



**Do We Want To See How To Be Both-And?
Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.
September 5, 2021 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 35:4-7 & Mark 7:31-37 with James 2:1-5**

We are citizens of a nation that has enormous power. The pandemic has a resurgence. We are looking for a “booster”. The hurricane is hitting our southern borders. We are sending “help.” Afghanistan is a threat. We respond “in kind.”

What did James teach the first followers of Jesus? There were two groups of people in his day – rich and poor – no different from today. James faulted favoring the rich over the poor. In fact, James shared that Jesus chose to be poor.

James would not have used the word “equity.” But what he taught is now lifted up as making sure we all have equal opportunity, equal access. The challenge for us the chosen is to show how to bring this insight into the situations in which we live.

Isaiah encourages his people to be strong hearted, free from fear. He goes on to share how God opens eyes, hearing for the deaf, dancing for the lame and speech for the mute. God sides with the fearful hearts and frees them with His Love.

Jesus is given a person who is deaf. The physical loss of hearing distorts what a person understands. To be deaf spiritually means you cannot listen to the truth. Jesus touched the man and cured him. Jesus wanted the man to have equitable opportunity.

Do you hear the message from the Word of Life for us today? Do you hear that we are being sent to bring insight to the spiritually blind, understanding to the spiritually deaf? I see and hear our call to challenge “haves” to be compassionate to “have nots.”

To be examples to others we will need to be healed of our hurts and be ready to share what Jesus calls us to do. To take the side of the “have nots” calls for constant virtue on the inside and clear vision on the outside. We are able to respond. Will we?

I listen to the “virus and variant”. Will I model what is best for the common good? I hear of violence on our streets or in other parts of the world. Will I speak and act with compassion for both sides? Do we want to see evil for what it is, against both sides? Do we want to free both sides to heal and understand, equitable, rich and poor in harmony?

MEN BRIDGING CHANGE: A Vicariate "Blessing for our men!"

After the successful launch of *Women Bridging Change* through the Family of Parishes of Detroit, this September throughout the Trinity Vicariate, Life Directions is inaugurating the *Men Bridging Change* program - a 16-week program that addresses issues that burden men, as regards to unhealed hurts. Further, the weekly program trains and enables men to develop their skills to be able to foster healing in other men through their own personal work.

An introductory meeting will be held this Wednesday, September 8th at 6:00 p.m. at St. Charles Lawanga Rectory (10400 Stoepel St, Detroit, MI 48204) and again on Thursday, September 9th at 6:00 p.m. at Corpus Christi Rectory (19800 Pembroke Ave, Detroit, MI 48219). Please attend either one if interested.

For more information, call either Fr. Alex Steinmiller, C.P. at 205-223-9330 or Paul McKenzie at 248-804-4119.

Community Meal

The monthly Community Meal is this Thursday, September 9, at 6:00 p.m. at Loyola High School. Invite your neighbors, family and friends as we continue our discussions on healing the racial divide!

2021 Catholic Services Appeal!

Our 2021 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) campaign has begun. **Our target this year is \$7,637.** As is our parish tradition, the amount over target, which the AOD refunds to the parish, will be shared 50/50 with our St. Vincent de Paul ministry.

Solicitation packets are available in the rear of the church, or by contacting the Parish Office. **There are three ways to make your pledge: 1. Return your pledge card directly to the Archdiocese in the envelope provided, 2. Drop your pledge card in our weekly collection bowl, 3. Pledge online through the parish website. Choose whichever way works best for you!**

We have designated Sunday, September 26, as **“Commitment Sunday,”** when parishioners will be asked to finalize their pledge to CSA. However, we suggest you make your commitment earlier, if possible. Please prayerfully consider your commitment to CSA.

Our Mission Statement

Having reflected on the "four faces of our parish," **St. Peter Claver Catholic Community**, chosen by the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, and under the guidance of Mary, resolves that: 1) we will provide more opportunities for deepening prayer life and faith life for youth, young adults, and adults; 2) we will initiate efforts to reach out and re-connect with those individuals and families who have disconnected from the Church; 3) we will collaborate with other faith communities and organizations within our parish to offer ecumenical events/activities (e.g., neighborhood clean-ups, prayer meetings, health fairs); and, 4) we will utilize resources within our parish community to advocate for education and to promote social justice issues.

Adult and Youth Choirs

We have been blessed with our new Music Minister, Christopher Kendall, whose background is in voice and choir. He is seeking to expand our Adult Choir, as well as to start a Youth Choir. If you, or someone you know, has a potential interest in joining this opportunity to praise our Lord in song, please contact Chris at (248) 497-9196.



BECOME THE FIRE
Prayer Gathering
Friday September 10
7:00-9:00pm
with special guest
Kate Baumer

Become the fire
PRAYER GATHERING
Praise & Worship | Fellowship | Prayer Ministry

St. Scholastica
8201 W. Outer Drive
Detroit, MI 48219

Sacramental Preparation

Are you, or someone you know, interested in joining the Catholic Church or receiving one of the sacraments? Please contact Jennie Sinatra at the Parish Office.

Thank You for Your Financial Support!

Give Online at spcccdetroit.org

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Aalls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren Bridges, Donald & Barbara Carter, Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Endlein, Ara Grier, Sandra Griffin, Karen Hickman, Myrtis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Augusta Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Charles Nelson, Joan S. Noland, Nancy Oberhausen, Grady & Celestine Parker, Fred & Villa Ray, Romaine Redd, Flossie Ryles, Jeanne Schuldt, Irene Scott, Gussie Seay, Augusta Starks, Mary Tyler, Christine Versele, Helen Wajda, Anna Washington, Lillie Washington, Carmel Weems, Leonard & Ona Wilson

Also, Please Remember in Prayer:

Wayne Bradley, Olivia Boulden, Christopher Durant, Rochelle Evans, Kiara Harris, Marley Jonah, Mary Caroline Jonah, Johnetta Mutes, Elke Rittenhouse, Elaine Ryles, Terrence Tidwell, Charles Tilghman, Jon Viado, Vickee Viado, Constance Washington-Daniel, Larry Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

Ministers Schedule

September 12, 2021

Celebrant: Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.
Minister of Service: Sandra Horn
Lector: Larry Rhodes

Meetings/Events This Week

Sunday	10:00 am	Mass in Church and via Zoom
Monday		<i>Labor Day</i>
Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
Wednesday	11:00 am	Lectio Divina via Zoom
Thursday	6:00 pm	Community Meal at Loyola
Saturday	9:00 am	Mentor Coaching at PH
	2:00 pm	Ladies of Peter Claver via Conference Call
Sunday	10:00 am	Mass in Church and via Zoom

Legend: PH=Parish House; MC=Marygrove College
Church refers to the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove College
For the "live" Parish Calendar, go to spcccdetroit.org

Maintaining COVID Precautions

Recent developments in the fight against COVID have necessitated a reevaluation of precautions during celebration of the Eucharist. Accordingly, the Archdiocese has recommended that parishes encourage masking and social distancing, regardless of vaccination status. We request that all attendees, out of Christian love and respect for one another, follow these guidelines and any other posted instructions. Note that the Archdiocese has not changed its guidance on Mass attendance - only those who are sick, homebound, or at serious risk from COVID are dispensed from the obligation to attend.

St. Peter Claver Catholic Community

Parish Office: 13305 Grove St., Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 342-5292

Church: Marygrove College - Sacred Heart Chapel
8425 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48221

email: parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org

website: www.spcccdetroit.org

Mass: Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Church
(Check the bulletin for holy days and special services)

Reconciliation: Before Mass or By Appointment

Parish Office Hours: Parish Staff is currently working from home. Please contact Ed Shea if you require assistance.

Reverend John Phelps, C.Ss.R., Pastor

Edward Shea, Administrative Manager/Bulletin Editor
Cell: (248) 633-4476

Jennie Sinatra, Formation Director

Stephanie Flounory, Youth & Young Adult Minister

Christopher Kendall, Music Minister

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair