



St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Community

Madison Heights, MI www.stvincentferrer.net

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 † TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

From The Pastor

An often-unnamed quality of Jesus is his wholeheartedness. Jesus is not double minded. In the Letter of St. James, it is noted that the prayer of the double-minded person is often unheard, and if heard bears little effect. To be double minded is common in our culture. The double-minded person is uncertain about their direction in life with a weak sense of personal or inner identity. The prayer of such a person often lacks clarity in their inability to perceive and be confident in the presence or action of God. Putting other people or things before God causes God to become one more person among the crowd of other loves.

For Jesus there is only one thing: God alone. The singular identity of Jesus was his relationship with and wholehearted commitment to the Father's love. This identity revealed itself in the passion of Jesus to make the Father's love known to us. As the divine Son, the death of Jesus on the Cross followed by his Resurrection revealed the Father's love for the world. The singular will of the Father is accomplished in Jesus who reconciles and unites all things in the Divine union. The Father and the Son are distinct persons united in the Holy Spirit with a singular will of Divine union with all that is.

It is in this context that we hear the words of Jesus today. Hate is a strong word that unsettles us when we are called to hate father and mother, brothers, sisters, even our own life. Hate in this setting means to become unattached too, or to separate from. What does this mean?

Individuation is an essential part of maturing into a personal sense of self beyond the identity of parents, siblings, and the collective family identity. For many, individuation is a normal and relatively easy process of maturing into adulthood. Others, for several reasons, have great difficulty in letting go of the bonds of love, security, and identity of the family unit. A maturing child can be too satisfied, comfortable, and secure in the family home to ever consider leaving. Other times, parents can intentionally or unknowingly trap growing children in the needs and expectations of the parents whereby the child feels unfree to become the person they feel in their soul whom God is calling them to be. Self-identity is stilted in the limitations and expectations of the family unit. When creativity and initiative are diminished, a young person may struggle to identify

or pursue their hopes and dreams, potentially hindering their development into the person they are meant to become.

A person cannot be in a freely chosen full-hearted relationship of faith if they are clinging to or made to cling to unhealthy relationships that disallow freedom of spirit and soul. These unhealthy bonds of love are not always from the family unit. Any undue attachments to persons, things, a job, an addiction, or a way of being, harms a free and committed relationship with God.

Jesus is saying: God is first. Love in the broadest and truest sense is our deepest identity. How this is lived out in our lives has countless expressions. The point is that God is first. If we seek to live in the Kingdom of God initiated by Jesus, the life of the Kingdom forms our deep identity. God is first. All other bonds of love, career choices, creativity, or manner of life will find its meaning and motivation in the Christ identity.

It is hard to grow up and leave the security of home and family and stand on our own two feet. Everyone must carry their own Cross, and a person cannot know what that Cross is until they come to know themselves in Christ. For this we have the image of the tower and the armies; both of which beg the universal question, Do I have enough? Do I have what it takes? How do I know what enough is?

These are life questions that we all face and deeply feel. The equation of enough is not a divine equation. God is not about amounts. God wants our hearts. A person can do all things, have all things, and be all things in the world, or they can have nothing and be without success or high esteem, in both cases God looks to the heart. If a person is loving God through the redemptive work of Jesus and seeking to live the gospel, that person knows who they are. They may have the joy of great love in their lives, with or without worldly goods, but they understand and seek God as the origin and source of every love and goodness.

Faith is a gift from God. Faith is not a buffet, nor is it self-made. Faith is built on a personal choice to believe in God, accept Christ, and find identity, meaning, and joyful purpose in gospel life. Find yourself in the Lord Jesus and be at peace. Put God first and the manner of your life will reveal the presence of God within you.

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

LIVE
STREAMING

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 - 9:00am 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
Matthew Zinser, Evangelical Charity Coordinator/
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA) Coordinator
Carl Copen, Facilities Supervisor
Alex Mototolea, Maintenance

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

248-542-8720 – 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 8, 2025

9:00am Mass: Mark Esper† req. by Bernadette Gutowski

TUESDAY, September 9, 2025

8:00am Mass: Intentions and God's Blessings on the SVF Staff req. by Mary Ann Przybysz

WEDNESDAY, September 10, 2025

8:00am Mass: Dennis Tye† req. by Mary Jane Guc

THURSDAY, September 11, 2025

8:00am Mass: Rick Waligors† req. by Sandie Botsford & Sheryl Brown

SATURDAY, September 13, 2025

4:00pm Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Don Bessler† req. by Marie Bessler
Mark Esper† req. by Marie Bessler

SUNDAY, September 14, 2025

9:00am Mass: Parishioners of St. Vincent Ferrer Living & Deceased Members and Families of Fr. Heary Knights of Columbus Council
Janusz Vidz† req. by Krys Higgins & Family
Dolores Slava Binz† (Memorial Birthday) req. by Bene Anderson

Sunday, September 7th



World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly and National Grandparents Day

To make the day special for a grandparent or elderly family member or friend, send a card, spend time together, share stories and memories or enjoy a meal together. It's really about reminding them that they are loved!

Readings for the Week

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
Monday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Intergenerational Healing Mass

Tuesday, September 9th—7:00pm

Rev. John Esper - Celebrant

Intergenerational healing involves understanding how the wounds and sins from previous generations can affect individuals in the present.

The liturgy of the Mass does not change except for an extended period of petitions. The petitions are intended to identify and bind the various bondages caused by generational sin in order to heal any spiritual, physical or mental maladies that have been passed down.

Anointing of the Sick is not part of this liturgy.

REGISTER BY THIS FRIDAY ... 

DEMENTIA AND HOMELIFE

TUESDAY, SEPT. 16TH - 7-8:30PM

PRESENTER: MARIE SANKUER

CERTIFIED DEMENTIA PRACTITIONER & PARISH MEMBER

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Safe transfers within the home
- Wandering
- Everyday furniture and stairs
- Everyday helping. Watch your back!
- Disposables & reusables
- Name tags and other visuals
- Noise and speed!
- Blinds, curtains, lights
- Going out
- ER, Hospital—what to take with!

OBSERVATIONS

- Pain - Mood - Temp
- Intake & Output
- Declines and losses...vision - hearing - balance
- Meds and Over the Counters
- Attachment/Detachment
- Grief - theirs, yours, the family's

ASK FOR RESOURCES

Encourage abilities or they will be gone to early

- Pain Scale** handout
- 3 E's** of dementia care handout
- ⇒ Environment
- ⇒ Emotions
- ⇒ Energy

Registration fee of \$10
 Register by Friday, September 12th
 at the parish office - 248-542-8720

THIS MONDAY

All are invited to celebrate the birthday of Our Blessed Mother Mary with a bouquet of rosaries

Administration Bldg. Patio
 September 8, 2025 - 7pm



Join the Immaculate Prayer Group in honoring our Blessed Mother with a bouquet of rosaries on her birthday, September 8th.

The Immaculata group prayers will be prayed at 6:30pm and the rosary will begin at 7:00 pm. Please bring your own lawn chair, a rosary, and if needed, a bottle of water. No rosary? We will provide one. Don't know the prayers? Come and learn.

KING OF KINGS



All are invited! Bring your children/grandchildren too!

THIS FRIDAY - SEPT. 12TH
 7:00PM - NO COST

Admin Bldg.

Sign up in back of church or call the parish office to let us know how many will be attending by this Wednesday, September 10th.

AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE HEALING CHRIST

A Manresa Silent Healing Retreat

Friday to Sunday - September 12-14

There are quiet places in our hearts where we have placed doubts, memories, fears and hurts which need the loving hand of Jesus to heal. Receive His embrace during a precious few days of quiet and serenity. It is a place of peace where we can light a path which can lead to freedom, forgiveness, healing. God is waiting for you. Don't miss the invitation.

Directors:
 Fr. John Esper &
 Debbie Tourville



Weekend schedule: Registration, Friday 5:00pm
 (Dinner 6:30pm)

Closure of Retreat: Sunday at Noon

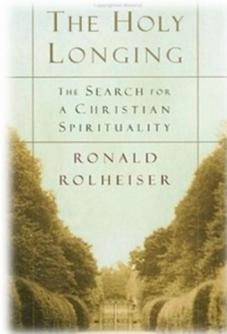
A nonrefundable deposit of \$50 is required for this retreat

You may register on line at www.manresa-sj.org
 For more information call 248.644.4933

Wednesday Morning Breakfast Book Study

The Holy Longing

by Fr. Ronald Rolheiser



"In *The Holy Longing*, Ronald Rolheiser probes the question "What is spirituality?", cutting through the misunderstanding and confusion that can often surround this subject with his trademark clarity. Using examples and stories relevant for today, and with great sensitivity to modern challenges to religious faith, he explains the essentials of spiritual life, including the importance of community worship, the imperatives surrounding social action, and the centrality of the Incarnation, to outline a Christian spirituality that reflects the yearning and search for meaning at the core of the human experience." (summary found on Amazon.com)

The Wednesday Morning Breakfast Book Study begins September 24th in the Administration Bldg. following the 8:00am Mass. This study will end in late November or early December. Each class will offer a time for teaching, reflection and sharing. A small breakfast is available. Free will offering.

Sign up on the sheet in back of church to register or call the Parish Office at 248-542-8720 to let Debbie know you plan to attend.



...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

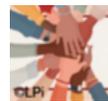
...the safety of men and women dedicated to protecting lives and freedom.

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

...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



Evangelical Service Corner

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY MEETING

The St. Vincent de Paul Ministry will meet this Tuesday, September 9th at 6:00pm in the Faith Formation Office.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 18TH ANNUAL FRIENDS WALK SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2025 ON BELLE ISLE

Join us for our 18th Annual Friends of the Poor Walk at beautiful Belle Isle in Detroit! This 5K (3 Mile) walk brings together community members, Vincentians, and supporters for a morning of hope, compassion, and solidarity with our neighbors in need. It promises to be a day packed with food, fun, and fundraising!

Check-in begins at 9:00am, and the walk kicks off at 10:00am on the Cricket Field, located between the Belle Isle Fountain and Casino. Our St. Vincent de Paul conference will be participating in the walk, and we hope you can join us. If you're unable to attend in person, you can still support us in spirit by donating or sharing our mission. You can contribute to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul by using the envelopes found at the church entrances. We are also looking for volunteers to join us in helping to serve our St. Vincent Ferrer neighbors in need. If you have any questions, please contact Marge McLaughlin at 248-885-3154.

CCSEM Senior FOOD COLLECTION

Next Weekend - September 13/14

Items requested:

Individual lunchbox sized and packaged snacks like: Crackers, Granola bars, Cereal bars and Fruit snacks

Canned Foods including: Soups, Stews, Chili, Ravioli, Spaghetios, Fruit, Vegetables

Gift cards, in any amount are especially appreciated and used to buy perishable food, from: Kroger, Meijer, Walmart or Target

MONTHLY HOSPITALITY/ BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS - SEPTEMBER 14

On Sunday, September 14, Angela, our Parish Nurse will be checking blood pressures at our monthly Coffee and Donut Hospitality.

DECORATED PRAYERS FOR PRAYER BLANKETS NEEDED

Thank you to all who participated last year in the Prayer Blanket Ministry. With your efforts we made 119 blankets. After taking the summer off, we will resume meeting on Thursday, Sept. 25th from 6-9pm in the church social hall. We are in need of decorated squares.. There is a basket of blank squares with instructions by the Herbert Street entrance of the church under the Crucifix. Decorate them with uplifting Scriptures, words, prayers, or pictures. The finished squares may be placed in the basket marked "Finished Squares" which is next to the basket of blank squares. Thank you for participating in this ministry.

Renee Hauzie, Prayer Blanket Ministry Chairperson

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

What Happens if a Host is Dropped?

Question: What happens if someone drops a consecrated host?

Answer: Despite our best efforts, and this is as true in our liturgical celebrations as in all of life, accidents happen. Occasionally at Mass, a host may be dropped or some of the Precious Blood could even be spilled from the chalice, despite the best efforts of the priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion assisting at the liturgy.

So, when a host is dropped or the Precious Blood is spilled, we can take guidance from the U.S. Bishops' statement *Norms for the Distribution for Holy Communion Under Both Kinds*:

All ministers of Holy Communion should show the greatest reverence for the Most Holy Eucharist by their demeanor, their attire, and the manner in which they handle the consecrated bread or wine. Should there be any mishap — as when, for example, the consecrated wine is spilled from the chalice — then the affected "area . . . should be washed with water, and this water should be then poured into the sacarium."

According to no. 280 of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, the general rule is that a dropped host is picked up by the minister distributing Communion and reverently consumed. The minister should be careful to make sure that no other particles from the host remain on the ground. As we see in the instruction from the bishops, the Precious Blood would be absorbed (customarily with a purificator) and the area attentively and reverently washed with water which would then be disposed of properly.

©LPI

DEVOTIONS, *EXPLAINED!* – CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

LECTIO DIVINA, *Explained!*

Lectio divina ("divine reading") is a practice of praying through the reading of Scripture, opening oneself to the inspiration and communication of the Holy Spirit. The practice of *Lectio divina* dates to ancient monastic communities, but it has gained popularity in modern times as a way to meaningfully engage with the word of God.

The formula for *Lectio divina* is simple and follows four steps. The text of the Scripture is read (*lectio*) multiple times, and the reader takes note of any words or phrases that resonate with him in a particular way. The reader then reflects deeply on the passage (*meditatio*) and the words that he noticed, turning them over in his mind. Following this, the reader prays with the passage (*oratio*), and dialogues with God, inviting him to illuminate the reader's understanding of the text. Finally, there is rest and contemplation (*contemplatio*).

©LPI



Our Childhood Faith Formation/Religious Education program is scheduled to begin on Monday, September 29th at 6:15 p.m. in church. Classes are held on Mondays from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for children in grades 1-8. If you have any questions about our program, or have children you need to register, please contact Matthew at **646-369-8619** or matthew@stvincentferrer.net



The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (formerly Rite of Christian Initiation of

Adults RCIA) is a means within the Roman Catholic Church created to lead adults who are not yet baptized, or who were baptized in another Christian tradition, into full communion with the Catholic Church. It is also for adults who were baptized and did not complete the remaining sacraments of Initiation, Eucharist and Confirmation. If you or someone you know is interested in beginning this journey of faith, please contact Matthew in the Parish Office or email him at matthew@stvincentferrer.net

Ministry Schedule

September 13/14, 2025

Mass	4:00pm	9:00am
Sacristan	R Pasiak	C McCarthy
Reader #1	M Simmons	P Allen
Reader #2	R Pasiak	C McCarthy
EME	T Pasiak	N Virga
	T Riley	P Allen
	M Simmons	R Grant
Greeters	T Oparka	B Gutowski
	N Oparka	P Rarus
	R Pasiak	Volunteer
	T Pasiak	D Vu

Traveling Chalice Host beginning week of Sept 13/14, 2025
Kathy Bush

GETTING TO KNOW OUR SAINTS

VENERABLE MARIA CASIMIRA KAUPAS
1880-1940

Venerable Mother Maria Kaupas, born Casmiria Kaupas, was born in Ramygala, Lithuania, in 1880. At that time of Russia rule in Lithuania, Catholics were unable to openly practice their faith as the state religion was Russian Orthodox. Despite this, Casmiria, her parents, and her nine brothers and sisters did their best to keep their Catholic faith alive.

In the early 1890's, Casmiria's brother, Anthony, emigrated to the United States, became a priest, and was assigned to St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church in Scranton, Pennsylvania. In 1897 he invited Casmiria to come to the USA as his housekeeper and she agreed. While in Pennsylvania she witnessed the lives of women religious for the first time and was intrigued. Despite moving back to Lithuania four years later, this intrigue continued to stir in her the desire for apostolic religious life. Eventually, under the direction and care of the Sisters of Mercy in Switzerland, she spent three years being educated on religious life, preparing for the work to which she felt called. At the time, the American Lithuanian clergy saw a need to establish a Lithuanian congregation for women in the United States to address the faith and educational needs of those immigrating to the U.S. from Lithuania and the surrounding regions. Casmiria returned to the United States to start this congregation with two other Lithuanian companions who entered into religious life as novitiates, first with the Servants of the Sacred Heart (IHM), before the founding of the new congregation. The congregation she would go on to lead, The Sisters of St. Casmir, was approved by Pope Pius X in 1907 and, on August 30th of the same year, Casmiria and the other two sisters were professed...

Shortly after the establishment of The Sisters of St. Casmir, they opened their first parish convent school, Holy Cross School, in Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania. This school provided education for children of Lithuanian immigrants and started with over 70 students enrolled. It wasn't long before other communities were asking the Sisters for educational help. The Sisters of St. Casmir quickly expanded from Pennsylvania to Illinois and, eventually, many other parts of the USA. The Sisters put down their official roots and a Motherhouse in Chicago in 1911 and expanded into healthcare, building and running hospitals after the influenza epidemic of 1918-1919.

In 1920, Mother Maria and her sisters were invited by the Bishops of Lithuania to return and start a congregation of the Sisters of St. Casmir there... the Sisters went to expand their Congregation and get down to business helping to educate others in their home country. They rapidly increased in number and opened schools and other institutions all over Lithuania.

Mother Maria Kaupas died of cancer at her Motherhouse in Chicago, surrounded by her sisters, on April 17, 1940, after leading the Congregation for almost her entire adult life. On July 1, 2010, the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints named Mother Maria Venerable. Many of the institutions started by Mother Maria remain today as pillars of faith and family for both immigrant and natural born citizens alike in the USA and abroad.

©LPI

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Saturday, Sept. 13th at 9:00am
Faith Formation Office in School



The men's fellowship group gathers for a scripture reflection/sharing every other Saturday. All men are welcome. No fees or registration are required.

HOW TO HATE THE CHRISTIAN WAY

by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

When I was a kid, we had the Dumb Stupid Hate Chair.

It was a chair in my parents' foyer where an offending child had to sit for five or ten minutes if they uttered the words "dumb," "stupid" or "hate." The rules in my house growing up were very clear. We don't call anyone stupid. We don't call anyone dumb. And we hate no one and nothing.

Well, today, Jesus has to sit in the Dumb Stupid Hate Chair.

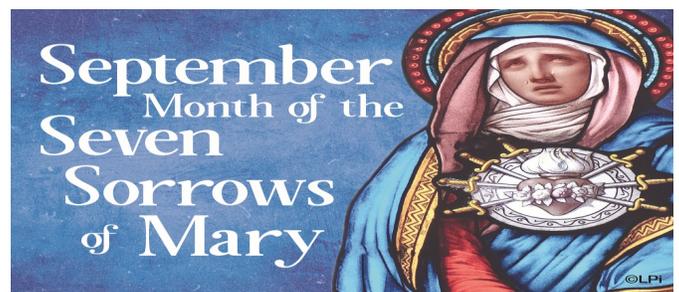
For someone who talks about love so much — for whom love is a legacy and a commandment — it seems weird that in today's Gospel Jesus is calling us to hatred. It makes us question everything we think we understand about him, about God, about discipleship.

I'll let you guess which of the kids in my family spent the most time in the Dumb Stupid Hate Chair (Hi! It was me). But I didn't really think my sister was stupid, and I didn't really hate my brother. Those were just the words I used, even though they were strictly forbidden — maybe because they were strictly forbidden. They were the strongest words I knew, and you need strong words for strong feelings.

Jesus knew that hate is a really strong word. It's a word that gets people's attention. And I think what he wants to do today, more than anything, is get our attention. He wants to force us to consider the ways in which our attachments to this world — and even to other people — supersede our attachment to God. He wants us to radically evaluate what (and who) we love and how we love it and how much of our souls, our lives, ourselves we have let this love consume.

It's a tough assignment, and we don't like it. Maybe we kind of hate it. That's okay: hate has its place. So take a seat in the chair and give it a ponder.

©LPI



INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Today, Jesus tells us the cost of true discipleship – and it turns out, it’s everything. We must reject the world in order to love God. What attachments are holding us back from the relationship we could have – we *should* have – with our Lord? ©LPi

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK FOR REFLECTION

1st Reading: Wis 9:13-18b

Question: The author of Wisdom teaches us that our limited understanding can be overcome by the gift of wisdom from God’s Holy Spirit. Have you ever prayed for the gift of wisdom in discerning a difficult course of action?

2nd Reading: Phlm 9-10, 12-17

Question: Paul is asking Philemon to welcome back his runaway slave, Onesimus, as a brother in Christ. Who do you consult when making difficult life decisions?

Gospel: Lk 14:25-33

Question: Jesus challenges the crowds to weigh carefully the high cost of discipleship. What have you given up following Jesus? ©LPi

Observances of the Week

- Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents’ Day
- Monday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Tuesday: St. Peter Claver, Priest
- Thursday: Patriot Day
- Friday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
- Saturday: St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Next Sunday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross ©LPi

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

One hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, “If you can’t manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?” Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week’s Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven—his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better put, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.
— Father John Muir ©LPi

To support St. Vincent Ferrer with a financial contribution scan the code below to connect to our tithe.ly giving site.



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP GIVING - WEEK ENDING AUG. 30/31, 2025

<i>Fiscal Year 7-1-25 to 6-30-26</i>	Budgeted	Actual	Over/Under	YTD
Offertory Env. Used & e-fund participants	240	89		
Offertory	\$ 5,185.00	\$ 4,721.31	(463.69)	2,279.52
Energy, Coffee/Donuts, Flowers/Trees, Candles, Mass Intentions	472.00	364.00	(108.00)	(1,084.00)
Fundraising: includes Budget Deficit envelope, CSA returned	1,673.00	135.00	(1,538.00)	(13,402.00)
Bequests				175.00
AOD Collections: Priest Retirement Fund		10.00		20.00
AOD Collections: Propagation of the Faith				50.00
Holy Days: Assumption		45.00		974.00
CSA 2025 Pledged 69,103.50				Paid 61,057.50

HOPCROFT FUNERAL HOMES

**Proud to Be Family
Owned and Operated**

David Hopcroft, Owner
Alex Hopcroft, 3rd Generation

248-585-7770

hopcroft1948@yahoo.com | hopcroftfuneraldirectors.com
31145 John R. Road • Madison Heights, MI 48071

BOB DOWNEY PLUMBING ALL TYPES OF PLUMBING REPAIRS

- Sewers Cleaned Electrically
 - 24-Hour Service
 - Visa/MC/Disc Accepted
 - 10% Senior Discount
- 586.775.2441**



Services:
Toilets • Faucets • Water Heaters
Sewers and Broken Water
Lines Dug Up

Parishioner Discount
Licensed Master Plumber

Elizabeth "Betty" McEvoy E.A.

Individual and Small
Business Tax Returns

Home: **(248) 589-2077**

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

1835 Windemere
Madison Heights, MI 48071

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



www.BandBcollision.com
919 S Main St • Royal Oak

Michigan Irrigation

Complete Lawn Sprinkler Service

Now Scheduling
Turn-Ons

**NOW
HIRING!**

Residential • Commercial • Lake Pumps

www.michiganirrigation.com

DISCOVER MasterCard VISA **248-969-9080**



WaterWorkPlumbing.com

Senior Discounts **313-558-8757**

24 Hr. Emergency Service

\$20 OFF ANY SERVICE

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

833-287-3502

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME
Judee Nelson**

jnelson@4LPi.com
(800) 477-4574 x6319

UNITED

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Since 1955

Sales • Service • Installation
All Makes & Models



FREE ESTIMATES

313.366.1140

Turn to the experts

www.unitedheatingcooling.com



**EDWARD SWANSON & SON
FUNERAL HOME**

**Sarah Suba
FUNERAL DIRECTOR**

30351 DEQUINDRE ROAD
MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071
1 BLOCK SOUTH OF 13 MILE

248.588.5120

**Ash-con is a name you can trust.
Providing Parking Lot Maintenance
To Southeast Michigan Since 1992**

- Asphalt Repairs
- Catch Basin Repairs
- Crack Sealing
- Parking Lot Sealing
- Parking Lot Signs
- Parking Lot Striping
- Pavement Marking
- Pot Hole Repair & Patching

Proud to maintain the parking lot for SVF.

(586) 979-8330 • ASHCON.NET



**ASH-CON PAVEMENT
MAINTENANCE INC.**

**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!**



R-D-F-W

For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

15-0824