

So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. - Mk 1:39

#### Notes from Fr. Steve

Saint Andrew Bessette was known as the miracle worker of Montreal. His life and spirituality are worthy of your reflection, and his life also serves as an example for all of us to follow, and develop a deeper relationship with the Lord Jesus.

Saint Andre Bessette, born Alfred Bessette, is celebrated as a humble and devout man who dedicated his life to serving others. Despite facing numerous challenges and setbacks, he emerged as a beacon of hope and healing for countless individuals. His unwavering faith and compassion earned him recognition as a saint in the Catholic Church, and his legacy continues to inspire people around the world.

Early Life: Alfred Bessette was born on August 9, 1845, in Saint-Gregoire-d'Iberville, Quebec, Canada. He was the eighth of twelve children born to a poor farming family. Tragically, his father died when Alfred was just nine years old, leaving the family in dire financial straits. Alfred received minimal formal education and struggled with poor health throughout his youth, facing various illnesses that hindered his ability to work.

Spiritual Awakening: Despite his hardships, Alfred possessed an unshakable faith in God from a young age. He found solace and strength in prayer, often seeking refuge in his deep devotion to Saint Joseph. At the age of 12, Alfred made a pilgrimage to the shrine of Saint Joseph in Montreal, where he vowed to dedicate his life to God if he was granted health and the ability to work.

Religious Life: Inspired by his pilgrimage, Alfred sought entry into the Congregation of Holy Cross, a religious order dedicated to education and serving the poor, However, due to his frail health and lack of normal education, he faced numerous rejections before finally being accepted as a lay brother in 1870. Taking the religious name Brother Andre he began his novitiate at the College Notre-Dame in Montreal.

Miraculous Healings: Brother Andre's deep faith and devotion to Saint Joseph soon gained him a reputation as a healer. People from all walks of life sought his assistance, believing in his ability to intercede on their behalf. Despite his own doubts and humility, Brother Andre prayed reverently for the sick and suffering, often anointing them with oil from a lamp burning in front of a statue of Saint Joseph.

Legacy of Hope: Brother Andre's ministry of healing continued to grow, and he became instrumental in the construction of Saint Joseph's Oratory on Mount Royal in Montreal. Despite facing skepticism and opposition, he preserved in his mission, trusting in God's providence. Saint Joseph's Oratory would later become a pilgrimage site visited by millions of people seeking physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

Canonization: Brother Andre's selfless devotion and countless miraculous healings led to his canonization as a saint by Pope Benedict XVI on October 17, 2010. He was officially recognized as Saint Andre Bessette, the first Canadian-born male saint. His life serves as a testament to the power of faith, prayer, and compassion in overcoming adversity and bringing hope to the world.

Saint Andre Bessette's journey from humble beginnings to sainthood is a remarkable testament to the transformative power of faith and compassion. His legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched through his ministry of healing and his unwavering devotion to God. Today, Saint Andre Bessette continues to inspire people of all backgrounds to embrace faith, hope, and love in their own lives.

Please remember to pray for the sick and suffering in our parish community, your prayers bring them healing, comfort, and peace. God bless you!

#### REQUEST FOR 2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY	
ENVELOPE NUMBER	

A Container will be available in the gathering area for the Collection of Dried Palms to be burned for use on Ash Wednesday.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Scripture readings concentrate on the topics of suffering and healing, faith, preaching the Good News of the Gospel, and prayer. In the passage from the Book of Job, he suffers immensely, yet in what is revealed later in the Book, stays focused on his belief in God. St. Paul proclaims that he has been charged with preaching the Gospel, saying, woe to me if I do not preach it. The evangelist, St. Mark in his Gospel, describes how Jesus, at His disciples' prompting, heals Simon-Peter's mother-in-law. This miracle stresses the importance of prayer knowing that, through faith, God will always give us strength in times of distress and if it is His will, heal us from our infirmities. Daily communication with God is necessary to grow in discipleship. Take a few minutes each day in quiet time to talk with our Lord.

#### **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

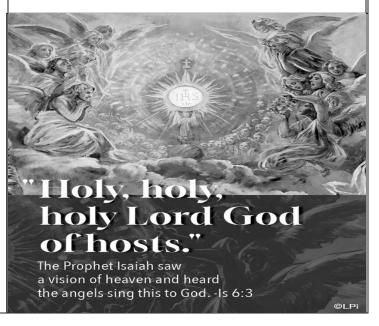
#### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Maybe I'm weird, but I like spending time in doctor's offices, confession lines in churches, auto repair shops, prison cells, and support groups of various kinds. It's refreshing to be with people who humbly admit something is wrong and forthrightly set out on a path toward a solution. When we ignore what is off kilter, we become alone and fragile. In places where people are honest and hopeful about brokenness, sturdy if subtle fellowship usually ensues.

Consider the image we see of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark. "...they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by a demon. The whole town was gathered at the door." The entire human community is afflicted in various ways, and so it gradually forms a strange new community around Jesus. The healer from Nazareth is like a sun of health around which orbits a throng of humanity absorbing his healing rays. These blessed souls can't fix themselves and become healthy, and they know it. But they have found in him the living source of all imaginable healing.

It's the Church, isn't it? A sin-sick community gathered and healed is what happens at the beginning of every Mass. We shuffle in through the door from everywhere and announce that we are not okay, and we can't fix it. In doing so, we are drawn into the orbit of the healing power of Christ — and into a renewed community with the whole human family. It's nothing to fear or rush. Maybe we can even learn to enjoy more how good it is to be in such a happy place.

— Father John Muir



## Thank You!

St. Matthew Catholic Parish in Detroit and our St. Vincent de Paul Conference would like to extend once again a huge thank you to all the families of St. Rene Goupil Parish for your awesome donation of the many sweatshirts and children's toys given to us last month. The sweatshirts and abundant toys were distributed just prior to Christmas as gifts along with plentiful fresh and non-perishable food to twenty-eight low-income families and their ninety-six children who live on the east side of Detroit where are our parish serves.

We're extremely grateful for the abundance of clothing and wonderful toys you have provided to nearly one hundred and twenty-five people whose Christmas was made that much brighter because of the care and compassion displayed by the kind parishioners at St. Rene Goupil. Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference with your tremendous help was able to be a shining light, during these very challenging times, on the lives of many in our eastside Detroit community so that those less fortunate than ourselves were able to celebrate the Christmas season even that much more!

Happy New Year to all of you and thanks once again for all your generosity and kindness!

Sincerely.

Dennis Costello

St. Matthew Conference of St. Vincent de Paul

You now can donate to St. Rene Goupil using your cell phone! Just take a picture of the QR code in the gathering space or in the bulletin; it will automatically link you to the St. Rene donation site. Enter the amount

you wish to donate, card information and press the "Pay" button. It's that simple! We thank you for your generosity.



SCAN CODE TO DONATE TO ST. RENE GOUPIL

#### **Everyday Stewardship**

#### The Audacity of Holiness

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety—that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

# So technically Moses was the first man to download files from the cloud using a tablet.



#### **Readings for** Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Job spoke, saying: Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings? He is a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages. So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me. If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?" then the night drags on; I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope. Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.

> Reading II 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Brothers and sisters: If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

> Gospel Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you." He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

**Sunday, February 4, 2024:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (see 3a)/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39 Monday, February 5, 2024:1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10/Mk 6:53-56

**Tuesday, February 6, 2024:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 7, 2024:1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40/Mk 7:14-23 **Thursday, February 8, 2024:**1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40/Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 9, 2024:1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15/Mk 7:31-37

**Saturday, February 10, 2024:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22/Mk 8:1-10

Sunday, February 11, 2024:Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 (7)/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45



## Tuesday, February 6, 2024 9:30 a.m.

+Joseph Sayers

## Thursday, February 8, 2024 9:30 a.m.

- +Sparky Klee, birthday
- +Judy Durocher

## Friday, February 9, 2024 9:30 a.m.

+Giuseppe & Concetta DiStefano

## Saturday, February 10, 2024 4:00 p.m.

- +Felix & Rita Gatt
- +Mary Jean Calmi
- +Franklin Langenstein
- +James Russman
- +Frank & Ruth Russman
- +Steven Herbert
- +Umberto Basilisco (1st R.A.)
- +Fred Schulte (2nd R.A.)
- +Rose Marie Calmi
- +Emmanuel Raphael

## Sunday, February 11, 2024 8:30 a.m.

+Sharon Murawski

Special Intention of Victoria & Tim Roddy & Family

+Peter Formanczyk

#### 10:30 a.m.

For the intentions of the Knights of Columbus, St. Nicholas Council & Their Families

- +Thomas Bentley
- +Luz Agustin
- +Ryan & Jennifer Ambrosio
- +Michael Buffmyer
- +Kathy Oljarczyk
- +Judy Durocher

#### 5:30 p.m.

Dylan Ventimiglia, Healing Special Intention of Brittany Hicks



Please Remember St. Rene Goupil Parish In Your Will

#### **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

Sometimes we can feel like we are living the life of Job: everything is going wrong all at the same time. Everyone finds himself or herself in a valley once in awhile. How we got there is not nearly as important as how are we going to get out.

Everyday stewards are called to be grateful for all things, large and small. It is easier to be grateful for obvious things like family, health, and life itself, than it is to look for the ordinary gifts in our life. When we cultivate a sense of wonder and thankfulness for the many little things in life we find ourselves more resilient in times of trial. We can look out our window and see all those gifts in creation. We can look around our home and see all the things people take too easily for granted. Imagine life without some of the simplest things like clothing, warmth, water, and furniture. There are people in this world that long for all of those things. But God has given them for your benefit and for you to share with others.

Before Lent begins in a couple weeks, take the time to create a list of at least 10 things that you normally take for granted. Keep that list handy and maybe add to it from time-to-time. When life seems hard and that cloud seems to hang over our heads, bring out the list and let gratefulness lift you up and out of your plight so that once again you can be about your Father's work.

-- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time





Weekend Liturgy Schedule for February 10 & 11					
	Saturday 4:00PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10:30 AM	Sunday 5:30 PM	
Presider	Fr. Steve	Fr. Joy	Fr. Steve	Fr. Bruno	
Lector	Barbara Kiernan	Thess Monterio	Flor Sitchon	Virginia Jennings	
Altar Servers	Nathan Gonzalez Isabella Gonzalez	Karin Nieto	Phat Le Phong Le		
Eucharistic Ministers	G Labinski K Moravek Open	Open Open Open	A Sitchon F Sitchon Open	Open Open Open	
Ushers	Tom Pluta Dave Hintz Todd Messineo Karen Messineo Nick Rieser Jim Moravek Omar Oszust Gary Novelli	Tom Dutkiewicz Luis Nieto Al Gyenese Mike Kazyak Ed Stivers Sharon Olszewski	Terry Shaughnessy Tom Fooy Ralph Fackler Wilmar Suan Joe Meli Chrisie Fish Chris Norris	Paul Hornung Mike Galuszka Ofelia Fermil Fred Rossi	
Sacristan	R Kranson	K Nieto	T McWilliams	V Jennings	



St. Rene St. Vincent de Paul helps with utility bills, clothing, household items, food and in certain cases evictions. If you know of anyone who needs help, please have them call (586) 718-4523. They do not need to be parish members. All information is kept strictly confidential.

The St. Vincent de Paul food pantry is in need of the following items:

Salad dressing, vegetable oil and detergent.



O St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in thee all my interest and desires.

O St. Joseph, do assist me by thy powerful intercession, and obtain for me from thy divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below thy heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

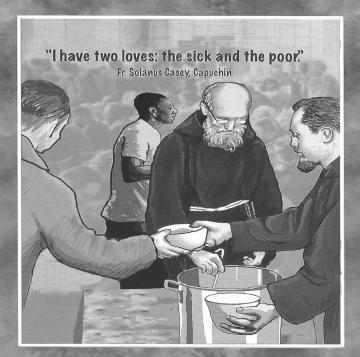
O St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating thee, and Jesus asleep in thy arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near thy heart. Press Him close in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

#### **STAY CONNECTED**

I encourage you to sign up for this resource and make use of the Bible studies, faith formation opportunities, and Catholic movies available. Signing up only takes a few easy steps:

- 1. Visit <u>www.formed.org</u> and click "Sign up."
- 2. Click "I belong to a Parish or Organization."
- 3. Type "Faith at Home Detroit" in the center box under Create New Account. (You'll see it populate from the drop-down menu.) Click "Next."
- 4. Enter your first and last name as well as your email.
- 5. Now you're registered! You can also download the app on you Smartphone. If you need further assistance, contact *Formed* at <a href="https://www.help.formed.org">www.help.formed.org</a> or toll-free at 844-367-6331.



## "Gratitude is the first sign of a thinking, rational creature."

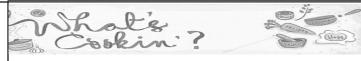
Blessed Solanus Casey, OFM Capuchin



Our Sunday Offering January 27 & 28 Thank you for your generous response.

God Bless you!

If you wish to read the bulletin it can be found online at Parishesonline.com then search by zip code. You can go online to the aod.org/live masses to find Weekday and Weekend Masses that can be watched.



#### **Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Cake**

1 3/4 c. boiling water

1 c. uncooked oatmeal

1 c. packed brown sugar

1 c. granulated sugar

1/2 c. butter or margarine, softened

3 eggs

1 3/4 c. all purpose flour

1 tsp. baking soda

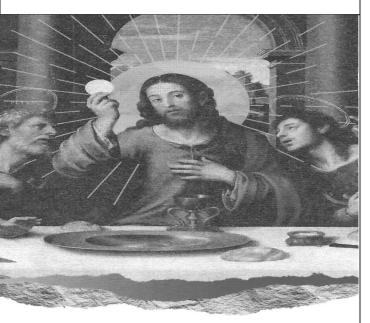
1 tsp. cocoa

1/4 tsp. salt

1/2 c. chopped nuts

1/2 c. chocolate chips

In a mixing bowl, pour water over oatmeal. Allow to stand 10 minutes. Add sugars and butter, stirring until the butter melts. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Mix flour, baking soda, cocoa and salt together. Add to batter; mix well. Pour into a greased 13x9 inch baking pan. Sprinkle top of cake with walnuts and chocolate chips. Bake at 350 F for about 40 minutes. Yield: 12 servings.





eucharisticrevival.org



The names for the prayer list for the sick is now done by personal intercession. Please drop the names of those needing prayers for healing in the petition box in the gathering area. We are asking that you take 2 names from the basket and pray for those people by name every day for four weeks. If an emergency comes up please call the parish office and we will get members of the community to pray and offer intercessions for them at daily mass.



We are in need of Sacristans and Eucharistic Ministers. If anyone is interested, please contact Gordon Yeck at (810)343-2954.

We are in need of Ushers at the 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses. If you are interested in Ushering, please see one of the Ushers.

Altar Server training

Anyone young or adult who would like to serve at the altar is invited to a training session. Please come serve at the altar!

Date & Time to be announced!

#### Please Pray for the Family Members of our Parishioners serving in the Military:

Josey Blades (Air Force) Airman 1st Julie M.

Chervon

Spc. Shaen Connery (Army) P.O. 1st Dale A. Foglyano Nicholas Foglyano (Army)

P.O. 2nd Nicolas Fooy (Navy) Lt Col David Fries

Lt Col David Fries Maj. Laura Geldhof Joe Gill, Navy

Staff Sgt. Nicole R. Grenon Christopher Grubby (Navy) Pfc. Kevin Heath Lt. Christopher Kerr Pfc. Paul Koss (Marines) Lt. Joseph Kraft

Sgt. Joseph Kucharek (Army)

Sgt. Chris Libecki Mark Locricchio (Army) Sgt. Sean McDowell (Army) LCPL Miguel Menzer

SPC Matthew Muellenhagen Maj. Eric Olson

Chief Daniel Przybylinski

(Navy)

Justin Quinn (Marines) Anthony Roszko (Army)

Lt. Greg Siuta Maj. Allison Stewart Sgt Tomas R. Studholme, Jr. ISG Robert Sutton

Sgt. Matthew Sweetman
Joel Vasquez, (Navy Seal)

#### Prayer for Those Serving in the Military

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.

Bless them and their families for their selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.

Amen



### **Adoration Chapel**

In the documents of the Second Vatican Council, the Church Fathers describe the Eucharist as: "The source and summit of the Christian life. The term "Eucharist" originates in the Greek word Eucharistia, meaning thanksgiving.

"Take; this is my body" Mark 14:22

- 1. The real presence of Christ in the Eucharist is real, true and substantial.
- 2. "It is called the Eucharist because it is an action of thanksgiving to God." (CCC. No. 1328)
- 3. "Jesus awaits us in the sacrament of love." (St. John Paul II, Dominicae cene, no. 3)
- 4. Eucharist makes the one present sacrifice of Christ the Savior." (CCC, no. 1330)

If you would like to take the opportunity to be still and listen to God (without worldly interruptions), we have aneed for almost every hour to have a second adorer, thereby making less the need for a substitute. It is a sacrifice being Catholic in our world today, you need contemplation and the grace to make you holy. Please call Mary Peterson to sign up at (586)979-1469 or (586)738-1154.

Uncommitted Hours
Tuesday 1pm & 2pm
Friday 4pm
TAKE TIME FOR PRAYER!

## SAINT RENE GOUPIL Catholic Church

35955 Ryan Road Sterling Heights, MI 48310 (586) 939-7500 Fax (586) 939-7839

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed 12 Noon—1:00 p.m. Lunch
Friday 9:00 a.m. - Noon

#### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Steven Koehler, Pastor Rev. Joy Chakian, Associate Rev. Mr. John Ball, Deacon Rev. Mr. Kevin Tietz, Deacon Michael Novak, Director of Evangelization & Education Alexander Sunga Director of Worship & Music

#### **ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICES**

Legion of Mary
Mary Peterson (586) 979-1469
Divine Mercy
Diane Broaddus (586) 977-1978
Ushers
Al Gyenese (586) 808-3128
Perpetual Adoration
Mary Peterson (586) 979-1469
Catholic Social Services
of Macomb
Clinton Twp. (586) 416-2300
St. Vincent de Paul (Poverty Help)
(586) 718-4523
Joseph White, Grand Knight, K of C

#### **Weekend Liturgy Schedule**

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.

Weekday Mass Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 a.m.

**Confessions** 3:00 p.m. every Saturday

#### WELCOME

If you have attended Mass at St. Rene and would like to become a member, please visit our parish office where you can register and discuss all of the wonderful ways to grow in faith through Christian Service, Worship, Youth Ministry, Outreach, Faith Formation, and in our Adoration Chapel. For more information call 586-939-7500.

#### St. Rene Mission Statement

St. Rene Goupil Parish is a Catholic Community, dedicated to strengthening the faith and love of its people. Our mission is to proclaim that Jesus is Lord, to celebrate His Presence, and to reach out to others in His name.

#### **Parish Registration:**

Welcome to all new families/individuals. Please register as soon as possible. Membership is a condition for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation and Marriage.

Registration is also required before the parish can issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be a sacramental sponsor. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office.

#### **Baptism:**

Baptisms are celebrated the third Sunday of the month at 12:00 p.m. A parent preparation class is mandatory. Classes are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call the Parish Office during weekday office hours to register for a class.

**Penance:** Saturday 3:00 p.m. Special schedules for Advent and Lent.

#### Marriage:

Arrangements must be made through the Parish Office at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. One person of the couple must be an active, registered member of St. Rene Goupil Parish for six months.

#### **Anointing of the Sick:**

On request or by appointment through the Parish Office.

