

#### **From The Pastor**

Flowing from the gospel of last Sunday that calls us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, how do we give God our all? What might that even look like? In a monetary, consumer, media, superficial driven culture, how do we learn to direct our lives fully to the life of Christ? To support this insight, ponder how we may more fully realize *all* God has given to us in the Lord Jesus.

Today's readings offer living examples of what surrendering our lives to God may look like. The faith and trust of the widow of Zarephath is stunning. Her life is in the crisis of a three-year drought. She is poor, alone without a husband or other forms of support. She appears resigned to death with her son after a final meal of bread and water.

The Prophet Elijah appears. It is not made clear, but she must recognize him as a man of God. Elijah is Jewish believing in Yahweh as the one true God. The woman is a Gentile of unknown religion. God has sent Elijah purposely to this woman and her son. Elijah is unfazed by the circumstance. He simply goes about his business as directed by God. He is in the custom of knowing and trusting God whole heartedly. Why does the woman even give this man a second thought? Maybe it is the weight of fear in her crisis. Maybe it is her only hope to trust the Prophet who promises the flour and oil will not run out. She surrenders all to the man of God and is not left in want.

The widow in the gospel is the same, but in a different frame. She knows God and deeply believes and loves God with all she has. She is not in crisis. She appears to be acting freely and with willful desire when she offers her last two cents to God. Her faith, love, and trust in God is complete. Her place in the Kingdom of God is assured at the word of Jesus who affirms loving devotion.

These are two images of what it looks like to give God our all. Most, if any of us, have not encountered the experience or response of these two women. What might this kind of trust look like in your life? In the reasonable security and stability most of us enjoy, how might we come to trust with such an ardent faith that acts with total and willing surrender?

The second reading offers us the opportunity to consider the trust and complete surrender of the Lord Jesus. How can we realize more fully all God gives us in the person of Jesus? The gift God offers through the Incarnate Son is a pure act of Divine love. Human perception and understanding cannot fathom the measure and capacity of this kind of love. It is a love that can only be perceived through faith; a living faith confirmed through felt experience of personal encounters. The redemptive work of God through the Lord Jesus is an act of love that can only be satisfied and fulfilled by God. It is a sacrifice so perfect it never needs to be repeated. Jesus offers his own blood, his own life, once for all. Emphasis on all. Inclusively, every human being who ever existed or will ever exist is offered the gift of redemption through the Lord Jesus.

To give our all to the mystery of this loving sacrifice we are called to become mindfully conscious and heartfully attentive to the person and the life of Christ. With conscious attention and heartfelt faith, we are to ponder who Christ is as the God of our faith. We must ponder deeply what he does, why he does it, and what the effect his life has on us. The obvious: Jesus is the Son of the Divine God, he died out of love to save us from sin and death, that we may share the union of Divine love in the glory of heaven. Just a string of words we have all heard before? Hardly. Why do we so ardently believe in Jesus, hope in him, and long for what he promises? Because God has sown this longing in our hearts. We are more than animated physical bodies. We are spiritual beings in whom the Lord Jesus dwells in the power of his Spirit.

Our response? Allowing, forming, practicing gratitude as a primary and consistent stance of selfidentity. Your life is God's gift; a gift God dearly loves to offer you, and from which God takes great delight. This is not only life here, but with the promise of life hereafter in perfect union with God in heaven. Can you believe this in an actively mindful and heartfelt way? Can you trust this in good times and in bad, through thick and thin, in the best or the worst days?

To know yourself in a stance of gratitude will deeply enrich your knowledge and awareness of God. You will not only learn to love yourself, but you will also grow in faith and trust in those around you. You will begin to see God in others and be moved to reach out beyond yourself toward the needs of others.

Living in gratitude for the gift of God given in Christ will draw you to works of justice, tolerance, and charity toward others. You will be more accepting of others no matter who they are. This is a lifetime journey, but you will be on your way to loving God with your whole self.



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



#### 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

#### MONDAY, November 11, 2024

8:00am Mass: Mike Higgins† reg. by Krys & Family TUESDAY, November 12, 2024 8:00am Mass: Joseph & Jacquelyn Pantano† reg. by Family WEDNESDAY, November 13, 2024 8:00am Mass: Jack King† req. by Pat King THURSDAY, November 14, 2024 8:00am Mass: Christopher Hudy (Special Intention) req. by Mom SATURDAY, November 16, 2024 4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Katherine Boguslawski† req. by Family Jack King req. by Pat King All deceased religious brothers & sisters who ministered in the Archdiocese of Detroit SUNDAY, November 17, 2024 9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Diane LePaget reg. by Martha Eggert Joseph Dong Kim Pham<sup>+</sup> req. by Family Wayne Maynard† req. by Angela Maynard Deceased members of our Family of Parishes

#### St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community



extends its deepest sympathy and support to the family and friends of *Edda Marchesi Reverend Robert Williams* 

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

May all the deceased be welcomed into paradise!



#### November 10, 2024

Sunday:	1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44
Monday:	Ti 1:1-9/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 17:1-6
Tuesday:	Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29/Lk 17:7-10
Wednesday:	Ti 3:1-7/Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6/Lk 17:11-19
Thursday:	PhIm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/ Lk 17:20-25
Friday:	2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/ Lk 17:26-37
Saturday:	3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8
Next Sunday:	Dn 12:1-3/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/ Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32

# Fr. John's Ordination Celebration Mass & Vocations Dinner

In support of Vocations to the Priesthood, join us in celebrating Fr. John's 41st Ordination Anniversary

#### Mass: 4pm Dinner: 5:30pm-Parish Hall Saturday, December 7th

MENU

Appetizers, London Broil, Chicken Marsala, Meatless Mostaccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Vegies, Relish Tray, Salad, Rolls/Butter Dessert & Beverages

#### Raffles

### Tickets: \$25 per person

No tickets available at the door. Purchase tickets after Mass this weekend in back of church or at the Parish Office during the week.

#### You are invited to

# **Advent Tea**

"The Incarnation: Making Room for Jesus"

#### **Presentation:**

"The Incarnation from a Practical and Lived Manner" by Br. Bob Malloy, OFM Cap.

Date:	Sunday, December 1		
Time:	2:00 - 4:00 pm		
Location:	St. Vincent Ferrer		
	Administration Bldg.		

It will be a prayerful, peaceful, relaxing atmosphere in which you can escape the hustle and bustle of the holiday season for a few hours. Join with friends to reflect upon the Incarnation and to invite Jesus into our hearts as we begin this advent season.

If you would like to host a table, or be a guest at someone's table, please sign up at the back of church after Masses or call the parish office at (248) 542-8720 to RSVP by Monday, November 25. More information will be provided to you.

A free will offering of a baby gift will be donated to Women's Pregnancy Aid Center in Madison Heights.

Sign up sheets in will be available in church the weekends of Nov 9/10, Nov 16/17 and Nov 23/24.



UNITED IN PRAYER THIS VETERAN'S DAY WE PRAY IN GRATITUDE FOR ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE DEFENDED PEACE, VIRTUE, AND JUSTICE WITH HONOR. WE PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED IN MIND AND BODY FROM THE RAVAGES OF WAR. GOD'S BLESSINGS AND HEALINGS UPON OUR VETERANS TODAY

AND ALWAYS.

ALL ARE INVITED TO COME AND PRAY THE ROSARY

THIS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11th 6:30pm in Church

Help us provide a hearty Thanksgiving Dinner to a local family! Non-Perishable Food Collection November 2 - 17 PLEASE MAKE DONATION CHOICES ONLY FROM THE REQUESTED ITEMS LISTED BELOW: Gravv Yams **Canned Fruit** Rice Stuffina Cookies Pickles **Canned Vegetables** Applesauce Olives Fried Onion Rings **Cranberry Sauce** 

Monetary donations for perishable food items can be put in envelopes marked "Thanksgiving Dinner" and be left in the collection baskets or brought to the Parish Office. OR

Make an electronic donation through our website: www.stvincentferrer.net



Soups



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING

The St. Vincent de Paul Ministry will meet this Tuesday, November 12th at 6:30pm in church.

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# PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Lord Christ, help us to see what it is that joins us together, not what separates us. For when we see only what it is that makes us different, we too often become aware of what is wrong with others. We see only their faults and weaknesses, interpreting their actions as flowing from malice or hatred rather than fear. Even when confronted with evil, Lord, you forgave and sacrificed yourself rather than sought revenge. Teach us to do the same by the power of your Spirit.

William Breault, SJ

Used with permission from the Institute of Jesuit Sources, Boston College: Chestnut Hill, MA

## **MERCY IN ACTION BLOOD DRIVE**

Thank all of you for a successful blood drive. Those who tried, volunteered, and those who gave made a difference for 90 people. We had a total of 38 signed up to give and were able to collect 30 units of blood. 15% of these were first time donors! Each unit of blood helps 3 people in the form of packed blood cells, platelets, and plasma.

Thank you all for giving someone a chance at another birthday, another laugh, hug, and chance at life. The donors said they really feel good after donating and some even do it every time they can give. Those who were turned away felt bad they couldn't give but their courage and their efforts are not to be dismissed; you are valued. The volunteers truly put their hearts into their tasks. They welcomed and had conversations with the donors making the time go faster. We met many new friends and were able to share information with many.

It was a wonderful experience. Thank you again for your commitment to helping others. Thank you for seeing the needs of others around us and becoming the hands and feet of Jesus.

Angela Maynard, Parish Nurse



To be sure that Christmas donations are properly credited for Christmas, please do not submit them until after December 10th.



# SIGN-UP TO LIGHT OUR ADVENT WREATH

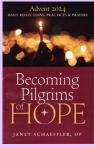


Families and individuals are needed to light the Advent Wreath Candles. Please sign up at the table outside the chapel by the Herbert St. entrance.



#### ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKS

Advent reflection booklets are available in back of church after Mass. A donation of \$2.00 is asked to help cover the costs.





...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.

...respect for life from conception to natural death ...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. ...the respect for life from conception to natural death ...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.



# **Traveling Vocations Chalice**

Advent will be here soon. As part of this season, make a commitment to pray for vocations to the priesthood and host the Traveling Vocations Chalice for one week.

Prayers are included. Sign up sheets are at the table outside the chapel.

#### WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

#### SAINTS

**Question:** Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would such holy people think they had such serious sin?

**Answer:** Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and better performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness, their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned in to the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls. We must guard against becoming desensitized to sin in our lives and unaware of the harm it causes us. A goal of any spiritual practice is to become more aware of our sinfulness so that we seek God's forgiving and healing love.

# Women's Sacred Journey

Saturday, November 16th 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.

# Thanksgiving Day Is Coming!

Thanksgiving will be here before you know it, and you will soon be saying, "Pass me the mashed potatoes, please." This November holiday has its roots in American history and has grown into a day where we remember all the things for which we are thankful: country, family, friends, health, etc. Unfortunately, we can find ourselves so caught up with travel plans and buying the perfect turkey or ham that we let the day pass us by, and all we can focus on is how much we ate and who won the day's football games. That's why it is time NOW to begin reflecting daily on all things, great and small, that we are thankful for in life.

Gratitude is a key characteristic of a good Everyday Steward, but it does not develop in us without effort. In the coming days, we can contemplate all those things God has given us. If it helps, we can create a written list and bring it with us to the Thanksgiving dinner table. The point is that too often we take so many gifts for granted, and unless we pause and purposely reflect, we miss the chance to give thanks. A healthy and hearty heart filled with gratitude can make the highs in life that much higher and the lows easier to bear. Increased gratitude will also bring us closer to the source of all those good gifts, our God.

So, what will Thanksgiving be like for you this year? You have some time to make it something more than it has been in the past. The choice is yours.

> — Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPi

# **Ministry Schedule**

November 16/17, 2024

Mass	4:00pm	9:00am		
Sacristan	T Riley	L Yolkiewicz		
Reader #1	J McCown	R Grant		
Reader #2	M Kairis	L Yolkiewicz		
EME	T Riley	M Waskowski		
	R Pasiak	A Goll		
	M Simmons	R Grant		
Greeters	R Juska-Svoba	T Lane		
	L Collins	D Vu		
	M Smith	B Gutowski		
	R Bertolini	S Bosetti		
Traveling Chalie	<b>ce Host beginning we</b> Rorie Grant	ek of November 16/17		



#### **GETTING TO KNOW OUR SAINTS**



ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA November 13 1550-1568

St. Stanislaus Kostka was born to a noble family in Rostkow, Poland, not far from Warsaw. In 1564 Stanislaus was sent with his older brother to study at the new Jesuit college in

Vienna. He was an excellent student and developed a strong faith. He became a member of the Fraternity of St. Barbara, who believe their patroness will bring them Communion at the time of their death.

During his time in Vienna, while lodging with a Protestant nobleman, Stanislaus became seriously ill. Believing he was near death he asked for the Blessed Sacrament, but the noble man would not allow a priest or the sacrament to enter his house. Stanislaus had a vision of St. Barbara and two angels who gave him the Eucharist. Miraculously, he soon recovered from the illness. Stanislaus decided to enter the Jesuit order, however, he was unable to enter the monastery in Vienna. He disguised himself to avoid any objections from his family and walked to Dillingen, Germany where he met St. Peter Canisius the Jesuit leader there. After a short time, he was sent on to Rome, continuing the journey on foot.

He finally entered the Society of Jesus in Rome on his 17th birthday (October 28, 1567). According to all accounts, he was a model religious, taking on the lowly tasks of a new member despite his noble upbringing. But his time as a Jesuit was short. After only ten months in the order, just a few months shy of his eighteenth birthday, he died on the feast of the Assumption of Mary, August 15, 1568.

He was canonized on December 31, 1726, and is the patron of Jesuit novices, students, and Poland. St. Stanislaus Kostka, pray for us!

#### **GIVING FROM ABUNDANCE**

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

If you're like me, and you're far, far below the "having buildings named after you" tax bracket, you might just think that today's Gospel has nothing to do with you.

You might kick back and relax, thinking of all the poor, rich suckers sitting in the pews, shifting uncomfortably as Jesus praises the meager gift of the widow and disdains those who only give from abundance, those whose charity results in admiration and praise and all manner of temporal reward.

"In this economy, every gift I give is from my poverty," you might think to yourself with a chuckle.

But you — and let me be clear, I'm talking mostly to myself here — would be wrong. Because we all have an abundance of something, even if it isn't money.

What I've come to realize about myself is that I find plenty of ways to give *only* from my abundance. For instance, if I answer any request with the words, "Sure, I can, but..." chances are high that I'm about to work out a way to give, but only in a way that doesn't really impact me.

I'm willing to help. I just don't want to feel it.

But here's the thing about Jesus: he cares what's in our hearts as well as what's in our hands. A good deed, an act of charity? That's great! But what's the story behind it? Because a world full of moral actions and selfish hearts doesn't do anyone any good.

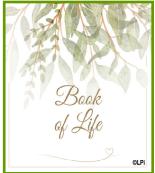
When we give from our poverty — our poverty of money, our poverty of time, our poverty of patience — we are giving the gift of the widow.

©LPi



Sunday:	32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Monday:	St. Martin of Tours, Bishop;		
•	Veterans Day		
Tuesday:	St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr		
Wednesday:	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin		
Friday:	St. Albert the Great, Bishop and		
-	Doctor of the Church		
Saturday:	St. Margaret of Scotland; St.		
•	Gertrude, Virgin		
Next Sunday:	33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time ©LPi		

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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 this past year.

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



#### Hosted by: Fr. Heary K of C Council

Where: St. Vincent Ferrer - Social Hall 28353 Herbert St. Madison Heights, MI 48071

When: November 16th – Registration starts @ 5:30pm

Entry Fee \$20.00 Cash per player – Cost covers one Food & one Beverage item per player. Additional food and beverages available for purchase.

1<sup>st</sup> Place Cash Prize!

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Cash Prize!

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Entry Fee Returned!

There will be 50/50 drawings & gift basket raffles.

Please help make this a successful event for Fr. Heary K of C Council #7239 to support our 4 key principles: Charity, Unity, Fraternity & Patriotism.

Please share this flyer with friends and family.

Questions regarding this Euchre Tournament - Call Darren @ 248-302-8918

Please support this K of C Fundraiser





GOING ALONE

#### 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Once at an evening Mass as a poor college student, the collection basket was fast approaching, and I only had a ten-dollar bill. I was planning on using that to buy my favorite Chipotle burrito that night for dinner. Should I keep the money? Who would know if I did? If I gave it away, what would I eat? Would I be okay? I kissed my future burrito goodbye, dropped the money in the basket, and winced. But strangely, the rest of the Mass I felt more engaged than usual. I had skin in the game. I left the Mass excited to see how God would take care of me. And he did, in amazing ways.

When the poor widow places two copper coins in the temple treasury, Jesus doesn't pity her. He praises her. He blesses her. He brags about her. He celebrates her as the temple's largest benefactor. Her giving is an act of radical, concrete trust in God. It is as if she is entering a new level of giving that excites Jesus, because she contributes not out of her abundance, but she gives "everything she had."

What a challenge this is to each one of us! How easy it is to ignore this! But imagine the eruption of the energy of faith, hope, and love that would be unlocked if our financial sacrifices to the Church actually tapped into daily bread and not only our disposable income. I challenge us to try this in some way this coming week and see what happens in our hearts. Even if it costs us a burrito.

-Father John Muir ©LPi

# **QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION**

#### First Reading: 1 Kgs 17:10-16

We hear how the Lord spared the widow and her son from starvation and death in the days of the prophet Elijah. How do you think society can best help those on the margins who are really struggling?

#### Second Reading: Heb 9:24-28

Hebrews teaches us that Jesus's death took away the sins of many and that at his Second Coming, Jesus will bring eternal salvation to all believers. When do you imagine Jesus will return?

#### Gospel: Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

Jesus praises the widow who gives to the poor despite her own poverty. Do you have family or friends who likewise selflessly give to others?

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# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP GIVING - WEEK ENDING NOV 2/3, 2024

Fiscal Year 7-1-24 to 6-30-25	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	245			
Offertory	\$ 5,185.00	\$5,981.27	796.27	5,852.83
Energy, Coffee/Donuts, Flowers/Trees, Candles, Mass Intentions	472.00	598.00	126.00	(2,287.55)
Fundraising: includes Budget Deficit envelope, CSA returned	1,673.00	2,042.00	369.00	(1,474.66)
Bequests - Thanksgiving charity		253.00		761.00
AOD Collections:				
Holy Days: All Saints/All Souls		1,423.00		2,871.00
CSA 2024 Pledged 74,560.34				Paid 71,140.34



R-D-F-W

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