional information can be found at the United State Conference of Catholic Bishops website: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)



## Ministry Schedule

July 2/3

Mass	4:00PM	9:00AM
Sacristan	D. Tourville	L. Yolkiewicz
Reader #1	R. Pasiak	D. Gray
Reader #2	D. Tourville	L. Yolkiewicz
EME	P. Miles	D. Gray
	M. Simmons	A. Goll
	R. Pasiak	C. McCarthy
Greeters	R. Pasiak	B. Turchin
	T. Pasiak	J. Turchin
	M. McLaughlin	R. Juska-Svoba
	D. McLaughlin	P. Rarus

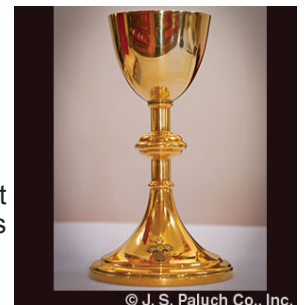
## GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES

**R** Jesus gave this commission to His apostles, and it surely extends to all of us who are His disciples today. If we think of all the people who helped us become disciples of Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church, we’d probably have a long list of names. Frequently, when these names may come to mind, we can readily thank God for them because, partly through their efforts, we now hold a “treasure not made of gold. . .one treasure only, the Lord, the Christ.” What does all this have to do with the RCIA? In the RCIA process, we as a parish get to proclaim and share the life of God that we receive in the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation! Do you know someone who may be ready for this adventure? If so, pray for her/him in an ongoing way. As you are led, encourage them to consider the RCIA journey. Contact Mary Ann Przybysz at the parish office for more information.

## Sign-up to host Traveling Vocations Chalice

In addition to praying for Vocations to the Priesthood with the prayer cards distributed at Pentecost, Fr. John is again asking parishioners to sign-up to host our Traveling Vocations Chalice. This is a one week commitment. Additional prayers are included with the chalice.

**Please sign-up at the table near the Herbert St. vestibule door.**



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**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

We return to Ordinary Time this Sunday, and with this new season we focus on what it means to be a person who is called by God for some definite purpose. Elisha recognized God’s call in Elijah’s greeting and prepared immediately to follow. The people who came to Jesus seemed ready to follow, yet each had reasons to linger behind. As people who are given the freedom to follow or to stay behind, we must ask ourselves what we are ready to do for the sake of Christ and the call of the gospel. What are you called to do at this time in your life? Are you prepared to leave behind the things that get in the way of living as a Christian?

**FOLLOW**

What does it mean to follow Jesus? The Gospels show us that Jesus called each person individually, recognizing the things that stood in the way for each. He looked into the person’s heart and saw the true desires of the person standing before him. Each of us experiences Christ’s call uniquely as the persons we are. For some, following requires us to take stock of our lives and let go of the obstacles that keep us from the way of true discipleship. For others, the call may lead us to deepen the way that faith directs our lives, with more intentional time in prayer, regular participation in Mass, renewed attention to family, involvement in our parish, or new acts of service.

**BE READY**

It is easy to say we want to follow Jesus, yet most of us feel competing desires that stand in the way of discipleship. We may be distracted by the constant swirl of activity so prevalent in our surrounding culture; we might be lured by worldly wealth and the status that often accompanies it; we may simply be comfortable with the way things are and find it difficult to risk changing anything. In today’s Gospel, Jesus makes it clear that we must stop putting off making the changes that will bring us closer to him and to God’s way of life. We must trust in the Lord, knowing that what he most deeply desires is that we be close to him. If you encountered Jesus today and said you were ready to follow him, what would he see in your heart, what obstacles or hesitations would he perceive? Go to Jesus in prayer this day. Listen to him say, “Follow me.” Prayerfully place your life in the Lord’s hands and be ready to follow.



**OUR FAMILY - MASS SCHEDULES**

*National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica*

2100 W. 12 Mile, Royal Oak, 48073

**SATURDAY**

8:30 am

4:30 pm (livestreamed) and 6:30 pm

**SUNDAY**

7:00 am, 9:00 am (livestreamed)

10:45 am, 12:30 pm,

4:00 pm (Spanish-livestreamed), and 6:00 pm

**WEEKDAYS (Monday - Friday)**

6:30 am (Livestreamed), 8:30 am

*St. Justin, St. Mary Magdalen*

1631 E. Elza Hazel Park, 48030 (St J)

50 E Annabelle Ave. Hazel Park, 48030 (St MM)

**SATURDAY - 4 pm - St. Justin**

**SUNDAY - 9 am & 11 am - St. Mary Magdalen**

**MON-WED, FRI- 9am - St. Justin**

No Mass on Thursday

*St. Mary*

730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, 48067

**SATURDAY - 4:30 pm**

**SUNDAY - 9 am, 11 am**

**MON, TUES, THURS, FRI - 7:30 am**

**WED - 12:10 pm**



Offertory Env. Distributed & e-fund participants	731
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	99
Total Amount in Offertory Env. & e-funds rec'd	\$ 4,623.00
Loose Cash /Check Collection	92.00
Total	\$ 4,715.00
Budgeted Amount for Offertory	\$ 9,340.46
Energy	\$ 92.00

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows

... AND IF GOD CALLS,  
DON'T LET IT GO  
TO VOICEMAIL



And Jesus said to another, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." But he said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God." Lk 9:59-60

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saint snippets

June 27

I am willing to breathe my last breath in the wound of Thy Sacred Heart.

**St. Marguerite Bays**  
19th-century Swiss seamstress and mystic who bore the stigmata. She was canonized by Pope Francis in 2019.

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## Baptism Preparation

Parents who desire to have their infant or toddler baptized can contact Mary Ann in the Parish Office at 248-542-8720 to set up an appointment.

When Jesus died on the cross and rose again, he set us free from sin!  
Look at this cross and color all the letters that are needed to spell FREEDOM.

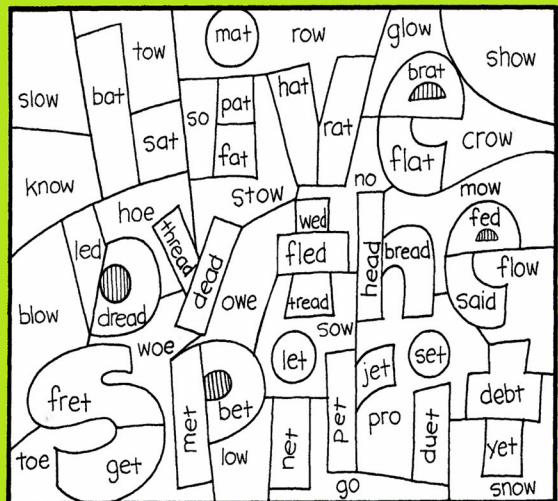


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# God's Word for Children

## Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Paul wanted the Galatian people to live according to God's Spirit and not their own desires.  
Read the word in each shape. Find the word it rhymes with below.  
Use the color beside it to fill in the area.  
When you're finished, you'll have a reminder of this teaching.



cat (blue)    grow (yellow)  
wet (green)    bed (red)

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Michael Kairis, Sherry Marshall  
 - Parishioners

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Email: [sales@jspaluch.com](mailto:sales@jspaluch.com)

## Elizabeth "Betty" McEvoy E.A.

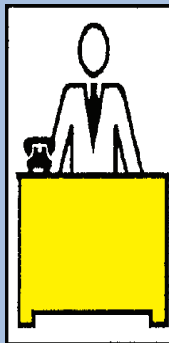
Individual and Small Business  
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Home: **(248) 589-2077**

Cell: **(248) 808-4353**

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 Madison Heights, MI 48071

5% Donation to St. Vincent De Paul upon any new completed return.



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**WHY IS IT?**



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