# Divine Mercy Jesus, Leustin you

St. Rene Goupil Catholic Community April 7, 2024

# Notes from Fr. Steve

As we celebrate the glorious season of Easter, our hearts are filled with joy and gratitude for the hope and redemption that Christ's resurrection brings. This is a time of renewal and rebirth, not only for ourselves but also for our communities. It is a perfect opportunity to share the transformative power of our faith with those around us. Here are some suggestions on how you can effectively share your Easter faith with others.

- 1. **Live Your Faith Authentically:** The most powerful witness to our faith is the way we live our lives. Let your actions reflect your love, compassion, and joy that Easter brings. People are often drawn to the faith by observing the genuine joy and peace that believers exude.
- 2. **Invite Others to Church:** Extend a warm invitation to friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers to join you for a mass or others church events. Coming to Church often have a special significance and can be a profound experience for those who attend, especially if they have never been to church before. And remember no one wants to come alone and not know anyone, if you invite them to come with you they will not feel alone.
- 3. **Share Your Testimony:** Take the opportunity to share your personal testimony of how your faith has impacted your life. Whether it's during casual conversations, small group settings, or social media platforms, sharing your own experiences can be a powerful way to connect with others and inspire them to explore their own faith journey.
- 4. **Be a Good Listener:** Sometimes, the most effective way to share our faith is simply by listening to others. Take the time to listen to people's concerns, doubts, and questions about faith and Christianity. Offer empathy, understanding, and thoughtful responses, and be open to engaging in meaningful conversations.
- 5. **Use Easter Symbols and Traditions:** Easter is filled with rich symbols and traditions that can serve as conversation starters. Whether it's explaining the significance of the Easter egg, the symbolism of the cross, or the meaning behind the resurrection, use these symbols as opportunities to share the message of Easter in a relatable and engaging way.
- 6. **Pray for Opportunities:** Pray for divine opportunities to share your faith with others. Ask God to open doors and hearts, and to give you the wisdom, courage, and discernment to effectively communicate the message of Easter in a way that resonates with those around you.
- 7. **Extend Acts of Kindness:** Show Christ's love in practical ways by extending acts of kindness and compassion to those in need. Whether it's volunteering at a local shelter, offering assistance to a neighbor, or simply being a supportive friend, let your actions reflect the love and grace of Easter.

Remember, sharing your faith is not about imposing beliefs on others but rather about extending an invitation to experience the life-transforming power of God's love. May this Easter season be a time of renewed commitment to sharing the joy and hope of our faith with those around us.

I want to thank everyone who came to church on Easter, and all those people who worked so hard to make our Easter celebration such the amazing success we all experienced!

Please remember to pray for the parish, especially the sick and the suffering, your prayers bring them healing, comfort and peace. God Bless you!



#### A Prayer for Divine Mercy

O Greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your mercy-to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out: Gracious God, do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles! O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, who are acquainted with our misery through and through and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You, we implore You, anticipate us with Your grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence as Your children, await Your final coming-that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope; through His merciful Heart as through an open gate, we pass through to heaven. Amen.

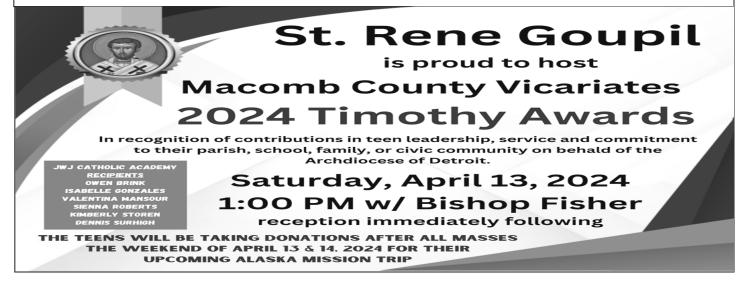
#### **Prayers of the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy**

1. The Sign of the Cross: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Prayers: (Optional): You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for our souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelope the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.
 O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!

(three times)

- 3. **The Our Father:** Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.
- 4. **The Hail Mary:** Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.
- 5. The Apostles' Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, war crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell, on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty: from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.
- 6. On the "Our Father" *bead before each decade:* Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
- 7. On the "Hail Mary" *beads of each decade:* For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
- 8. Repeat "Eternal Father" and "For the Sake of His Sorrowful Passion": (*Number 6 & 7*) Prayers for four more decades.
- 9. After 5 decades, the concluding doxology (*three times*): Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
- 10. **Closing Prayers** (*optional*) Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless, and the treasure of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us, and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy Itself. Amen.



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formation and press the "Pay" button. It's that simple! We thank you for your generosity.



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# GOSPEL MEDITATION

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope's chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, "Holy Father, why do *you* get that special chair?" The group chuckled nervously at my friend's audacious chide.

The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, "What do you think of my chair now?" My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.

– Father John Muir

# Everyday Stewardship

What do you own and what owns you? You can find this question asked many times in several different contexts. Are you looking to find some kind of financial freedom? How about trying to live simply in a complex world? Has a mountain of stuff invaded your home garage to the point where parking a car inside is only a dream? The early Church practiced a radical form of fellowship called koinonia, which literally means "sharing in common." Those who had homes and other major possessions would sell them and then place the proceeds in the care of the Apostles to be shared with the entire community. People focus mostly on the fact that people sold all their possessions for the benefit of the community. However the real point is the action that occurred after every selling: the proceeds were given to Church authority, in essence, to God first. I wasn't just selling my house and then giving the money to random people. My offering was to God and it was for the Apostles (those who personally encountered Jesus and now represented him on earth) to decide how to divide up the wealth.

Why do such a thing? One could say it was so that no one wanted for anything. If we push that thinking too far, as some in history have done, we can create a system that takes from some to give to others. Nothing was taken from anyone in that first Christian community. It was freely given. And perhaps the reason why people were moved to do so lies at the heart of stewardship: because all we have already belongs to God anyway.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

# **Divine Mercy Sunday**

#### Question:

Where did the feast of Divine Mercy come from?



#### Answer:

If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of Divine Mercy has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and love for the world. She received a set of prayers — the Divine Mercy Chaplet — and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God. St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.

Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young women, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first-ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, "a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind with experience in the years to come."

# **Readings for Divine Mercy Sunday**

**Reading I** Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.

# **Reading II**

John 5:1-6

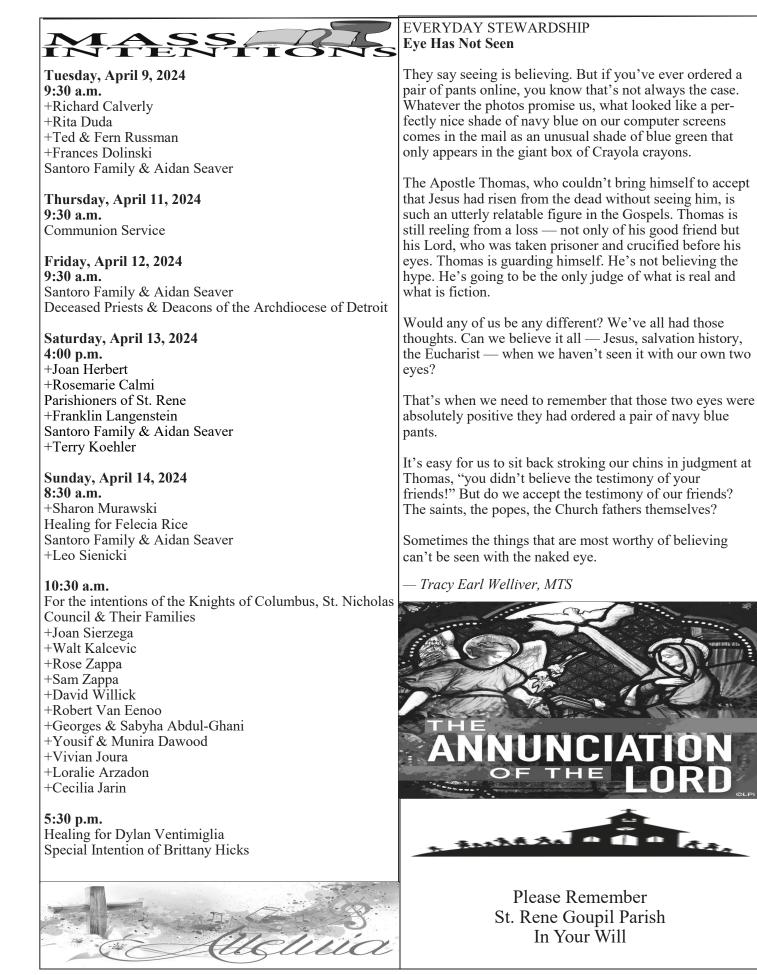
Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

#### Gospel John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his side and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thom-as answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.



Sunday, April 7, 2024: Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31 Monday, April 8, 2024: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38 Tuesday, April 9, 2024: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15 Wednesday, April 10, 2024: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21 Thursday, April 11, 2024: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36 Friday, April 12, 2024: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15 Saturday, April 13, 2024: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21 Sunday, April 14, 2024: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 (7a)/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48



Weekend Liturgy Schedule for April 13 & 14				
	Saturday 4:00PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10:30 AM	Sunday 5:30 PM
Presider	Fr. Steve	Fr. Joy	Fr. Steve	Fr. Tim
Lector	Barbara Kiernan	Rob Wilson	Flor SItchon	Virginia Jennings
Altar Servers	Isabella Gonzales Nathan Gonzales	Karin Nieto	Owen Brink	
Eucharistic Ministers	M Passalacqua L Youkhana Open	Open Open Open	A SItchon F SItchon Open	Open Open Open
Ushers	<u>Tom Pluta</u> Dave Hintz Todd Messineo Karen Messineo Nick Rieser Jim Moravek Omar Oszust Gary Novelli	<u>Tom Dutkiewicz</u> Luis Nieto Al Gyenese Mike Kazyak Ed Stivers Sharon Olszewski	<u>Terry Shaughnessy</u> Tom Fooy Ralph Fackler Wilmar Suan Joe Meli Chrisie Fish Chris Norris	<u>Paul Hornung</u> Mike Galuszka Ofelia Fermil Fred Rossi
Sacristan	L Youkhana	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 <u>do not need</u> to be parish



members. All information is kept strictly confidential.

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

laundry detergent

# 'Jesus, I trust in You'

#### Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Today's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles details how the early community *of believers was of one heart and mind*, portioning all possessions with no claim of ownership over them.. All goods were held common and distributed according to need. In his First Letter and Gospel, St. John teaches us about strength of faith in Christ, which guides us to love God and to answer His commission to send disciples forth to conquer the world. We profess in awe and love, along with St. Thomas, *My Lord and my God!* As faithful stewards, these passages should inspire us to share our many blessings with our parish, the Archdiocese, the worldwide Church, and our neighbors in great need. Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy with your family.

# 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 <u>www.help.formed.org</u> or toll-free at 844-367-6331.



The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls.

On rosary beads "First say one: 'Our Father'..., 'Hail Mary'..., and 'The Creed'...

Then on the Our Father beads say: 'Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of whole world.'

On the Hail Mary beads say: 'For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world.'

In conclusion say three times: 'Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal

One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

'O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!'

Say this Chaplet at 3 o'clock, if possible.



# Our Sunday Offering March 30 & 31 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.



# String Pie

1 8 oz. pkg. spaghetti
1 med. onion, chopped
1 lb. ground beef
1/4 c. green pepper, chopped
15 1/2 oz. jar spaghetti sauce
1/3 c. grated Parmesan cheese
2 eggs, beaten
2 tsp. butter'1 c. ricotta cheese
1/2 c. shredded Mozzarella cheese

Preheat oven to 350 F. Cook pasta; drain. Cook beef, onion and green pepper in large skillet over medium heat until meat is brown; drain fat. Stir in spaghetti sauce and mix. Combine spaghetti, Parmesan cheese, beaten eggs and butter in a large bowl; mix well.

Place spaghetti mixture in 9x13 inch pan. Spread ricotta cheese over top of spaghetti. Pour sauce mixture over ricotta cheese. Sprinkle Mozzarella cheese on top of sauce. Bake at 350 F for 20 to 30 minutes.







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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 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.



# **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 2pm, Wednesday 12pm & 1pm, 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. - 3:00 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 Karin Nieto (586) 447-6927 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 (586)556-2122

# 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.

All those affected by the coronavirus throughout the world

