



**Our Eyes Fixed On Jesus – What A Trust Walk!**  
**Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.**  
**February 28, 2021 - 2nd Sunday of Lent**  
**Genesis 22:1-18 & Mark 9:2-10 with Romans 8:31-34**

When we are in prayer together, it is hopefully heartwarming and supportive, even when we come preoccupied with a worry or with things we have to do. We share our hopes and dreams, concerns and needs; for the most part I pray we are at peace.

But what happens when we are faced with hard choices that will affect people we love and cherish? What happens when a friend loses his job or a neighbor finds out her son is depressed and starts to wonder if he can make it anymore?

The “mountain top” experiences with God are good to have. Like Abraham we need encouragement – Sarah and he finally had a child! Like the three disciples we want to see everything in total harmony and that we can stay there.

But the message today is very different. In fact, it’s quite the opposite. Rather than everything going well, the message today is we may have to sacrifice what we thought was essential to our future. We have to go down into the valley of suffering.

The married couple that encouraged us to start what has become our life work among youth and young adults once said to me. “We wish we wouldn’t have such positive experiences in our work. The negative down times seem often too much!”

I remember my reflection at the time. It means even more to me now. “How else would Jesus attract us to Him, except by giving us what we like? When we lose feeling high. Then, the question becomes, ‘Do you love Jesus for Jesus or for how you feel.’?”

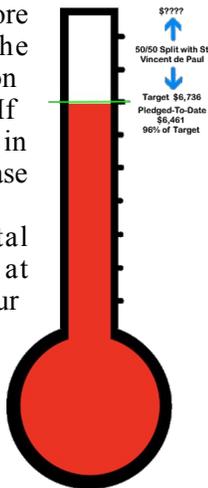
To build on a solid foundation, we want to fix our eyes on Jesus. We put our lives in His Hands. And we say with St. Paul, “If God is for us, who can be against us, His chosen ones?” And when it seems so much is against us. Does it cause us to doubt?

We are all asked the same question in one way or another what Jesus asked Peter “Do you love me more than anyone?” To expand – more than how we feel, more than what we have? If we were to lose and feel like a failure, would we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus? To “do” yes is to know what it means to walk by faith and not by sight!

**2020 Catholic Services Appeal**

The 2020 CSA Campaign is nearing its end. Go to [www.AOD.org](http://www.AOD.org) for more information about the CSA, or make a donation at [www.givecsa.org](http://www.givecsa.org). If you require assistance in making a pledge, please contact Ed Shea.

To date, our total amount pledged is at **\$6,461**, or **96%** of our target. Remember, any amounts received over the target are returned to the parish, and will be shared 50/50 with our St. Vincent de Paul ministry.



**Lenten Bible Study On Purpose**

Join Fr. John and Jennie Sinatra during Lent for **Bible Study On Purpose**. Discover the significance of each week’s Sunday Mass readings. All sessions will be offered with afternoon and evening options. **Beginning this week, all sessions will be via Zoom only!**

- Every Wednesday during Lent, with Liturgy at 12:00 p.m. followed by Bible Study on Purpose.
- Every Friday during Lent, with Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. followed by Bible Study on Purpose.

**Remembering Marcella Bridges**

This week, one of the great matriarchs of our parish, Marcella Bridges, passed into eternal life. We pray for Marcella, Warren, and the entire family. Marcella’s funeral Mass will be on Saturday, March 6, at 10:00 a.m. **Note that, due to the pandemic, this is a private, “family-only” funeral. Please do not come to Marygrove for the funeral. Only family members will be admitted.** However, recognizing the many people who want to be present, the family has requested that we livestream the Mass through the parish website. In addition, there will be a viewing, without the family, at James Cole Funeral Home on Schaefer Highway on Friday, March 5, from 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**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.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER: Legacy of Leaders

Don't forget to join our Leaders In Motion this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. as they reflect on some of the great African-American leaders in our nation's history. To join in, just go to the parish website, [spcccdetroit.org](http://spcccdetroit.org).

### The Virtual States Tea Has Been a Great Success!!

Our first "Virtual" States Tea has been a great success. To date, we have raised **\$4,005** from **65 donors**, with 41 of the donors non-parishioners.

If you haven't donated yet, please do so this week. For information, go to our parish website. You can donate on the website, by mail, or by dropping an envelope in the collection basket.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

The season of Lent is a time to repent for our sins as we look forward to the resurrection of our Lord at Easter. On Sunday, March 14, Fr. Alex Steinmiller, CP will join Fr. John to hear confessions before and after Mass. Take advantage of this opportunity to allow our merciful God to lighten your burdens through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### A Pro-Life Lent

The traditional practice of "giving something up for Lent" is a practice of self-denial; our Lord said that to follow him, we must deny our very selves. It means we say No to ourselves and Yes to God and others. This reverses the pattern of sin, which says Yes to ourselves and No to God and others. In our culture, the most violent No to God and others is abortion. Over three thousand times every day in our nation, people say No to a little child so that they may say Yes to their fears or their plans. This Lent, as we practice self-denial, let's think of these children. Let's offer our sacrifices for them. May all say Yes to God and Yes to the unborn. For more ideas about how to foster respect for the unborn this Lent, visit [www.priestsforlife.org](http://www.priestsforlife.org).

### Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Alls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren Bridges, Donald & Barbara Carter, Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Endlein, Ron Galletero, 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

*Please Pray for Them as They Pray for Us!!*

### 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, Vickie Viado, Constance Washington-Daniel, Larry Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

### Ministers Schedule

March 7, 2021

**Celebrant: Rev, John Phelps, C.Ss.R.**

**Minister of Service: Alan Flounory**

**Lector: Alther Redd**

### Meetings/Events This Week

Sunday	10:00 am	Mass in Church and via Zoom
	2:00 pm	Legacy of Leaders via Zoom
Monday	9:00 am	Staff Meeting via Zoom
	7:00 pm	Stewardship Commission via Zoom
Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
Wednesday	12:00 pm	Mass via Zoom
	12:30 pm	Bible Study On Purpose via Zoom
Friday	6:30 pm	Stations of the Cross via Zoom
	7:00 pm	Bible Study On Purpose via Zoom
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](http://spcccdetroit.org)*

### 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.

### Collection Results

**We continue to rely on your support. Please send your weekly donation to the Parish Office. Or you may want to consider online giving. It's convenient, secure, and totally in your control!**

**Give Online at [spcccdetroit.org](http://spcccdetroit.org)**

### 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](mailto:parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org)

website: [www.spcccdetroit.org](http://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.**

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### 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

Ronald Galletero, Facilities Manager

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair