



ST. MARY STUDENT PARISH

CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

AUGUST 2, 2020

18th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

BLESSING



He said the blessing, broke
the loaves, and gave them
to the disciples.

MATTHEW 14:19c

Pronunció una bendición,
partió los panes y se los dio
a los discípulos para que los
distribuyeran a la gente.

MATEO 14, 19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

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Pastoral Perspective

THE THINGS WE TAKE FOR GRANTED

BY JOSEPH F. WAGNER, SJ



The worldwide pandemic has been teaching us all a great deal about how things we have taken for granted can suddenly be called into question or denied us. Who would have thought that activities as simple as shaking hands, hugging a friend, or sharing a meal would prove to become things that we might need to avoid for the sake of our own health? To “take something for granted” is to accept it without question, to assume it to be *just the way it is*, without ever imagining it could be otherwise. In many ways, the pandemic has been an eye-opening experience, forcing us to appreciate more deeply the value there is in so many of the things we have taken for granted.

But there is another, darker side to “taking things for granted.” In some cases, to accept something without question, or to assume it to be *just the way it is*, is a dangerous thing. It is possible that there are parts of our lives, our society, our world that very much *ought* to be questioned, even though it may not occur to us to do so. I can’t help but wonder if the timing of the social uprisings across our country regarding its history of racism is more than coincidence. Coming to acknowledge our own biases, our own tendencies toward racism, sometimes our own places of privilege, are precisely about questioning things that we have always taken for granted in the past. We are raised in societies and communities that teach us *the way things are*, but rarely do they teach us to ask whether the way things are, are the way they really ought to be. I find myself wondering if the lessons we are learning from the pandemic about not taking things for granted are giving us the freedom—maybe the courage—to question other things as well.

Of course, the best time to be asking questions is *before* we learn to take things for granted. I fear that we are becoming a society in which questioning or denying established facts can be done with impunity. I fear that despite the more successful efforts of many other countries in the world to contain the coronavirus, we may be moving toward accepting widespread illness and death, especially among our most vulnerable, as *just the way it is*, as though there is nothing we can do about it.

I know, of course, that Jesus calls me to move beyond fear. His vision of the Reign of God is very much about questioning the

taken-for-granted ways and values of our world in the light of the ways and values of our God. We are called to live not in a world of alternative facts, but in a world in which the truth shall set us free. We are called to live not in a world of racial divisions, but in a world in which justice shall roll down like waters. We are called to live not in a world in which the most vulnerable are left to sickness and death, but in a world in which we love our neighbors as ourselves. The Reign of God calls us to question the way things are, even and especially things we have taken for granted.

PUBLIC MASS RESERVATIONS

SUNDAYS | 5:00 PM

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS | 5:10 PM

St. Mary is open to the public for mass at **5:00 PM Sundays** and **5:10 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays**. **Our capacity is limited to 50 seats**. Click here to reserve your seat:

<https://bit.ly/smsp-public-mass-reservation>

To protect the health and safety of everyone at the mass, please note the following:

- Reservations will be limited to registered parishioners.
- Since we do not have pews, seating will be 50 individual chairs.
- If you make a reservation for more than one seat, you will be sitting alone and you may not be sitting near anybody else on your reservation.
- The moving of chairs will not be permitted.
- We strongly discourage those with compromised immune systems or families with small children from attending mass.

Masks and social distancing are required.

LIVE-STREAMED SUNDAY MASS

We continue to live-stream Sunday masses as follows:

- 9:00 AM – English Mass
- 10:10 AM – Spanish Mass

Masses can be watched live on our website: stmarystudentparish.org. You may also watch a recording of mass anytime after the mass has finished.

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COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

SUNDAYS | 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Communion will be distributed on Sundays from 11:30 AM-12:00 PM. If you arrive early, please wait in your car. The parish will remain locked until 11:30 AM. Enter through the William Street doors unless you require handicap accessibility through the Thompson side.

Masks and social distancing are required.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 AM–2:00 PM

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

During this time the office will be staffed to assist with scheduling, questions, donations, etc. You may also enter the church for individual prayer. Please enter through the main doors on Thompson Street.

Masks and social distancing are required.

CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAYS | 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

No reservation is required. Please enter through the main doors on Thompson Street and follow the signs. Confessions will be offered both in the church and outside in the courtyard, weather permitting.

GRAD/YP VIRTUAL DROP-IN SCC

WEDNESDAYS | 7:00 PM

If you haven't heard of them or participated in one before, an SCC (Small Church Community) is a group that meets weekly to read the upcoming Sunday readings, pray, and reflect on how those readings relate to our daily lives. The group meets on Wednesdays at 7pm and is hosted on Zoom. If you are interested in more information, please reach out to Colleen McClain colleen.a.mcclain@gmail.com.

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THE FOLLOWING WHO WERE **CONFIRMED** RECENTLY:

- Kal Bunnell
- Luca Fessahazion
- Joe Juarez
- Christian Paolo Escobar
- Shane Roberts
- Charlie Sanche

May the Holy Spirit fill your hearts and lead your lives forward. May the body of Christ nourish and strengthen you as you walk together with your friend Jesus.

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church, we encourage you to come forward and speak out. Every diocese in the United States now has a victim assistance coordinator who is available to obtain support, to help make a formal complaint of abuse to the diocese, and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative, if you desire.

The victim assistance coordinator for the Diocese of Lansing is: Cheryl Williams-Hecksel – 1-(888) 308-6252 or cwilliamshecksel@dioceseoflansing.org. In addition, you may also report through the law enforcement toll-free hotline at (844) 324-3374 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or by email, aginvestigations@michigan.gov

Since St. Mary Student Parish is staffed by the Society of Jesus, we are also including information provided by our province:

If you believe that you, or someone you know, has been abused by a Jesuit or a province employee, you are urged to advise the Midwest Jesuits by calling or emailing **Marjorie O'Dea**, director, Office of Safe Environment at 773-975-6363, or in writing to Marjorie O'Dea at 2050 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL, 60614.

You are also advised to contact the appropriate law enforcement agency. In Michigan, contact the Michigan State Police, <https://www.michigan.gov/msp>

Faith Doing Justice

SCHOLAR TO SPEAK ON CONSISTENT ETHIC OF LIFE

WEDNESDAY, AUG 4TH | 7:00 PM | LIVE STREAM

A talk on “Friendship in Troubled Times: Faithful Citizenship and the Consistent Ethic of Life” offers Christians a fresh look at their civic obligations through the lens of the Consistent Ethic of Life, which holds that human life is sacred from conception to natural death.

This virtual program is being offered by Weber Retreat and Conference Center via live stream at 7:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, August 4, 2020.

The talk is presented by Steven Millies, PhD, Associate Professor of Public Theology and Director of the Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. His most recent book is *Good Intentions: A History of Catholic Voters’ Road from Roe to Trump* (Liturgical Press, 2018).

Originally part of Weber Center’s 2020 Election Year Series, this presentation is free and open to all, and donations are appreciated.

To receive the live stream link, register at

<https://webercenter.org/>; click on “Programs.”

Registrations may also be made by calling 517-266-4000 or emailing webercenter@adriandominicans.org.

VIRTUAL EVENT: CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25TH | 7:00 PM | LIVE ON ZOOM

Strangers No Longer invites you to join Father Dave Buersmeyer on Tuesday, August 25th at 7 PM on Zoom for a presentation regarding Catholic Social Teaching and our role in the transformational times in which we live. This presentation will include an opportunity for community prayer.

Fr. Buersmeyer is the pastor of St. Regis in Bloomfield Hills and a founding member of Strangers No Longer.

Click here to register: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSekdpJVJ4Rz19GVodlI9k_myfXfjJvihtrnIhZLJIHoYedTQ/viewform

Upon registration, the zoom link will be emailed to you. Email strangersnolonger11@gmail.com with questions or help with registration.

“You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them. If you cannot make a change, change the way you have been thinking. You might find a new solution.” Maya Angelou

RACIAL JUSTICE RESOURCES

This new column will feature resources in support of our mission to live a faith that does justice.

NOVENA FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

On July 10, Ignatian Solidarity Network began a Novena for Racial Justice. In the Catholic tradition, a Novena is an ancient prayer tradition, consisting of prayer for a specific intention over the course of nine days. This Novena is framed in the example of Catholic saints and servants of God who provide a witness and example for us in our work for racial justice.

Why saints? Catholic tradition also includes the concept of “the communion of saints”—meaning the community of holy people, both living and dead, who we often call upon to intercede, or pray, for us in our times of need. We call on this tradition in this Novena for Racial Justice, asking for the prayers of saints and servants of God who have died to help us obtain the graces needed to persevere in our own internal and external work for racial justice.

Because the Novena is now complete, you can pray at your own pace by visiting: <https://ignatiansolidarity.net/novena-for-racial-justice/>

PRAYER FOR DISMANTLING RACISM

Dear God, in our efforts to dismantle racism, we understand that we struggle not merely against flesh and blood but against powers and principalities – those institutions and systems that keep racism alive by perpetuating the lie that some members of the family are inferior and others superior.

Create in us a new mind and heart that will enable us to see brothers and sisters in the faces of those divided by racial categories.

Give us the grace and strength to rid ourselves of racial stereotypes that oppress some of us while providing entitlements to others.

Help us to create a Church and nation that embraces the hopes and fears of oppressed People of Color where we live, as well as those around the world.

Heal your family God, and make us one with you, in union with our brother Jesus, and empowered by your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Written by the Pax Christi Anti-Racism Team.

Financial Update

ONLINE GIVING - NEW!

Many of you have signed up for online giving, which is a great help to us. Thank you. Some of you may be open to doing so. We recently introduced a new "online giving portal" through ParishSoft. This will eventually be the only online giving program that we will use. You can sign up and allocate gifts to particular funds here: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/smsp>.

Contact Kristen kgowman@smspnewman.org with any questions about this new online portal.

Fiscal Year 2020/2021	
Year-to-Date Sunday Offering Report as of 07/26/2020	
	\$0 \$250,000 \$500,000 \$750,000 \$1,000,000
Sunday Offerings Budget Goal	\$969,000
Year-to-Date (YTD) Goal	\$67,000
Amount Collected YTD	\$73,704
Above (Below) YTD Goal	\$6,704
Sunday Offering Report as of 07/26/2020	
July Sunday Offerings Weekly Budget Goal	\$16,750
Sunday 07/26/2020 (Week 4)	\$20,732
Above (Below) Weekly Goal	\$3,982



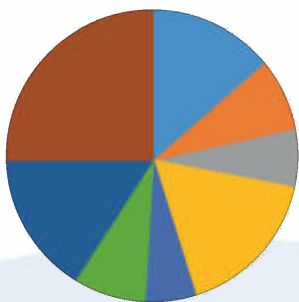
2020 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

As Christian stewards we recognize Christ as the source of all our many gifts. As grateful stewards, we are happy to embrace the Diocesan Services Appeal as a way to faithfully participate in the good works of our Holy Catholic Church. Please prayerfully consider a gift, appropriate to your means, in support of efforts in our parish and across the wider church.

Thank you to those who have already contributed! Our parish goal for 2020 is **\$97,785**. If you are still prayerfully considering your contribution, more information can be found online at <https://www.dioceseoflansing.org/DSA>.

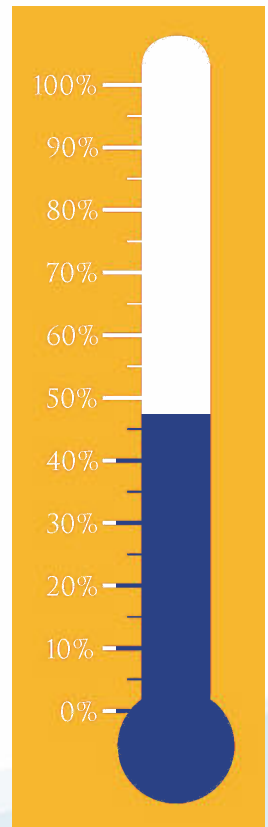
HOW ARE DSA CONTRIBUTIONS USED?

DSA contributions are the primary source of income for the Central Services Fund of the Diocese of Lansing. A report of the Central Central Services Fund expenses in fiscal year 2019 is provided below:



- Ministry Grants, Service Agreements, Subsidies 25.1%
- Vocations 13.2%
- Catholic Charities 8.3%
- New Evangelization 6.7%
- Chancery Services 16.8%
- Education 4.9%
- Formation 9.1%
- Diocesan and Parish Financial Services, Stewardship and Human Resources 16.0%

\$47,080 RAISED



St. Mary Student Parish Staff

PASTORAL STAFF

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Deacon Romolo Leone Pastoral Associate	ext 233 rleone@umich.edu

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Dan Hankins Custodian	ext 0 dhankins@smspnewman.org

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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WEDDING BANNES

August 1 —Cherie Netzloff & Tyler Huss

August 15—Maria Ciolo & Sean Shepard

August 21—Brooke Szymanski & Blake Bogart

AND THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:

Bob Coffey

To add or remove a name:
stmarys@umich.edu or call 734-663-0557.

Sunday Readings

AUGUST 2, 2020

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I	Is	55:1-3
Psalm	Ps	145:8-9, 15-18
Reading II	Rom	8:35, 37-39
Gospel	Mt	14:13-21

Jesus has pity on the crowd and miraculously feeds them. In his compassion, the Lord answers all our needs, thus renewing his covenant of love with us. Nothing can ever separate us from the love of Christ.

AUGUST 9, 2020

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I	Is	55:1-3
Psalm	Ps	145:8-9, 15-18
Reading II	Rom	8:35, 37-39
Gospel	Mt	14:13-21

In the midst of our trials and tribulations, the Lord extends his hands to us and saves us. He calms our frightened hearts through his quiet presence. May our faith in the Lord draw God's chosen people to the new covenant in Christ.

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