

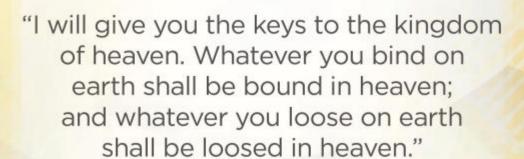
# ST. MARY STUDENT PARISH

**AUGUST 23, 2020** 

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

**CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN** 

# KINGDOM



MATTHEW 16:19

"Yo te daré las llaves del Reino de los cielos; todo lo que ates en la tierra quedará atado en el cielo, y todo lo que desates en la tierra quedará desatado en el cielo".

MATEO 16, 19

# **Pastoral Perspective**

#### FINDING A NEW WAY HOME

BY FR MARK MOSSA, SJ

Most of my life as a Jesuit has been lived on university campuses, and one of the times in the year that I look forward to the most is when the students return in the Fall. There are few things better than welcoming them back to their spiritual home! But this year is different. As I contemplate the return of students to campus, I feel great unease. I'm scared for the people of our community, and I'm scared for the students. As excited as I am to see them again, I also find myself hoping that the university will tell them to stay home. And I would not be surprised if they do so by the time that this is published. I know that I will greet that news with a mixture of relief and sadness. Such is the nature of this time. Many of us find ourselves having to give up the things—and the people that we hold most dear—out of love and care for them, and each other. There's a tug-of-war underway in our hearts, and it seems the only way to win is by losing.

As I've pondered how campus ministry might serve our students this coming semester, still uncertain about their presence here, and conscious of the ways we will be forced to make them "unwelcome" at our church, I've tried to put myself in their shoes. How can we continue to be their spiritual home when, as far as they are concerned, our physical structure, which so many of them find a home in, is largely closed for business? As blessed as we are to have alternative "virtual" means of connecting with them, it is just not the same as feeling the energy, the closeness and the spirit of dozens of students gathered in the Newman Lounge. Can we invite them to mass, when we know that even if they are vigilantly following safety procedures in their day-to-day lives, so many they encounter probably are not? When we know that through no fault of their own that they may be carrying the virus and not even know it? I've suggested to some of them that this perhaps is not a bad time to reflect and ponder certain questions: Am I willing to give up parties, sporting events, trips with friends in order to be able to go to mass? Is my faith as much of a priority in my life as I think it is? In the absence of my physical "home," how do I make my home with Jesus, and how do I include others in that in ways that may be difficult, or inconvenient? And how do I negotiate my relationship with friends who have different priorities, are making imprudent decisions, and want me to do the same? I, of course, realize as I am thinking of posing these questions to them, that while they might be under greater pressure right now, these are questions that we all find ourselves asking. What were once hypothetical questions have now become real

life choices. This moment is requiring of us great moral and spiritual courage as we try to take care of each other, and mourn the loss of the familiar comforts of the "homes" we now realize that we took for granted.

As I write these words, the analogy of being a refugee comes to mind. We are experiencing what it means to be unrooted and alienated from places we know as home. It is a reminder that before there was the global Covid crisis, there was the global refugee crisis, which is ongoing. So, even as we feel like refugees ourselves, let us not forget the tens of millions of people around the world driven from their homes, and searching for a new one. When we have rediscovered our homes both physical and spiritual, hopefully our hearts will be all the more moved to help them to do the same. Our Lady of the Way, pray for us.

#### **FAREWELL FR. DENNIS**

Join us as we bid farewell to Fr. Dennis, who will be retiring to Colombiere Center in Clarkston, MI this September. Due to COVID-19 we are unable to host a traditional farewell reception, but we invite you to share your memories or well -wishes by **Monday, August 24th** here:

https://form.jotform.com/202154878812055

Please, no gifts, as Fr. Dennis is limited in what he can take with him to Colombiere.

All are also invited to save the date for Fr. Dennis' final parish event, when he will preach the homily during the live -streamed 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday, August 30, 2020.

#### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

MON-FRI | 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

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.

### **CONNECT WITH US!**

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#### 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.

#### **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.

#### **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

Please note, there are tabs at the top of the webpage for Sunday mass and daily mass.

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.

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.

#### **BAPTISM CLASS—ENGLISH**

A baptism preparation class will be held once or twice a month. Classes are limited to 4 families, masks and proper social distancing is required. If you are able, we ask that you pick up a baptism preparation packet from the Parish Office at least one week prior to the class. The packet contains articles and discussion questions for parents and godparents. During the class there is an opportunity to ask questions and schedule the baptism date. The class is required to be taken only once. It does not need to be repeated for additional children.

Class dates are: Sept 21, Oct 5 & 19 and Nov 2. Pre-registration is required. Please call the parish office to register:734-663-0557.

Those wishing to have their children baptized at St. Mary Student Parish should be registered members here for at least three months and active, contributing members of the parish. To arrange a baptism and to begin the preparation, please contact the parish office.

#### **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.

#### **EXPLORING THE FAITH THRU RCIA**

RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), helps those who are considering adult baptism into the Catholic faith, those who may want to convert from another Christian faith, and those adult Catholics who want to complete their Confirmation.

Gatherings will begin in September (though we are not sure yet of our format). In the meantime, give us a call, or send an email.

Rita Zyber, RCIA Coordinator, rzyber@smspnewman.org 734-663-0557, Ext 230

Fr. Joe Wagner, SJ, RCIA Director, jwagner@smspnewman.org 734-663-0557, Ext 225

"Our hearts are restless until they find rest in you." -- St. Augustine

## Faith Doing Justice

#### 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: <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSekdpJVJ4Rz19GVodlI9k">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSekdpJVJ4Rz19GVodlI9k</a> myfXfjJvihtrnIlhzLJIHoYedTQ/viewform

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

#### **2020 CENSUS**

The 2020 U.S. Census timeline has been shifted in order to better protect the health and safety of the general public and the U.S. Census Bureau employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Michiganders now have until October 31, 2020 to respond. The Catholic Church in Michigan has promoted full participation in the count <a href="http://www.micatholic.org/advocacy/2020-census/">http://www.micatholic.org/advocacy/2020-census/</a> because of the ramifications it has for individuals and local communities:

- The count influences legislative representation at all levels of government, where decisions about the common good and the most vulnerable are often made.
- The Catholic Church relies on an accurate census to more effectively serve those in need.
- Under-counting households leads to under-funding critical programs and services.

The Detroit News featured the Church's efforts <a href="https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2020/05/28/faith-leaders-2020-census-census-sundays/5280266002/">https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2020/05/28/faith-leaders-2020-census-census-sundays/5280266002/</a> to increase census participation in an article about the partnership between the faith community and Michigan's 2020 "Be Counted" campaign.

Visit <a href="https://my2020census.gov/">https://my2020census.gov/</a> now to fill out the 2020 Census, which will take approximately ten minutes to complete. The process is safe, secure, and confidential, and your response will help direct how billions of federal funds for local communities are distributed over the next decade.

#### RACIAL JUSTICE RESOURCES

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

#### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL AGAINST RACISM

**For our Church,** that we may celebrate and welcome the diverse faces of Christ in our community, our worship, our ministries, and our leaders, let us pray to the Lord.

For world leaders, that they may work to end the violence perpetrated by verbal attacks, deadly weapons, and cold indifference. May our nation and countries around the world become havens of peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**For our community,** that we may receive the grace to see every human being as a child of God, regardless of race, language, or culture, let us pray to the Lord.

For parents and educators, that we may teach our children how to resolve differences non-violently and respectfully and have the courage to model it in our own behavior, let us pray to the Lord.

For this faith community, that we may hear the call of our leaders to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit to act together to end violence and racism, let us pray to the Lord.

For our public officials, that the Spirit of Wisdom may help them strive to work for equal education, suitable housing, and equal employment opportunities for all, let us pray to the Lord.

For solidarity in our global human family, that we may be vigilant in our protection of those who are most vulnerable and most in need, let us pray to the Lord.

**For those who have died,** especially those who have died in the pursuit of justice, may they be welcomed into the great glory of God's love, let us pray to the Lord.

Loving God, whose promise of justice sustains us, as we e await your coming at Christmas, hear these our prayers that we might ready our hearts and our communities for the coming of Christ, our example in all things. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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## Financial Update

#### **ONLINE GIVING**

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.

#### DONATE USING VENMO

Give like students give - straight from their smartphone. Venmo is a secure platform designed to allow you to make payments, transfer money, and donate quickly and easily to friends, groups, and businesses. Link your bank account (or debit card), choose the recipient of your choice, and hit pay. It's that easy! Our Venmo username is @SMSPumich.



# 2020 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

#### **2020 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL**

"Happy the one who trusts in the Lord." This scripture text from the Book of Proverbs affirms a fundamental teaching of the Catholic Church – only in God will we find the truth and happiness that we seek, the happiness that we were made for.

Our Diocesan Services Appeal is an opportunity to participate personally in the service and care provided through the many good works of the Catholic Church. DSA contributions are put to work, right away, in a multitude of ministries and spiritual activities to offer direct assistance to individuals and families, to our parishes and schools.

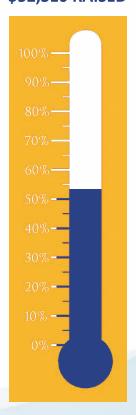
Day after day, year after year – with your help – we are here. The Catholic Church – through our parishes, our Catholic Charities agencies, our Catholic Schools, the St. Francis Retreat Center, and dozens of other services and ministries – provides vital care and services to almost 200,000 Catholics across the diocese.

These many good works unify our mission to Go and Announce the Gospel of the Lord. DSA helps us all to move along the path of discipleship together.

Thank you to those who have already contributed to this year's appeal! Your contribution helps strengthen the joint ministry of 74 parishes in the Diocese of Lansing and enables us to serve the people across our 10 county diocese.

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.

#### \$52,310 RAISED



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PASTORAL STAFF 734-0	63-0557		
Rev. James G. Gartland, S.J. Pastor	ext 277	jgartland@smspnewman.org	REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
Fr. Dennis T. Dillon, S.J. Pastoral Associate	ext 246	dillonsj@umich.edu	THOSE WHO ARE SICK:
Fr. Patrick M. Casey, S.J. Pastoral Associate	ext 234	pcasey@smspnewman.org	Harrison Morton, Orlando Averion, Zenaida
Deacon Romolo Leone Pastoral Associate	ext 233	rleone@umich.edu	Averion, Victoria Tomalia, Maryjo Lum, Ric
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CAMPUS MINISTRY STAFF			Karczewski, Brianna Liker, Elpido Adrian, Marcelo Alvarez, Eddie Smith, Joan Lesneski, Daniel Leung,
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Fr. Joseph F. Wagner S.J. Campus Minister	ext 225	jwagner@smspnewman.org	Alexander, Alicia Patterson, Shawn Brown, Jamie
Brian Cerabona Campus Minister	ext 235	bcerabona@smspnewman.org	Ballew, Patrick Geary, Bob Schoeni, Rosemary
			Callahan, Ron Lesneski, Christopher Brown, Scott
PARISH STAFF			Alexander, Paul Schnackenberg, Wilmer Zhinin,
Cathy Welch Business Manager	ext 224	cwelch@smspnewman.org	Juan Ibarra-Gonsalez, Adam Lesneski, Stacey Simpson Duke, Walter Moilanen, Joanna
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Liturgy Assistant			Ayauaca, Manuel Zhinin, Liz Groulx, Michael
<b>Brittany Tobias</b> Communications Director	ext 240	btobias@smspnewman.org	Patterson, Filiberto Zamorano, Nikolas Block,
Carol Konczal Receptionist & Administrative Assistant	ext 226	ckonczal@umich.edu	Rosemary Rodriguez, Sally Parrish, Cristina Magsino, Kate Hanson, Maria Delores Monicibas
Julie Mussio Marriage Preparation & Ministry Schedule Coordinator	ext 243	jmussio@smspnewman.org	Aleman, Luis Mario Riano, Joesph Puttrich, Colin Beaumier, Monica Terhar, April Schack, Senir Rivas,
Amy Ketner Hispanic Coordinator	ext 248	aketner@smspnewman.org	Maria Hernandez, Hilda and Henry Willis, Joan
Kristen Gowman Bookkeeper	ext 241	kgowman@smspnewman.org	Benzie, Joe Ladago, Jan Buhler, Brent Horvath,
Lori Feiler Family Ministry Director	ext 245	lfeiler@smspnewman.org	Alicia Patterson, Marianna Hann, John Burns, Pablo Angiano Flores, Christine Geoghegan, Shawn &
Karen Foster Family Ministry Coordinator  Marcela Larios Hispanic Family Ministry  Coordinator		kfoster@smspnewman.org mlarios@smspnewman.org	Laura Brown, Christopher Brown, Trinh Piper, Cindy McPherson, Gloria Grisales, Aurora Kobalz,
<b>Rita Zyber</b> RCIA, SCC & Youth Ministry Coordinator	ext 230	rzyber@smspnewman.org	Amaris Bolanos Luna, John Lanzatta, Curran Lawrence, Fred Metry, Tom Forner, Brian Cronin, Phil Simmons, Charlotte Jenkins, Theresa Bontekoe
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Ryan Migliore Parish Accompanist	ext 0	rmigliore@smspnewman.org	Gallagher, Sara Zuleta, John Dunne, Clifton
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#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 23** 

9:00 AM Mass for +Robert & Marie Herstein 10:10 AM Mass for

5:10 PM Mass for People of the Parish

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 25** 

5:10 PM Mass for +Rita McNally

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

5:10 PM Mass for +Joseph Carey

AND THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED: Ann Dwyer, Terrance Burns, Eugene Swantick

Cuevas, Robert Burnard, Connie Zatsik

Jones, Art Lamey, Cora Horgrow, Flora Corrales, Juanita Esquivel, Julio Ramos, Hugo Lombardo,

Sara Zuleta, Art Lamey, Jeanne McAree, Salvador

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

# Sunday Readings

#### AUGUST 23, 2020

#### TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reading I Is 22:19-23
Psalm Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8
Reading II Rom 11:33-36
Gospel Mt 16:13-20

As Eliakim is given authority as master of the palace, so does Jesus confer upon Peter authority to bind and loose. To Jesus, who promised to be with his Church for all time, be glory forever and ever!

#### AUGUST 30, 2020

#### TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

 Reading I
 Jer
 20:7-9

 Psalm
 Ps
 63:2-6,8-9

 Reading II
 Rom
 12:1-2

 Gospel
 Mt
 16:21-27

Following the Lord means nothing less than the cross; offering ourselves with Jesus as a living sacrifice and not conforming ourselves to this world. Following him will entail derision and scorn, yet the Lord is our help.

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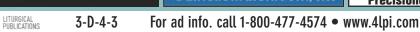
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