



St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

Madison Heights, MI www.stvincentferrer.net

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 † TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From The Pastor

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are primarily known to us as gospel writers. Each have their own style and emphasis on how they have formatted the proclamation of the Good News of the Lord Jesus. This is because each of these writers were also pastors or leaders in their various communities of faith. Matthew led a more well to do Jewish community. Luke was aligned with a much poorer community characterized by compassion and justice. Mark pastored a largely Gentile, Roman audience. Mark's community was drawn to the glory of the Cross and the subsequent Resurrection of Jesus. The reality of suffering the Cross demanded was not so popular; in fact, largely resisted if not actively denied.

Today's gospel gives us some insight into the kinds of spiritual/pastoral concerns needing attention in the Marken community. Suffering has never been and will never likely be a readily embraced path of spiritual maturing. This helps set the context of today's gospel.

It is in our human nature to compare ourselves in relation to others. The downside of comparing is the competition it creates. Last Sunday we heard Jesus give the second prediction of his suffering and death. The disciples could not understand or accept that Jesus would be killed. In their distress, rather than ponder the meaning of his words, they argued over who would be the most important.

In today's verses through the teaching of Jesus, Mark addresses the concerns of ambition, envy, intolerance, and scandal. In the confusion of the predicted death of Jesus, the ambitious competition of the disciples comes to the surface. Perhaps this is a defense mechanism or denial of such harsh and inconceivable news. Maybe? In the next chapter at the third prediction of the Passion, James and John respond by asking Jesus for seats at his right and left hand as he comes into glory. Unclear on the concept. Jesus had to make clear the meaning and effect of his suffering and death to break the ego competition and ambitions of his closest disciples.

This sets the stage to address the issues of envy and jealousy among the disciples and for that matter all of us. This is the connecting point between the first reading and the gospel. It is the comparing and competition of who is in and who is out. Eldad and Medad were on the list to attend the prayer meeting and receive the gift of prophecy. Duties or otherwise

kept them back in camp. Nonetheless, the Spirit of prophecy came upon them. This caused Joshua to resist and complain in defense of Moses' authority. Moses sees the action of God and rejoices in the sharing of the gift wishing all the believers may be so blest.

The parallel scene is John's complaint that outsiders from their group were using the name of Jesus to drive out demons. Same issue: envy, intolerance, and jealousy. Jesus is clear. Do not prevent them. If they are for us, they cannot also be against us. This is a chronic issue not only in church ministries, but across culture and society. Envy and jealousy cause endless, and unnecessary suffering, division, and broken relationships that wound the human family.

Let us be clear about the difference between envy and jealousy. The words and their meanings are often misunderstood. Envy is typically between two people. Envy is the desire to have the advantage or to possess what another person has. If you have been given the favor of an advantage, I should have that too. If you have something I do not have, I feel the pain of wanting what you have because I deserve it.

Jealousy is more common among three people. It is the painful suspicion of rivalry and competition in the fear of loss. It is the fear of losing what I have to someone else. The second person is jealous of the first person who has the person or thing I want. Both envy and jealousy are dangerous sins because they create disorder in the heart and soul. God is displaced for the want of an ego desire of a worldly possession, person, or power.

This contradicts the meaning and nature of the Cross. Notice how patient and instructive Jesus is. The examples may seem harsh only because the consequence is so impactful. The mystery of Divine love is humble and surrendering in willing self-giving for the unity and good of all. Notice that no one is competing for the suffering of the Cross, but all are anxious for the glory of heaven, minus the suffering.

This section of Mark's gospel challenges us with the demands of what it means to follow Jesus. Love is the core truth. Love is defined by surrendered self-giving. Love by nature seeks the good of the other, not me first. Lord Jesus, give us the grace to follow the path of the Cross to the promise of glory.

Father John Esper

Liturgical Schedule

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday thru Thursday

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 9:00am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm
in Chapel

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

Adoration on Tuesdays
8:45am to 10:00am

Livestream of Rosary on
Thursdays 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

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, Bus. Mgr/Adult Faith Formation
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

248-398-1743 – call for appointment

Matthew Zinser, Childhood Faith Formation Coordinator

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

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, September 30, 2024

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

TUESDAY, October 1, 2024

8:00am Mass: Odilia & Walter Joinville† & John Bryant†
req. by Family

WEDNESDAY, October 2, 2024

8:00am Mass: Br. Phillip OFM, Capt† & Br. Albert OFM,
Capt

THURSDAY, October 3, 2024

8:00am Mass: Parishioners of St Vincent Ferrer

SATURDAY, October 5, 2024

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer
Peter Conway (Special Intention) req. by Mom
Katherine Boguslawski† req. by Bob Boguslawski
Jessica Magri(5th R.A.) req. by Kim Magri & Family

SUNDAY, October 6, 2024

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer
Diane LePage† req. by Martha Eggert
Joseph Dong Kim Pham† req. by Family

Feast of the Guardian Angels - August 2nd

Guardian Angel Prayer

*Angel of God,
my guardian dear to whom God's
love commits me here.
Ever this day be at my side, to light
and guard to rule and guide. Amen*



Readings for the Week

September 29, 2024

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Sunday: | Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14
(9a)/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 |
| Monday: | Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk
9:46-50 |
| Tuesday: | Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3, 4-5,
6, 7-8/Lk 9:51-56 |
| Wednesday: | Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-
13, 14-15/Mt 18:1-5, 10 |
| Thursday: | Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-
14/Lk 10:1-12 |
| Friday: | Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-
8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Lk 10:13-16 |
| Saturday: | Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71,
75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24 |
| Next Sunday: | Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (see
5)/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12 |

SEND A PHOTO OF YOUR PET



With the annual Pet Blessing coming up on Oct 5th to honor St. Francis of Assisi, we thought it would be fun in the next couple of weeks to see the pets you share your home with and call "Family."

Send us a picture of your pet, either digitally (to sheryl@stvincentferrer.net) or drop one off at the administration office this week and we'll feature them in the weekly video announcements.

**NEXT SATURDAY
OCTOBER 5TH
9AM**

Bring your pets! In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals, Fr. John will bless your pets outside the Administration Bldg.

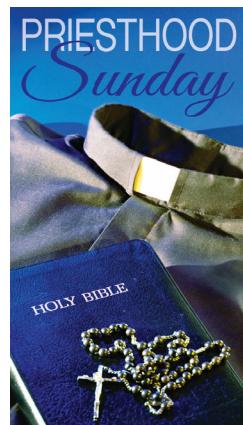
**ATTENTION ALL
SVF LITURGICAL MINISTERS:
Sacristans, Greeters, Readers, EMES**

Please plan on attending an evening of renewal and reflection on Tuesday, October 8th at 6:30pm in the Administration Building.

Fr. John will lead us in prayer, praise and thanksgiving for our ministries. The evening will also attend to tasks and format of the individual ministries.

This meeting will also meet the requirements of the Archdiocese to recertify ministers every 3 years. Those interested in joining a ministry are welcome to attend.

Note: This evening was originally scheduled last January but was canceled due to inclement weather.



God Bless Our Pastor

Thank you Father John for your love and service to God and to the people you have ministered to throughout the years, especially those in our parish family.

We are also grateful to Br. Bob, Fr. Paolo, Fr. Enno and the PIME Missionaries for their assistance in the sacramental life of our parish family.

Daily Catholic Prayer for Priests

*O Jesus, I pray
for Your faithful and fervent priests;
for Your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for Your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;
for Your tempted priests;
for Your lonely and desolate priests;
for Your young priests;
for Your dying priests;
for the souls of Your priests in Purgatory.
But above all, I recommend to You the priests dearest to me:
the priest who baptized me;
the priests who absolved me from my sins;
the priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion;
the priests who taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.
O Jesus, keep them all close to Your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.*

With permission from Knights of the Holy Eucharist
www.knightsoftheholyeucharist.com

**COME PRAY THE ROSARY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7th
6:30pm in Church**

Our families need prayer, our Church needs prayer, our country needs prayer. All are invited to come and join the Immaculata Rosary Group in praying for Our Blessed Mother's loving intercession.



SNACK BAG COLLECTION Sept 28/29 & Oct 5/6

On Saturday, October 19th our parish will be participating in an Archdiocesan outreach day which involves our hands-on efforts to serve the needs of local homeless, food deprived, and other unmet needs of our brothers and sisters whom Jesus identifies with: "When I was hungry." Our first collection request for this project will be items that will be placed in snack bags to be delivered to Franciscan Outreach at their Duns Scotus House in Berkley.

Items needed: individual serving sizes of cookies, crackers, gummy fruit snacks, granola bars and juice boxes. We'll be collecting these items on the weekends of Sept. 28/29 and Oct. 5/6, 2024. Your contributions can be placed on the tables in the back of church or at the parish office during the week. Thank you for your always generous response.

SVF Blood Drive October 24, 2024 1-7pm

What You Need to Know About Blood Donation Color Your Fall With Kindness

We are God's hands, feet and eyes here on earth. We have an opportunity to perform kindness for others by donating blood on Oct 24, 2024. Your gift helps up to 3 people.

1. Our parish gets credit for everyone who tries to donate. Do not assume you cannot donate; more people can donate now than before.
2. You can not donate if you are under 17. You can donate at 16 with parental consent.
3. You cannot donate if you weigh less than 110lbs.
4. You cannot donate if you are pregnant, have a cold or flu.
5. You cannot donate if your iron level is low.
6. You cannot donate if you traveled outside the US where you can be exposed to malaria.
7. You can donate blood every 56 days.
8. If you cannot donate you can help as a volunteer at registration and/or the snack area for an hour or two.

Please ask friends, organizations you belong to, and family to join us. You can sign up to donate or volunteer Oct 4-5 after Mass or online at redcrossblood.org. At website in upper right side of screen click on Find a Blood Drive and on next screen click on FIND A DRIVE (upper right again) and on next screen enter SPONSER CODE: SVFCC on left side of screen or call 1-800-733-2767.

SAVE THE DATE

Praise & Worship

WEDNESDAY

October 16th - 7pm

Prayer / Song / Fellowship
light refreshments
to follow

ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. Vincent Ferrer Church
 28353 Herbert St.
 Madison Heights, MI 48071

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the name of the physical seat for a bishop in a cathedral church? ©LPI

Answer: Cathedra



PRAY FOR...

...all government leaders to seek wisdom in finding peaceful solutions to world wars and tensions.
 ...medical and humanitarian aid for those suffering from hardship due to catastrophic weather, fires, wars, floods, earthquakes and disasters.
 ...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.
 ...the homeless, the addicted and all who are suffering physically, spiritually, mentally, 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 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



Classes are in person on Mondays 6:15 to 7:30pm in the school building.

Registrations still being accepted. For more information, contact Matthew in the Faith Formation Office 248-398-1743 or email him at matthew@stvincentferrer.net

Women's Sacred Journey

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH 9:00AM

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE
SVF SCHOOL BLDG.



All women in our Family of Parishes are invited to join other women to pray and reflect on Scripture passages. The gathering is every other Saturday. No registration or fee required.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

ORDINARY TIME

Question: Why do we have a liturgical season called ordinary time? Can you explain?

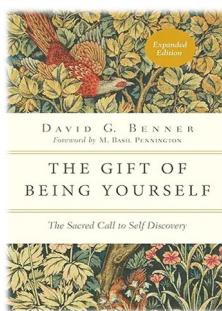
Answer: Ordinary time is the longest season of the liturgical year. It begins the Monday after January 6, the Epiphany, and goes until the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. That period can last anywhere from five to eight weeks, depending on when Easter is celebrated. Ordinary time picks up again the Monday after Pentecost Sunday and lasts from twenty-three to twenty-seven weeks, until the end of the liturgical year, the Saturday before Advent begins.

Why the name ordinary? "Ordinary" is not in contrast to "extraordinary" or "special" but rather stresses the Latin language notion of "ordinal" or numbered Sundays. The Latin title for the season, *tempus ordinarium*, conveys the sense that this time of the year is measured or numbered time. Measured time can allude simply to the numbered Sundays, or the notion that these Sundays are a "measured" time to deepen and immerse ourselves completely in the realities of Jesus' incarnation, ministry, passion, death, and resurrection. Ordinary time offers us the opportunity to connect the ordinary lived experiences of our lives with those of Jesus, who modeled for us how to live a truly human existence.

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UPCOMING EVENT



**BREAKFAST
BOOK STUDY**
WEDNESDAYS
9:00am
Beginning Oct. 30th

"Grant, Lord, that I may know myself that I may know thee." —Augustine

Much is said in Christian circles about knowing God. But Christians throughout the ages have agreed that there cannot be deep knowledge of God without deep knowledge of the self. Discerning your true self is inextricably related to discerning God's purposes for you. Paradoxically, the more you become like Christ, the more you become authentically yourself. In this profound exploration of Christian identity, psychologist and spiritual director David G. Benner illuminates the spirituality of self-discovery. He exposes the false selves that you may hide behind and calls you to discover the true self that emerges from your uniqueness in Christ. Freeing you from illusions about yourself, Benner shows that self-understanding leads to the fulfillment of your God-given destiny and vocation. Rest assured, you need not try to be someone you are not. But you will deepen your experience of God through discovering the gift of being yourself.

Ministry Schedule

October 5/6, 2024

Mass	4:00pm	9:00am
Sacristan	P Miles	T Karolski
Reader #1	R Pasiak	L Yolkiewicz
Reader #2	P Miles	T Karolski
EME	M Simmons	L Yolkiewicz
	R Pasiak	A Goll
	D Tourville	R Grant
Greeters	L Collins	D Vu
	R Juska-Svoba	B Turchin
	R Bertolini	P Rarus
	M Smith	T Lane

Traveling Chalice Host beginning week of October 5/6, 2024
Duane & Marge McLaughlin



St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

extends its deepest sympathy and support to the family and friends of
Regis Welsh

Please remember him and the souls of all the faithful departed in your prayers.

May all the deceased be welcomed into paradise!

GETTING TO KNOW OUR SAINTS

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos 1819-1867

Father Francis Xavier Seelos was born on January 11, 1819, in Füssen, Bavaria, which is now part of modern-day Germany. He was the sixth of 12 children, and his parents instilled in him a deep faith and a desire to serve the Lord.

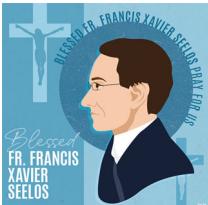
As a young man, Francis Xavier Seelos studied at the University of Munich and later at the University of St. Stephen in Austria. He joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, also known as the Redemptorists, in 1842, and was ordained to the priesthood two years later. He began his ministry in Bavaria, where he served as a pastor and missionary.

In 1849, Father Seelos volunteered to go to the United States, where the Redemptorists had established a mission, to work among German-speaking immigrants. He arrived in New York City and was immediately struck by the poverty and hardship that he saw in the city's slums. He decided to dedicate his life to the service of the poor and spent several years ministering in the Redemptorists communities in New York, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, and elsewhere around the United States.

Father Seelos soon became known for gentle and compassionate nature, his deep spirituality, and his tireless dedication to those in need. He often went out of his way to offer help and would visit hospitals and prisons, spending time with the sick and dying. He was also known for his powerful preaching, and many people were drawn to him due to his charismatic speaking abilities.

One of Father Seelos' most important contributions to the Church was his work among the black communities wherever he was serving. At a time when racial prejudice was rampant in America, he made a special effort to minister to the spiritual needs of his black neighbors, often putting himself at risk to do so. He was known for his compassion and his willingness to speak out against racism and discrimination.

On October 5, 1867, Father Seelos contracted yellow fever while ministering to the sick in New Orleans. He died just a few days later, on October 7, at the age of 48. His death was mourned by people of all faiths and races across the USA. Father Seelos' life was marked by a deep spirituality and a strong devotion to the Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on April 9, 2000, and is considered Blessed.



The Angel in the Marble

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I know that sounds pretty awful, because what kind of God doesn't want all of you, exactly as you are? "Be yourself," we tell our kids. "If someone expects you to change to be their friend, you don't want to be that person's friend."

And sure, all of that is true ... to an extent. But I think if we really analyze our closest friendships, we'll see that we *have* been changed by them. We aren't the same person we were on the day we met our best friend or before we fell in love with our spouse. The good relationships should always change us, form us. They should call us to some higher plateau on the mountain climb that is life. But to be nimble enough for the climb, there will be parts of ourselves that we have to jettison — preconceived notions, prejudices, selfish tendencies, habits that we cling to like a security blanket.

This is how we become who we are meant to be: by discerning what isn't helpful and good in our own nature, and letting it go.

"I saw the angel in the marble," Michelangelo once said of his artistic process, "and I carved until I set him free."

Would it not be a terrible tragedy if we all remained shapeless hunks of marble, untouched by the chisels of experience and relationship, thinking ourselves perfect exactly as we are?

God looks at us and he sees the angel hidden in the marble, imprisoned there by the constraints of earthly life: original sin, the weakness of our flesh, the unceasing enticement of the evil one. He sees past what we need to excise, what we need to lop off, what we need to relinquish. He knows we are greatly attached to every part of ourselves, even those parts that lead us to sin.

He sees more than what is. He sees what can be.

"Cleanse me from my unknown faults!"
— Psalm 19:13

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INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"If your foot causes you to sin, cut it off," Jesus says. It's easy to gasp in horror at the thought of going through life deprived of a limb. But our horror should be even greater at the thought of going through life deprived of God's grace.

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QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION

First Reading: Nm 11:25-29

Moses hoped the Spirit of the Lord would be bestowed on all the Israelites, not limited just to the seventy elders. What are you hoping for this week?

Second Reading: Jas 5:1-6

James holds the rich in low regard, warning them against the trappings and dangers of excessive wealth. How are you generous toward others with your resources?

Gospel: Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Jesus taught his disciples the valuable lesson: "Whoever is not against us is for us." How do you promote unity rather than division at work or at home? ©LPi

Observances for the Week

Sunday:	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday
Monday:	St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday:	St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:	The Holy Guardian Angels
Friday:	St. Francis of Assisi
Saturday:	Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin; Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest
Next Sunday:	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday

©LPi

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: True or False: Unmarried permanent deacons must remain unmarried/celibate. ©LPi

Answer: True

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP GIVING - WEEK ENDING SEPT 21/22, 2024

Fiscal Year 7-1-24 to 6-30-25	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	245	90		
Offertory	\$ 5,185.00	\$ 5,793.12	608.12	3,651.52
Energy, Coffee/Donuts, Flowers/Trees, Candles, Mass Intentions	472.00	377.00	(95.00)	(1,708.80)
Fundraising: includes Budget Deficit envelope, CSA returned	1,673.00	120.00	(1,553.00)	5,410.34
Bequests				210.00
AOD Collections: Missionary Cooperation Plan		1,342.00		3,107.00
Holy Days:				1,267.00
CSA 2024 Pledged 69,560.34				Paid 62,962.84

t. Justin-St. Mary Magdalen Parish
Rummage & Bake Sale



St. Justin Church
1600 E. Evelyn Hazel Park

Friday: Oct. 4th 10:00AM-5:00PM
Saturday: Oct. 5th 10:00AM-5:00PM
Sunday: Oct. 6th 10:00AM-1:00PM

Special Pricing on Sunday!!!
Sale Items Include:

Clothing, Toys, Lamps, Glassware, Furniture,
Baked Goods, and many other wonderful
things!

Raffle Drawing on Sunday

Tickets available at \$1.00 each - in books of 10

Prizes

- 1st Prize - \$500.00 Cash
- 2nd Prize - \$100.00 Kroger Card
- 3rd Prize - \$50.00 Meijer Card

EXPLORE CATHOLIC EVENTS AROUND METRO DETROIT!

VISIT : <https://www.detroitcatholic.com>
and click on the events tab



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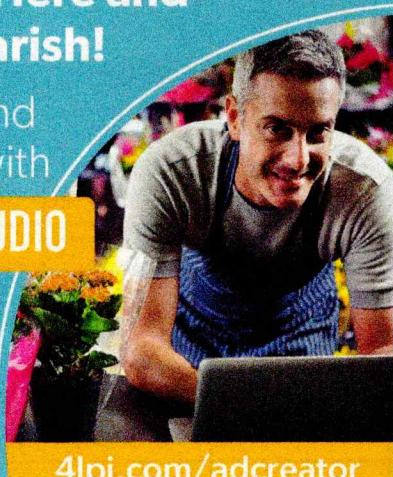
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