



St. Peter Claver Catholic Community



Let the Ending show How God Begins again
Christmas Eve – 2 Sam.7:1-16 & Lk.1:26-38 with Rm.16:25-27 December 24, 2023
By Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R. – Priest in Solidum

One of the most difficult lessons to learn is to turn the fault that Adam chose to make into a happy one. We could ever have dreamed of a God like our God Who is patient with every way we choose to mess over His plan ... He doesn't give up on us.

Take David deciding to build a rich place for the God Who created him to take care of the creator. At first Nathan the person to speaks in the name of God thought David was good to do so. Then he had second thoughts – it's the other way around.

What a gift to remember the story of Mary who heard the f from God and said, "Let it be done to me according to Your Word." God first asked Eve and she didn't respond this way. God may have asked others. Finally, Mary said "yes" to obey.

I was recently present to three men in their early 50s. One we celebrated his passing from this way of life. The second was unresponsive after a major brain operation. The third was grateful that I was anointing him struggling with cancer.

As I was present to each, I was remembering you and me. The three men had one thing in common, they hadn't planned on what happened to put them in their condition. But for the grace of God go you and me. What a gift our life is – each day.

I would like to suggest that, if we are taking God for granted, and doing our thing with the time we have, let's consider listening. Let's learn from a teenager named Mary. She listened and said "yes," and she meant it – that's why God partnered with her.

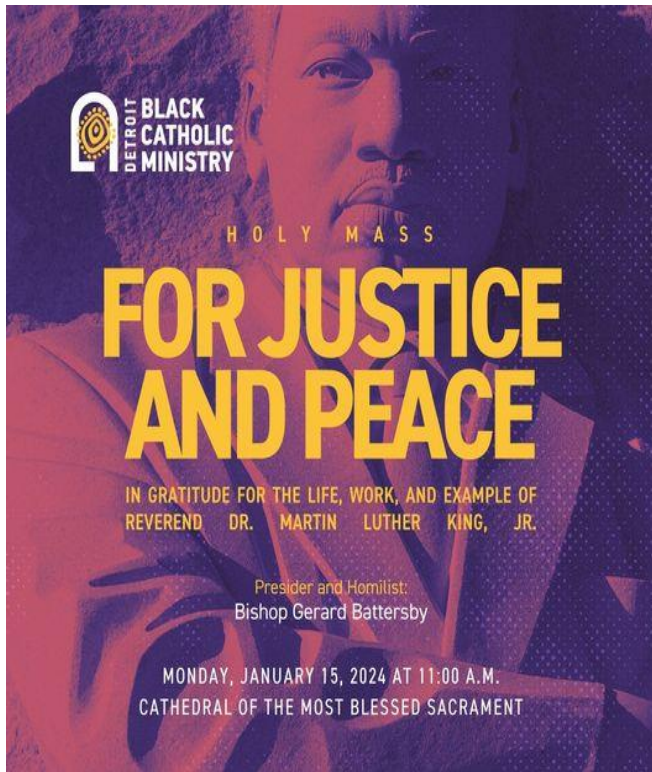
May this Christmas be the present Jesus wants it to be for us. See God in charge of our lives and not the other way around. Hear God in control of our lives. Be amazed at what God can do if we let the Father Who sent His Son to set us free with His Spirit.

This is Nathan's prophesy. This is Gabriel's invitation. This is what Paul came to understand, after fighting against Jesus. "To Jesus who can strengthen you ... To God be the glory." May you being here today be for you God's Present to you and me. See our lives as passing. Hear our time till now as having ended. Now let God begin again.



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.



**Pope Francis: The Nativity is
an example of ‘joy’ and
‘amazement’**

***Eucharistic Heart of Jesus
Intercessory Prayer Team***

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Alls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Mr./Mrs. Ulysses Banks, Warren Bridges, Donald Carter Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Endlein, David Galletero, Tequilla Garrett, Ara Grier, Karen Hickman, Myrtis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Dorrell Moore, Joan S. Noland, Nancy Oberhausen, Celestine Parker, Fred & Villa Ray, Alther Redd Romaine Redd, Flossie Ryles, Irene Scott, Gussie Seay, Augusta Starks, Christine Versele, Helen Wajda, Anna Washington, Lillie Washington, Carmel Weems, Diana Wicker, Leonard & Ona Wilson

Please Pray for Them as They Pray for Us!!

Also, Please Remember in Prayer:

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

MEETINGS / EVENTS Dec. 24th to Dec. 31st

- Sunday** Dec. 24th 10:00 am Mass at MC
Family and Friends Mass
 Celebrant: Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R Priest in Solidum
 Minister of Service: Alan Flounory
 Lector: Gwen Cook
 8:00 pm Minister of Service: Patricia Woods
 Lector: Arianna Caderao
- Dec. 25 Christmas Mass at 10:00 am at MC**
- Tuesday** 10:00 am St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
 14400 Puritan St. Detroit 48227
- Wednesday** 11:00 am Lectio Divina (Zoom)
- Sunday** Dec. 31st 10:00 am Mass at MC
 Celebrant: Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R Priest in Solidum
 Minister of Service: Alan Flounory
 Lector: Kathryn Crutcher

Legend: PH=Parish House; MC=Marygrove College Church refers to the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove

CSA
**Support the 2023
 Catholic Service Appeal**
CSA Goal is \$6,881.00
**We are approximately 76% into our
 Goal, with \$5258.00**
**If you have made your pledge,
 thank you!**
**If not, we ask that you prayerfully
 consider making a pledge**

Attention!

The Mission Commission is sponsoring a singalong and small donations of socks and snacks for the residents of Westwood Nursing Home. Donations are welcome as well as joining in the singalong.

St. Peter Claver Catholic Community
*Parish Office: 13305 Grove St., Detroit, MI 48235
 (313) 342-5292*

*Church Location: Marygrove College-Sacred Heart Chapel
 8424 W. McNichols Rd. Detroit, MI 48221*

Email parishoffice@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 by Appointment

Parish Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 10 am-2 pm

*After hours please contact the Administrative Coordinator
 Patricia Woods at (313) 342-5292*

Reverend John Phelps, Priest in Solidum
Chris Kendall, Engagement Coordinator / Music Director
Patricia Woods, Administrative Coordinator
Arianna Caderao, Administrative Intern (313) 342-5292