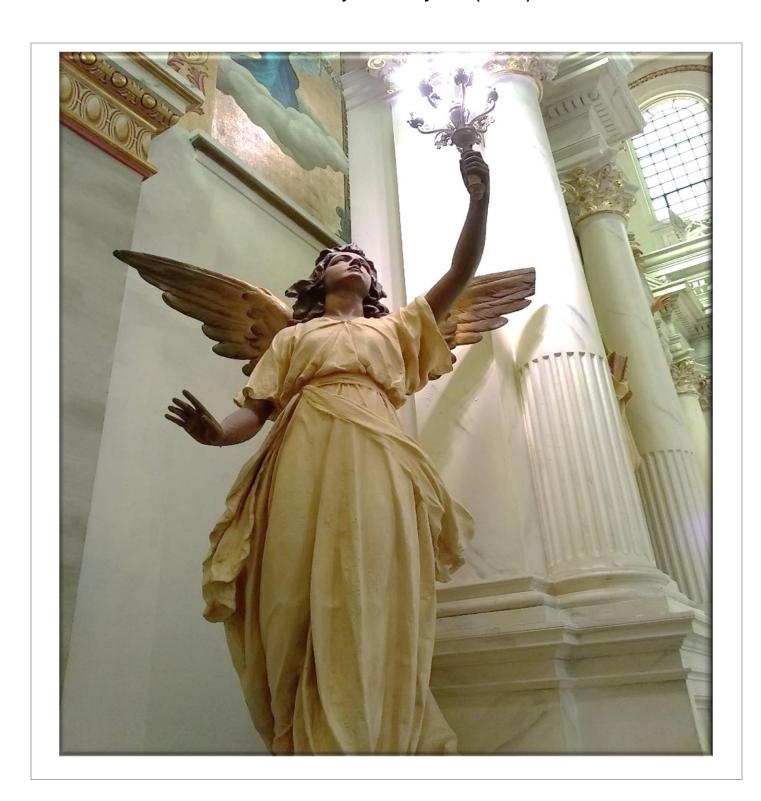
St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church

The VIGIL

Sunday, February 09, 2025 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)



Thoughts for Today's Readings



"With a Frayer..."

Sunday Food for Your Soul

Who Is Worthy?

By this time we are well into Jesus' public life, his Galilean ministry, the one he began in Nazareth.

But this Sunday contains a surprise development. Isaiah, Paul and Peter are each expressing themselves as *worthless*! Three of the greatest witnesses in the Bible!

Each of them is forced to compare himself directly with the presence of God.

What is your attitude toward worthlessness? Do you agree with today's psychologized sentiment that, "I AM worthy," or "I am ok, you're ok," or "I buy this product because I'm worth it"? Are Isaiah, Paul and Peter "worth it" in this way? Let us look at Sunday's readings and see if these men fit the current definitions.

In Reading One, Isaiah receives a vision of heaven itself. The Lord is seated on a high and lofty throne. The Seraphim angel choir is crying out, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts! All the earth is filled with his glory!"*

It seems that Isaiah reacts with shame. "My eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts! But woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips." (Is 6:5)

In response an angel swoops down with a burning coal to cleanse his lips!!!! He is doomed, alright, but doomed to be *made clean through suffering*, to be made able through it to speak of God.

In Reading Two St. Paul says that Christ appeared to him last of all, as to one born abnormally. "For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God." Unworthy, yes. But did the grace of God discard him? No, it appointed him a key Apostle even though he had never even met Jesus.

In the famous Gospel story. Jesus tells Peter, James and John to fish in the deep water (where they had been fishing and fishing all night with no result). Without warning their nets are bloated with fish. Peter cries out, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." (Luke 5:8)

Isn't the experience of God supposed to lead to peace, forgiveness, and joy—not to shame?

Ok, make a distinction. The real reaction of all three figures is not really shame, which means concluding that they are each worthless. Instead it is a finding of their true place in reality. They are expressing a kind of humility!

How?

Each of them is forced to compare himself directly with the presence of God. When people meet the holiness of God head-on, they are therefore able to glimpse by contrast the humanness in themselves. They see that humanity seems full of holes like a sponge. None of them can any longer pretend that they shine like the stars *because they see the real star bursting with light*.

Experience of God let them understand that they are far, far less than God.

This is not bad, it is good. A falsely supposed importance cannot make us holy. But God can make us holy.

We can be proud to be unworthy if reception of God's love is a result. At Mass we echo that famous Roman centurion: "Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed" (Mt 8:8).

I suppose we could we react with shame; but notice that God does not say in return, "I reject you," but "I love you dearly. Come be with me, you fine human being."

John Foley, SJ St. Louis University

COMMUNITY NOTES

Sunday Community Dinners... As one of our most important ministries to our members and neighbors, we have been blessed. We are in need of more. If you and your group would like to sponsor a meal, please contact Georgia Kingsley via the rectory. Today, February 9, 2025: Joan Jacobs with family and friends; February 16, 2025: Patty Gillis with Friends & Family; February 23, 2025: St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans; March 2, 2025: Sponsor Needed; March 9, 2025: Sponsor Needed; March 16, 2025: Torya and Eduardo; March 23, 2025: Detroit Black Catholic Ministry; March 30, 2025: Sponsor Needed;

Nativity Pantry News: We are so grateful for your continued support of the pantry. This week, we need Peanut Butter, Soup and Valentine snacks/candy. Many thanks for your generosity!

Parish Financial News

The Parish Finance Council met 1/29/25 to review our year to date (YTD) progress and to begin planning for our next fiscal budget. Half way through the fiscal year (7/1/24 - 12/31/25) we anticipated our expenses to exceed our income by about \$34,000. While we have spent less than planned, our collection money is short of what we anticipated, leaving us with a \$40,000 deficit. The council will continue to work with the parish to reduce the deficit, looking for ways to increase money coming in, while keeping a sharp focus on expenses.

There are several areas of good news! The deficit is significantly smaller than last year's and it appears that we will continue to improve. We have solid savings to cushion the shortfall while we work to balance the budget. Also, thanks to generous donors, we have been able to complete several significant long-term improvements over the last 18 months, including a new boiler, gutter replacements and upgrades and upcoming (Spring) tuck pointing work!

Parish Nurse News and Notes

Greetings!

Some of you may remember me from 25 years ago when I was the Parish Nurse here at St Charles from 1993 to 1999. Hard to believe it's been that long.

What is a Parish Nurse?

A Parish Nurse works out of a church to help the parishioners and people in the neighborhood lead healthier lifestyles.

He or she, yes, there are male Parish Nurses, has health programs at the church like blood pressure screenings, and has guest speakers come in for health programs on different health topics like hypertension or diabetes.

The Parish Nurse also serves as a resource for health issues or other concerns or referrals.

The Parish Nurse has information available for folks to pick up on different topics like dealing with stress during the holiday or ways to exercise when you have limited time.

We will have blood pressure screening after mass downstairs in the church hall today.

Please stop by and get your BP checked and let me know what kind of health programs you would like.

I could also use some help with taking BP's. If you are a nurse and have taken the Protecting God's Children class, please reach out to me.

Thank you.

Peace

Mary Catherine



Go to the giving site at: https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stcharlesdetroit

The VIGIL

PRAYERS, READINGS, & FINANCE

PRAY FOR THE HEALING PRESENCE

Jean-Marie Allion Paul Andrecovich Kathy Ayoub Mary Canaday Michael Goree Carol Herman Sandra Hill Jovce Hurley Bertha Jackson-Hyde Dan Jones Leslie Kirby Ron Kirby Pamela Little Michael Martin Gloria Parham Ronald Parham Vertis Park, Sr. Earlene Park-Williams Anna Tyler Rene VanZaelen

Please call the rectory at 313-331-0253 to let us know when a name should be added to or removed from the list. Names will stay on the list for 3 months, but can be continued if we are notified of the wishes to do so.

MASS INTENTIONS

February 09, 2025

Jon Harvey Richard Jarvis Eleanor Titran

February 16, 2025

Angela McDonald Angela Dearing

February 23, 2025

Michael Rachal Vicy Scott

March 02, 2025

Smith Carson, Jr. Marcus Sinclair Dr. Donald Burkhart

March 09, 2025

Victor and Suzanne Fileccia Sam Stratos

March 16, 2025

Mary Cunningham Greg McCaffrey Kevin Scully

March 23, 2023 Gerald Miller Noah Bradley Woodard

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 6: 1-2a, 3-8 (Call of Isaiah)

Psalms 138: 1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 7c-8 (Gratitude to God)

First Corinthians 15: 1-11 (Content of the Good News)

Matthew 4: 19 (Fishers of Men)

Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11 (Call of Peter)

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of February 2025

For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Feb. 10: Genesis 1: 1-19; Psalm 104: 1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c;

Matthew 4: 23; Mark 6: 53-56

Tues., Feb. 11: Genesis 1: 20 – 2: 4a; Psalm 8: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Psalm 119: 36, 29b;

Mark 7: 1-13

Wed., Feb. 12: Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-17; Psalm 104: 1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30;

John 17: 17b, 17a; Mark 7: 14-23

Thurs., **Feb. 13:** Genesis 2: 18-25; Psalm 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5; James 1: 21bc;

Mark 7: 24-30

Fri., Feb. 14: Genesis 3: 1-8; Psalm 32: 1-2, 5, 6, 7; Acts 16: 14b;

Mark 7: 31-37

Sat., Feb. 15: Genesis 3: 9-24: Psalm 90: 2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13:

Matthew 4: 4b: Mark 8: 1-10

Sun., Feb. 16: Jeremiah 17: 5-8; Psalm 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6;

First Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20; Luke 6: 23ab; Luke 6: 17, 20-26

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE:

Stewards Minister

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' 'Here I am,' I said, 'send me!'" - ISAIAH 6:8

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new <u>Stewardship</u> ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or to say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. God is always talking to us; we just need to pay more attention. When you hear God calling have the courage to walk through the door and say, "Here I am, Lord."

COLLECTION INFO

February 02, 2025

Collection \$1,682 Online \$1,182

TOTAL \$2,864

A Pastoral Note to Migrants from the Catholic Bishops in Michigan



February 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We, the Roman Catholic Bishops in Michigan, write to offer our continued pastoral and prayerful support for migrant individuals and families who over the course of time have entered the country and today are making a living in this state. Our fraternal closeness to you and other immigrants, refugees, and those seeking humanitarian asylum is rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, where we find "I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me... Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:35,40).

We hear and empathize with families across the state who express anxiety and fear over mass deportations and harmful rhetoric that broadly demeans our immigrant brothers and sisters. As shepherds of our flocks, we pledge amid such uncertainty to promote through the Michigan Catholic Conference and in our respective dioceses unyielding support and respect for the human dignity of all migrant people in our midst.

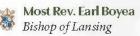
We urge our elected officials to support policies that keep immigrant and undocumented families safe and united, and to protect those who arrived as children. We call on the Michigan congressional delegation to work for a humane immigration system that welcomes refugees and immigrants by providing a fair pathway to citizenship; one that also keeps borders safe and secure from criminal activity, including human trafficking and the smuggling of illegal drugs.

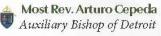
Mindful of the dire conditions from which many travel, oftentimes with children through great difficulty and despair, we encourage you, our migrant brothers and sisters, to be strengthened by our Lord's words "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you... Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid" (John 14:27). Never fail to keep your faith and hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, who promises a divine kingdom that we strive to inherit and together call our true home.

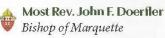
With abundant love and trust, we ask Our Lady of Guadalupe to hear the cries of the suffering and offer to her maternal compassion and protection all who seek her heavenly intercession.

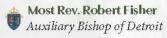
In Christ,

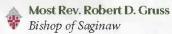






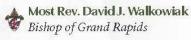














Una nota pastoral de los obispos católicos de Michigan a los migrantes



Febrero 2025

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Nosotros, los obispos católicos romanos de Michigan, escribimos para ofrecer nuestro continuo apoyo pastoral y de oración a las personas y familias migrantes que a través del tiempo han entrado en el país y hoy se ganan la vida en este estado. Nuestra cercanía fraterna a ustedes y a otros inmigrantes, refugiados y solicitantes de asilo humanitario tiene sus raíces en el Evangelio de Jesucristo, donde encontramos "Tuve sed, y me dieron de beber; era forastero, y me acogieron... Cuanto hicieron a uno de estos hermanos míos más pequeños, a mí me lo hicieron" (Mateo 25:35,40).

Escuchamos y empatizamos con las familias de todo el estado que expresan ansiedad y temor ante deportaciones masivas y una retórica dañina que degrada ampliamente a nuestros hermanos y hermanas inmigrantes. Como pastores de nuestros rebaños, nos comprometemos, en medio de esta incertidumbre, a promover, a través de la Conferencia Católica de Michigan y en nuestras respectivas diócesis, un apoyo y un respeto inquebrantables por la dignidad humana de todas las personas migrantes que se encuentran entre nosotros.

Instamos a nuestros funcionarios electos a apoyar políticas que mantengan a las familias inmigrantes e indocumentadas seguras y unidas y a proteger a quienes llegaron siendo niños. Hacemos un llamado a la delegación del Congreso de Michigan para que trabaje por un sistema de inmigración humano que acoja a refugiados e inmigrantes proporcionándoles un camino justo hacia la ciudadanía; un sistema que también mantenga las fronteras seguras y a salvo de la actividad criminal, incluyendo el tráfico de personas y el contrabando de drogas ilegales.

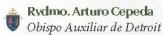
Conscientes de las duras condiciones con las que muchos viajan, a menudo con niños, pasando por grandes dificultades y desesperación, les animamos a ustedes, nuestros hermanos y hermanas migrantes, a que se fortalezcan con las palabras de nuestro Señor: "Les dejo la paz, mi paz les doy ... No se turbe su corazón ni se acobarde" (Juan 14:27). No dejen nunca de mantener su fe y esperanza en nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que promete un reino divino que nos esforzamos por heredar y que juntos llamamos nuestro verdadero hogar.

Con abundante amor y confianza, pedimos a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe que escuche los lamentos de los que sufren y les ofrezca su maternal compasión y protección a todos los que buscan su santa intercesión.

En Cristo,

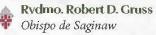




















Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Catholic Teaching on Immigration



February 2025

What does the Church say about illegal immigration and undocumented migrants?

The Catholic Church affirms the rule of law and encourages the use of lawful immigration pathways. The Church does not encourage unnecessary or irregular migration. "Ideally, unnecessary migration ought to be avoided; this entails creating in countries of origin the conditions needed for a dignified life and integral development" (*Fratelli tutti*, no. 129). The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "immigrants are obliged to respect with gratitude the material and spiritual heritage of the country that receives them, to obey its laws and to assist in carrying civic burdens" (No. 2241).

Does the Catholic Church advocate for "open borders"?

No. The Catechism clearly states that political authorities "may make the exercise of the right to immigrate subject to various juridical conditions" (No. 2241). This includes a sovereign country's right to regulate and secure its borders. The Church does maintain, however, that this right must always be balanced with the duty to welcome newcomers with charity and respect for the human person, as well as the rights to life and religious liberty.

What is the Church's perspective on federal immigration reform and "mass deportations"?

As recognized by the Church for decades, the current immigration system is inadequate to address the needs of American families, employers, and communities, as well as immigrants themselves. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has consistently supported increased opportunities for legal immigration and the protection for immigrants' due process rights, while opposing an enforcement-only approach to immigration. Further, enforcement actions should be targeted, proportionate, and humane, and deportations and other enforcement actions should always be carried out with due regard for families, community ties, and religious liberty interests. In its most recent message on immigration, the USCCB stated that the country's immigration system should be one that:

- Offers fair and generous pathways to full citizenship for immigrants living and working for many years within this country.
- Keeps borders safe and secure, with enforcement policies that focus on those who present dangers to society, particularly efforts to reduce gang activity, stem the flow of drugs, and end human trafficking.
- · Provides permanent relief for childhood arrivals, helps families stay together, and welcomes refugees.
- Serves as an effective asylum system for those fleeing persecution and protects vulnerable migrants and their families, many of whom have already been victimized by criminal actors.

Why do Catholic organizations serve people who enter the U.S. without authorization?

Faithful to Jesus' mandate to "welcome the stranger," Catholic-affiliated organizations provide basic human needs to migrants because all people are made in God's image and likeness and inherently possess human dignity. There is no evidence or research indicating that the humanitarian and religious services provided by Catholic organizations incentivize unlawful migration, as there are varied and often complex factors that influence a person's decision to migrate from their home country, including war, persecution, violence, lack of jobs, famines, and natural disasters.

Visit usccb.org/migrationministries for more FAQs and to learn how the Church serves migrants.

Preguntas frecuentes sobre las enseñanzas católicas en materia de inmigración



Febrero 2025

¿Qué dice la Iglesia sobre la inmigración ilegal y los migrantes indocumentados?

La Iglesia católica afirma el Estado de derecho y anima al uso de vías legales de inmigración. La Iglesia no fomenta la migración innecesaria o irregular. "El camino es crear en los países de origen la posibilidad efectiva de vivir y de crecer con dignidad, de manera que se puedan encontrar allí mismo las condiciones para el propio desarrollo integral" (*Fratelli tutti*, n. 129). El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica afirma que "el inmigrante está obligado a respetar con gratitud el patrimonio material y espiritual del país que lo acoge, a obedecer sus leyes y contribuir a sus cargas" (n. 2241).

¿Aboga la Iglesia católica por las "fronteras abiertas"?

No. El Catecismo afirma claramente que las autoridades civiles "pueden subordinar el ejercicio del derecho de inmigración a diversas condiciones jurídicas" (n. 2241). Esto incluye el derecho de un país soberano a regular y asegurar sus fronteras. Sin embargo, la Iglesia sostiene que este derecho debe equilibrarse siempre con el deber de acoger a los recién llegados con caridad y respeto a la persona humana, así como a los derechos a la vida y a la libertad religiosa.

¿Cuál es la perspectiva de la Iglesia sobre las "deportaciones masivas" y la reforma de la inmigración en el Congreso?

Como reconoce la Iglesia desde hace décadas, el actual sistema de inmigración es inadecuado para atender las necesidades de las familias, los empleadores y las comunidades estadounidenses, así como de los propios inmigrantes. La Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de EE.UU. (USCCB, por sus siglas en inglés) ha apoyado consistentemente el aumento de las oportunidades para la inmigración legal y la protección de los derechos de los inmigrantes al debido proceso, mientras que se opone a un enfoque de la inmigración basado únicamente en la aplicación de la ley. Además, las medidas de aplicación de la ley deben ser selectivas, proporcionadas y humanas, y las deportaciones y otras medidas de aplicación de la ley deben llevarse a cabo siempre con la debida consideración a las familias, los lazos comunitarios y los intereses de la libertad religiosa. En su mensaje más reciente sobre inmigración, la USCCB declaró que el sistema de inmigración del país debería ser uno que:

- Ofrece vías justas y generosas hacia la plena ciudadanía a los inmigrantes que viven y trabajan desde hace muchos años en este país.
- Mantiene las fronteras seguras y protegidas, con políticas de aplicación de la ley centradas en quienes representan un peligro para la sociedad, en particular esfuerzos para reducir la actividad de las pandillas, frenar el flujo de drogas y acabar con el tráfico de seres humanos.
- Proporciona asistencia permanente a las llegadas infantiles, ayuda a las familias a mantenerse unidas y acoge a los refugiados.
- Sirve de sistema de asilo eficaz para quienes huyen de la persecución y protege a los migrantes vulnerables y a sus familias, muchos de los cuales ya han sido víctimas de los delincuentes.

¿Por qué las organizaciones católicas atienden a las personas que entran en EE.UU. sin autorización?

Fieles al mandato de Jesús de "acoger al forastero", las organizaciones con afiliación católica atienden las necesidades humanas básicas de los migrantes porque todas las personas están hechas a imagen y semejanza de Dios y poseen intrínsecamente dignidad humana. No hay evidencia ni investigación que indiquen que los servicios humanitarios y religiosos que prestan las organizaciones católicas incentiven la migración ilegal, ya que hay factores variados y a menudo complejos que influyen en la decisión de una persona de migrar de su país de origen, como la guerra, la persecución, la violencia, la falta de trabajo, las hambrunas y los desastres naturales.

Visitar usccb.org/migrationministries para más preguntas frecuentes y para conocer cómo la Iglesia sirve a los migrantes.



An Inner Journey: A Three-Part Series



Are you feeling depleted from life experiences and longing to let go and be restored? Come and spend some quiet time praying, reflecting, and sharing with facilitators Faith Offman and Sr. Joanne Peters, OP.

Dominican Center's three-part series offers the opportunity to listen to where God is in your life and create a path that leads to the essence of who you are. The three sessions connect, building on your relationship with the Divine. Sessions are on February 19th, April 16th, and June 18th at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat and Conference Center in Detroit. Lunch is provided. All are welcome. The cost is \$50 per session or \$120 for all three. Detail information is at www.dominicancenter.org

"We wonder and think that no one will ever find us. And lifting our sorry head, we are next to one another." – Mark Nepo

You are invited to days of prayer, reflection, and a journey inward...

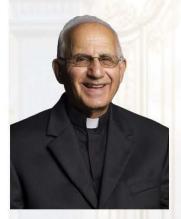
Join us for all three or just one or two

To register click **HERE**



St. Elizabeth Catholic Church

Pillars of the Community Memorial Mass & Brunch



Celebrating
the Life
and Legacy
of



Jr. Norman P. Thomas and Mrs. Lovette Jackson

Sunday, February 23, 2025

12 noon Mass and Brunch to follow

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church 3138 E. Canfield St. | Detroit, MI 48207 RSVP by February 10, 2025 With QR Code or by calling 313-921-9225



February 2025 Black History Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Discipleship Plan- ning Meeting
2 Presentation of the Lord 11:30am Mass After Mass Events: Choir Rehearsal Community Meal Religious Ed Class	3 Faith & Fellowship 5pm—8pm	4 Blvd. Ministry Visita- tions Religious Ed Class	5	6	7 Mass in Rectory 11am	8 Discipleship Pro- gram
9 11:30am Mass After Mass Events: Choir Rehearsal Community Meal Religious Ed Class	10 Faith & Fellowship 5pm—8pm	11 Religious Ed Class	12	13	14 Mass in Rectory 11am	15
16 11:30am Mass 10am Minister of Service Mtg After Mass Events: Choir Rehearsal Community Meal Blood Pressure Screening	17 Faith & Fellowship 5pm—8pm	18 Blvd. Ministry Visita- tions Religious Ed Class	19	20	21 Mass in Rectory 11am	22
23 11:30am Mass Youth Sunday After Mass Events: Choir Rehearsal Community Meal	24 Faith & Fellowship 5pm—8pm	25	26	27	28 Mass in Rectory 11am	

The VIGIL

PARISH & ARCHDIOCESAN INFORMATION

St Charles Borromeo

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214 (313) 331-0253 (Fax 313-331-4834)

St Charles Website: www.stcharlesdetroit.org Email: stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Facebook: St. Charles Borromeo Parish - Detroit MI **YouTube:** www.youtube.com/@st.charlesborromeodetroit

St. Charles Office Hours: Monday, 10am to 3pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am to 4pm

Friday, 9am to 3pm

Pastoral Team

Fr. Chris Talbot, Priest in Solidum
Fr. Richard Baumann, Priest in Solidum
Fr. David Preuss, OFM, CAP, Priest in Solidum
Joni Scott, Director of Religious Education
Rhonda Gilbert – Parish Ministries Coordinator
Joan Jacobs & Angie Kadowaki – Boulevard Ministry Ministers

Council Members

Steven Dearing, Niam Edwards, Marian Harvey, Sr. Mary Ellen Howard, Dan Hurley, Donna King, Leslie Kirby, Richard Preuss, Nicholas Rennpage

OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES MASS TIMES

St Charles Borromeo Detroit
Mass Times
Friday: Mass 11am
Sunday 11:30am
Live Stream

Nativity of Our Lord Mass Times Thursday: Holy Hour 8am; Mass 9am Sunday 9:30am

> St Augustine / St Monica Mass Times Wednesday, 9am Sunday 10am

Family of Parishes Prayer Groups

Tuesday Men's Prayer Group 6pm, St. Augustine / St. Monica

Tuesday Zoom Prime Time Bible Study

St. Elizabeth / Sacred Heart, 7pm.

For Zoom link go to www.sacredheartdetroit.com/primetime

St. Charles Mission Statement

St. Charles Borromeo, a diverse urban parish of Detroit, is rooted in Christ's Gospel and Catholic tradition. We strive to build a community of faith through education, worship, and evangelization. We are called to carry on Christ's ministry to our brothers and sisters, especially the sick and their families, the elderly, youth, and the disabled. With Mary as our example of unconditional love, we strive to welcome everyone to share joyfully in the peace, love and salvation of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit who calls and empowers us, who strengthens and renews us, and who gives us the will to continue our mission, until Jesus comes.

Archbishop Vigneron's statement on Pope Francis' Global Rules for Reporting Abuse

A new papal law requiring priests and religious to report sexual abuse and misconduct provides "clear directives for universal accountability in response to the horrors of clergy sexual abuse," Archbishop Vigneron has told Detroit Catholic. The law provides whistleblower protections for anyone making a report and requires all dioceses to have a system in place to receive the claims confidentially. And it outlines internal procedures for conducting preliminary investigations when the accused is a bishop, cardinal or religious superior. "I am deeply sorry to all those who have been injured and are enduring a lifetime of physical, emotional and spiritual suffering because of perverse actions by those in authority," the archbishop said. "No one is above civil law, and importantly, no one is above God's law." Pope Francis announced the new norms. The Archdiocese of Detroit encourages individuals to report clergy sexual abuse of minors and others directly to law enforcement – no matter when the abuse occurred. The Michigan Attorney General's Office has established a toll-free reporting hotline at (844- 324-3374, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5pm. (aginvestigations@michigan.gov). Individuals also may contact their local police department. For complaints involving priests, deacons, religious, or laity, individuals are welcomed to contact the Archdiocese of Detroit's Victim Assistance Coordinator at (866) 343-8055 or vac@aod.org.