



St Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

Madison Heights, Michigan www.stvincentferrer.net

NOVEMBER 13, 2022 † THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From The Pastor

The goal of the Christian life is union with God. Union with God begins now through our relationship with Christ who is the revelation of Divine truth in the fruit of our redemption. Faith in God is built on maturing trust through the lived experience of Divine mercy, forgiveness, and justice. Jesus is the Incarnate reality of God's presence in our sinful world as we face the challenges of this perilous journey from life in the flesh to the fulness of life in the Spirit.

God's love is constant, faithful, and unchanging. Given the trials and tragedies of this life, faith and trust in the providence of God will only be realized in a living relationship committed to prayer and attention to the presence and action of God in the self and in the world. For those with eyes to see, God is ever-present and willing to be found. For those who do evil, God becomes a myth, or a lie made up to soothe the pain and suffering of the oppressed.

Ideally, all would believe in God. However, as St. Paul made clear in last week's second reading, '...that we may be delivered from the perverse and wicked people, for not all have faith.' The perverse and the wicked tempt the faith of the believer as they see arrogant evildoers in the comfort of their power and prosperity. Where is God and why does the justice of God allow our suffering?

The readings today are about judgment and the last days. The tone is unpleasant, even scary. However, the intention and final message is one of hope for those who cling to faith in times of destruction and fear. 'Lo, the day is coming...' The day that is coming is the day of the Lord; the last days when the just and the righteous will be received by God while the arrogant and all evil doers will be 'set on fire, leaving them neither root nor branch...' They will come to nothingness and will be no more.

Why? As the essence of love, God desires that all share in the Divine union. Christian believers understand that God's judgment on the world is Jesus. God's judgement is mercy for all who seek it. Weak and wayward sinners are included in the Divine mercy of redemption in their desire and faith to be with God. Not all want God. Not all are willing to surrender to mercy or admit personal weakness in need of forgiveness. Those lost in the wiles and confusion of evil live in the delusion of their own power. That power may come through wealth, control, violence, and authority over others. It often includes lies, deception, confusion, and manipulation to disrupt human goodness. The truth of love is denied and rejected. God is lost and the dignity of the human person is limited

only to the ability to control others. In the view of the world this can be a heady and appealing state of being. If I can get that, why shouldn't I?

There is no reality without love. Love is truth, God is love, Jesus is God. Love is the essence of all being. Those who reject and refuse love for the sake of self-made authority, worldly wealth and its power will come to nothing; no thing, without reality or being. This is what inspires the image of a blazing fire that leaves nothing but stubble.

Christ remains, the Alpha and the Omega. The beginning and the end. God is the origin and the conclusion of all that is. Sin is forgiven. Weakness and failure are healed. The lost are found and the wayward will be welcomed home. God will claim all who seek him. Those who look truth in the face and call it a lie refuse the gift God offers. Blasphemy is the only unforgiveable sin. Those who deny and reject the truth of Divine love revealed and given in the person of Jesus choose to bind themselves away from God. God will accept and heal all. Only those who willingly and intentionally refuse this offer will be lost.

Why are Christians hated and persecuted? Because Christians hold a power the world does not understand that cannot be changed, manipulated, or controlled. Jesus was hated and killed because he exposed the injustice and oppression of those who wantonly denied the dignity of others. John the Baptist was beheaded because he exposed the adultery of Herod taking his brother's wife. Christians who speak and reveal the truth of God are persecuted by those whose guilt and shame are exposed. Evil does not need a reason to do evil because it is evil and will do anything to disrupt the works of God.

Where is the hope? In Jesus who bore the weight of our sin and weakness that we may know the freedom and wholeness of his love. Although the destruction of the Temple is historically true, Jesus uses the image to reveal a new spiritual reality. Jesus himself is the living temple of the Divine presence in the world. Believing in Jesus, accepting Baptism, and living the movements and virtues of the Christian life makes us a dwelling place of Christ in the world. You are a temple of God and an image of Christ for all who see the light of your goodness.

We hope and long for the promise of the day of the Lord. The final day is the day of eternal glory. Yet, every day is the day of the Lord. Every day we can make God present in the world by living the love we profess as we journey to heaven. Our hope and our promise is heaven and Jesus is the way. Let us be at peace as we persevere to the end.

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

Friday - 9am to Noon - Closed Saturday & Sunday

Parish Office 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/
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA) Coordinator
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

Faith Formation Office

**Hours: Monday thru Thursday Noon-3pm or
by appointment 248-398-1743**

Matthew Zinser, Childhood Faith Formation Coordinator

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

MONDAY, November 14, 2022 Mass Intentions

8:00am Mass: Jack King† req. by Bill & Mary Beth Hochstetler

TUESDAY, November 15, 2022

8:00am Mass: Tim Esper† req. by Judith McIlwain

WEDNESDAY, November 16, 2022

8:00am Mass: Lillian Greymast† req. by Regina Juska-Svoba

THURSDAY, November 17, 2022

8:00am Mass: Rimantas Labieka† req. by Regina Juska-Svoba

SATURDAY, November 19, 2022

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Paul & Katherine Bilovus† req. by Tony & Jeanette Dombrowski

Geraldine Bilovus Hall† req. by Tony & Jeanette Dombrowski

Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom

Peter Conway req. by Mom

Kathy Boguslawski† req. by Husband, Robert

For those discerning a Vocation to the Priesthood or other Church Ministries

SUNDAY, November 20, 2022

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer

Jerry Gutowski† req. by Sylvia Brown

Carmen Mandarino† req. by Bill & Mary Beth Hochstetler

Marian Welsh† req. by Regis Welsh

Michael DeRubeis† req. by DeRubeis Family

Jessie Giszczak (health) req. by Bernadette Gutowski

For those discerning a Vocation to the Priesthood or other Church Ministries



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Pray for the Dead

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*Death is not a journey into an unknown land;
it is a voyage home. We are going, not to a strange
country, but to our father's house. -John Ruskin*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 13, 2022



Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a; Ps 98:5-9; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44

Friday: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48 or (for the memorial of the Dedication) Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; Ps 98:1-6; Mt 14:22-33

Saturday: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

VOCATION DINNER THEATER

Saturday, Dec. 10th - 5:30pm

Join us in celebrating Fr. John's 39 years as a priest with a vocation dinner and musical performance

Menu: appetizers, country baked chicken, London broil, mostaccioli, mashed potatoes, salad, rolls, veggies, relish tray, dessert and beverages

Dinner tickets are \$25.00 per person
Tickets must be paid in advance at the Parish Office
Seating is limited.
No tickets sold at the door.

SVF will be hosting a one-friar musical about Fr. Solanus Casey - open to all

More Love than Skill: A Saint and His Fiddle

Saturday, December 10th at 7:00pm

Free Will offering - See details below

THIS TUESDAY - Nov. 15th



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Join us in church at 7:00pm for an evening of

THANKSGIVING PRAISE AND WORSHIP

followed by refreshments and fellowship in the parish hall

A One-Friar Musical, by Br. Al Mascia, OFM
inspired by the life of Blessed Solanus Casey, OFM Cap.

December 10th

More Love than Skill:
A Saint and his Fiddle

December 10, 2022
7:00 PM
Following Parish Social and Supper

Doors Open to the General Public at 6:30 PM



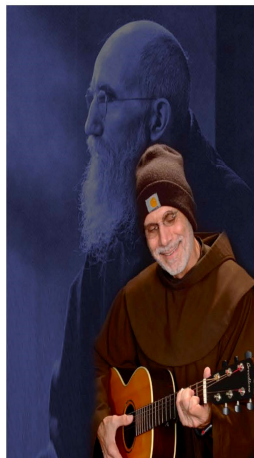
St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church 28353 Herbert St. Madison Heights, MI

Blessed Solanus Casey is known for the miraculous healing powers of his prayers. But, he was also a musician! Some stories need to be sung!

ABOUT THIS EVENT

This one-man, one-act musical tells the story of Capuchin Franciscan Blessed Solanus Casey in a way he would surely approve of: through song and music!

More Love than Skill: A Saint and His Fiddle is the creation of Brother Al Mascia, OFM, a Franciscan Friar from another generation. Through original music and fiddle tunes that Casey would have known and played on his violin, Br. Al tells the story of a saint whose love of playing his instrument was often belittled. Although Br. Al has been a professional musician and singer-songwriter for many years, he had never picked up a violin. That is, until now!



No charge for admission (Donations welcome)
www.BrotherAl.org 313-320-0548



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...all government leaders to seek wisdom in finding a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine crisis.

...medical and humanitarian aid for those suffering from economic hardship and from complications caused by catastrophic weather

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

...the homeless, the addicted and all who are suffering physically, spiritually and emotionally

...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 in these difficult times. 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

Every job is a self-portrait of the person who did it. Autograph your work with quality.

—Anonymous

EVANGELICAL SERVICE CORNER

**THANKSGIVING BASKET
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION
NOVEMBER 5 TO 20**

The requested items listed below can be dropped off in church before Mass or at the parish office during business hours. Monetary donations can be marked "Thanksgiving baskets" and put in the collection basket in church or left at the parish office. To donate electronically visit our website: www.stvincentferrer.net Click the donations tab and then the On Line Giving button. Choose Thanksgiving Baskets as the fund.



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Items below can be regular or sugar free

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Stuffing | Canned Vegetables |
| Gravy | Yams |
| Soups | Applesauce |
| Cranberry Sauce | Canned Fruit |
| Pickles | Cookies |
| Olives | |

**RIGHT-TO-LIFE CHRISTMAS CARDS
AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 19/20 & 26/27**

RTL Christmas Cards will be available next weekend in the back of church. Package of 20 (5 x 7) are \$15. A package of 10 (6.23 X 4.5) are \$7.00.



The inside verse for the pkg. of 20 Cards is "May the Infant newly born fill your hearts with the comfort of hope, the warmth of peace, and the joy of life. Merry Christmas"



The inside verse for the pkg. of 10 cards is "He came to bless us all."



NO GOOD DEED GOES UNPUNISHED

When Jesus rose from the dead, he showed his disciples that even death will be overcome by God. In today's Gospel, he expands that to include most of the bad things that can happen to both non-believers and disciples alike. Starting with the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, Jesus mentions most of the scary things that people thought would bring the end of the world. He gives two pieces of advice. First, don't be fooled by anyone who says this is the end or who claims to be Jesus. When Jesus comes again, there will be no doubt about who it is. Then, don't be terrified by natural disasters or wars. As disciples, we hope we would respond to disasters not with fear, but with love. Believers can voluntarily help those affected, comfort the survivors, or help rebuild their homes or schools. People have welcomed strangers into their homes after a flood or hurricane has destroyed a neighborhood.

There is a saying that "no good deed goes unpunished." Jesus never says that his disciples would be given awards for their acts of charity. In the second half of the Gospel, he says that his disciples would be persecuted, hated, and even betrayed by their own families. Jesus has advice for that situation, too. He tells us "not to prepare your defense," but to let him give us the words. I suspect that he means not to worry about what you might say, lest you become scared speechless. If you let him, Jesus will "prepare" you with the scripture readings, your pastor's homilies, and your own prayer life. All of these can help open us to the gifts of the Spirit, who helps us proclaim our faith without fear.

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- Sunday: Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Tuesday: St. Albert the Great
- Wednesday: St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude
- Thursday: St. Elizabeth of Hungary
- Friday: The Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul in Rome; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne
- Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

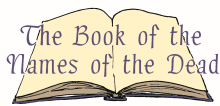
St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community



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extends its deepest sympathy and support to the family and friends of **Michael Higgins**

Please remember him and the souls of all the faithful departed in your prayers. May all the deceased be welcomed into paradise!



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During the month of November, the Book of Life, remembering our beloved deceased will be displayed in church. In it, you will find the names of the deceased of our parish and those whose funerals were celebrated at St. Vincent Ferrer during the past year.

You are invited to write in the names of your deceased loved ones for our remembrance.

Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan Collection Nov. 19/20



Providing Help. Giving Hope. ccsem.org

CCSEM Services in Oakland County include Adoption and Foster Care, Adult Day Services, substance abuse counseling, refugee settlement, Senior Outreach Food Program, senior volunteer and enrichment opportunities, Walking With Moms Program These are a few of the programs supported by contributions.

The annual collection for CCSEM will be next weekend. Envelopes for this collection can be found at the church entrances. Please make checks payable to St. Vincent Ferrer Church.

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Last Monday, the children in our religious education program learned an invocation of the Holy Spirit to pray before class to help them enter into the lessons and listen to the proclamation of the Good News from their catechists. The proclamation of the Good News, the announcement of Christianity, is called the

‘kerygma’, which is the Greek word for ‘announcement’. It was this same announcement that the apostles made upon receiving the Holy Spirit and leaving the Cenacle. It is a powerful announcement that Jesus is the Christ, the one chosen by God to liberate all people from sin by His death and resurrection. Hearing this announcement caused those who listened to it to respond. When they asked St. Peter what they needed to do, he told them to convert and be baptized. Each day we are called to convert - to recognize our sins and ask the Lord to help us live Christian lives. This is why the sacrament of Reconciliation is so important for us to frequent. Going to confession is not just about confessing our sins, but also to receive the grace that comes from the sacrament to truly convert and change our lives. If you haven’t been to confession in some time, I encourage you to go and receive the graces that God wants to give you through this sacrament. It is a gift that we can confess our sins, receive absolution, and be put back on the path to conversation, seeking the Lord with all our heart.

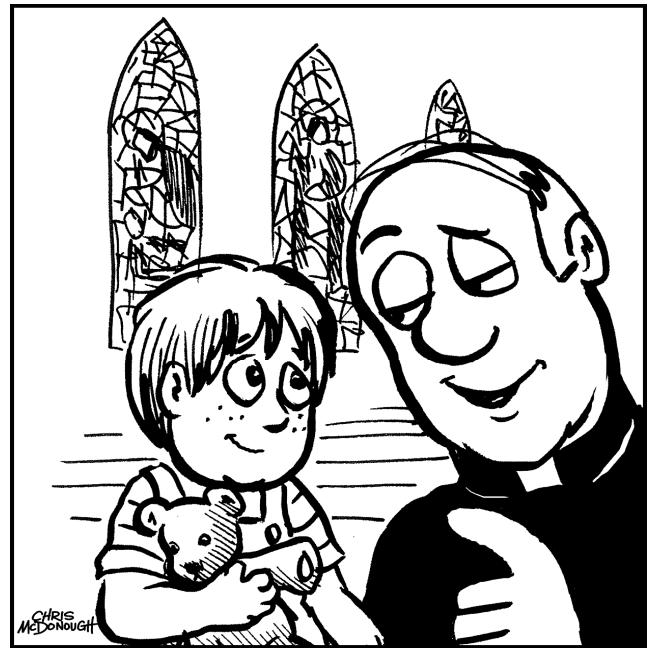
Matthew Zinser

Advent Begins November 27th

Families and individuals are needed to light the Advent Wreath Candles. Please sign up at the table by the Herbert St. door.

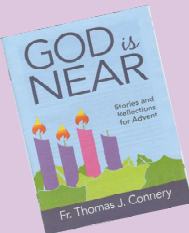


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"Well, transubstantiation *isn't* Jesus morphing. His real 'special effects' are in our hearts."

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLETS




Advent Reflection Booklets are available in the back of church today or at the parish office for a small donation.

God is Near \$1.00 donation
 Advent & Christmas (Large Print) \$5.00 donation

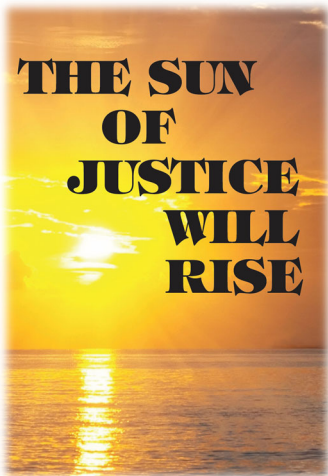
Stewardship Thoughts

Today’s apocalyptic Scripture passages challenge us to reflect on the end times... Deepening our discipleship in Christ leads to a personal relationship with Him and fortifies and strengthens us. Pray daily and attend Mass frequently to partake in the Eucharist for Christ’s strength during difficult times. As Jesus states: *By your perseverance, you will secure your lives.*

Ministry Schedule

November 19/20

Mass	Sat. 4 pm	Sun 9 am
Sacristan	D Tourville	C McCarthy
Reader #1	M McCown	R Grant
Reader #2	M Kairis	C McCarthy
EME	M Kairis	P Miles
	J McCown	A Goll
	R Pasiak	T Karolski
Greeters	T Milko	S Bosetti
	Volunteer	B Gutowski
	K Heffner	D Vu
	R Juska-Svoba	M Bessler



Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is easy to go through life non-reflectively, living the routines of our days and weeks without giving much thought to the larger questions of meaning, purpose, and calling. We may know we need to change but put it off, thinking we'll love, serve, and care more in the future.

We may face trial personally and be weary of trying to live as we know we should. We witness discord, violence, and division and it may feel that it is the end of the world. Today's readings urge us to put laziness, fear, or distraction aside and get about the work of discipleship with the assurance that the Lord will provide what we need as we do so.

THE SUN OF JUSTICE WILL ARISE

It may seem as though Jesus is talking directly to us in today's Gospel. While it is always true that the Gospel speaks across time and space, today's message feels particularly appropriate as we near the end of another year that has been filled with pandemic, political division, international tension, and economic concerns. Christ reigns over all these things, and as Christians, we hold firm in the belief that we will as well. We must take the long view—the truly long view of eternity—as we meet the challenges of our time. The sun of justice will arise. All will be well.

NOT A HAIR ON YOUR HEAD WILL BE DESTROYED. PERSEVERE.

The message of the Gospel is not abstract, nor are we distant hearers of its message. We face choices every day about how we will live, what we will or won't do, how seriously we will take Christ's call to live the truth of the gospel. At times, the choices we face seem inconsequential: will we sit on the sofa night after night, or choose to spend time with family or serve in our parish? Will we get up for Mass on Sunday morning ready to praise God and be part of our faith community, or drag ourselves there, grumbling every step of the way (or not go at all)? Choices such as these are of consequence of course, not only because each decision matters, but the patterns we establish in our lives are rooted in the cumulative weight of the choices we make. We may be called upon to make harder choices and must be prepared to do so. Jesus tells us to persevere. By doing so, we will secure our lives.



OUR FAMILY - MASS SCHEDULES

National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica

2100 W. 12 Mile, Royal Oak, 48073

SATURDAY

8:30 am and 4:30 pm (livestreamed)

SUNDAY

7:30 am, 9:30 am (livestreamed), 11:30 am
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

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

Weekly Offering



Offertory Env. Distributed & e-fund participants	723
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	111
Total Amount in Offertory Env. & e-funds rec'd	\$ 5,404.72
Loose Cash /Check Collection	196.00
Total	\$ 5,600.72
Budgeted Amount for Offertory	\$ 9,340.46
Energy	\$ 222.00
All Saints	\$ 967.00
All Souls	\$ 1,155.00

The St. Mary's Women's Club is hosting
"Advent Reflection: A Season of Waiting"



Sunday, November 27, 2022 - 7:00pm
St. Mary Fellowship Center
 (Downtown Royal Oak)

Seating is limited, but open to all who would be interested in an evening of prayer and inspiration. Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP is required by calling the parish at 248-547-1818 or visiting the parish website:
www.stmaryroyaloak.com or Facebook page (St Mary Catholic Church in Downtown Royal Oak)

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. 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:

How can I increase my devotion to serving God?

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Free online Course during Advent offered thru Sacred Heart Major Seminary
 presented by **Dr. Ralph Martin, Director of Programs in the New Evangelization**
Sunday, Nov. 27 - Saturday, Dec. 24

Do you think being holy is impossible? Something reserved only for a select few? Have you ever wished you had a "roadmap" for getting to heaven? Or better yet, a shortcut to holiness?

In this short online course, Dr. Ralph Martin, Director of Programs in the New Evangelization at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, shows how achieving holiness is not only possible but something each and every one of us is called to. He will present the stages of spiritual growth as lived out by some of the great spiritual masters of the Church.

Reflecting on their examples, the course will cover practical tips and advice for advancing in our journey to God. The curriculum is based on Dr. Martin's book *The Fulfillment of All Desire: A Guidebook for the Journey to God Based on the Wisdom of the Saints*.

Learn more and register at shms.edu/advent.

When you tell others what Jesus has done for you, you are giving your testimony. Think about what you would say as you find and color all the hidden letters of the word TESTIMONY in this picture.

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God's Word for Children

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

We should all sing praises to the Lord— even the sea and all that fills it! Use your imagination to finish drawing and then color the living things in the ocean.

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Royal Oak 248-541-7000
 Utica 586-731-2411
 Michael Kairis, Sherry Marshall
 - Parishioners

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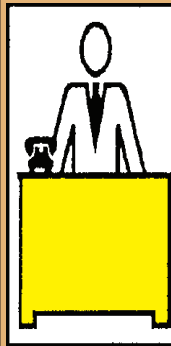
Elizabeth "Betty" McEvoy E.A.

Individual and Small Business
 Tax Returns

Home: **(248) 589-2077**
 Cell: **(248) 808-4353**

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 Madison Heights, MI 48071

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Life Matters

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