



God Is Love – When They Choose, The Journey is Joyful!

Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.

May 9, 2021 - 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-48 & John 15:8-17 with 1 John 4:7-10

Mothers hold the secret to joy. From conception to birth the ebb and flow of feelings is a lesson that cannot be captured by our imagination. We can get close to it. But it is an experience that can be celebrated more than be understood.

John's letter today is the same. Christians hold the secret to joy. From the conception, we call baptism, to the birth, we call confirmation, from Resurrection to Pentecost – it is an unfolding of what God choosing us to be free brings to life.

Surprises are in store for us when we see life after death as the position we take to enjoy the journey of struggle. Why? Because we know suffering and struggle, despair and death all give birth to L.I.F.E. – Love Includes Forgiving Everyone!

The moment of child-birth hears the first “scream” and people naturally smile and laugh. I think the only person who isn't happy is the baby crying. Of course, the natural response will be to put the child in the arms of his or her mother. She's got the touch!

The message Peter stumbled into was the joy of the Holy Spirit is for both Gentile and Jew. Jesus said to His chosen that they would know complete joy. His disciples are chosen to be His friends. The grace of being friends of Jesus bears fruit that will last.

What an awesome God we have! To teach us a lesson as we begin life. To call the moment before birth “birth pains” and to celebrate the moment after as “the breath of life” – sure, fathers can see and hear. But mothers, touch and feel.

It takes a mother's way of loving to comfort the confused, to understand the doubting, to teach the questioning, to empower the weakened. I call this insight into life God's way of being C.U.T.E. (Comforting Understanding Teaches Empowerment).

Peter finally got it – all people can be born again! Jesus said they would get it only after He rose from the dead. Yes, God loves us first, comes into our way of living, dies at our hands only to rise and come back to forgive us lovingly. Only then was His Mother ready to be our Mother. Isn't it not fitting that our Church is called Our Mother?

Celebrating Our Confirmation!

This Pentecost (May 23), we will take an opportunity to celebrate being Confirmed Catholic Christians - chosen to be sent! Fr. John has asked each parishioner to provide her/his confirmation name and date. If you cannot recall one or both, you can obtain the information by contacting the church where you were confirmed, or the church where you were baptized. If you need assistance, please contact Ed Shea. Also, please provide your confirmation information to Ed by phone, mail, or email.

Crowning of Mary

Special thanks to Arianna Caderao, daughter of Mira and Jay Jones, for helping with the Crowning of Mary during last Sunday's Mass.



Happy Mother's Day!

Today we celebrate all the mothers - including grandmothers, great-grandmothers, sisters, aunts, guardians, mentors - all the women in our lives who have loved and nurtured us. We also remember those special women who have passed into eternal life, but still watch over and intercede for us. May God continue to bless all of you!

Community Meal

The monthly Community (Virtual) Meal will be held this Thursday, May 13, beginning at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. Join in for lively discussion and fun, and please invite any neighbors or friends. To participate, go to the virtual portal on our website (spcccdetroit.org) and then click on Community Meal.

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.

Novena to the Holy Spirit

The Church will celebrate Mary, Mother of the Church, on May 24, the day after Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended, giving birth to the Church. In preparation, we are providing a Novena to the Holy Spirit with prayers and petitions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help (one of the many titles the Church uses to honor Mary throughout the world). This nine-day novena, which will begin on May 14 and end on May 22, is meant to help us open ourselves to embrace and use the gifts of the third person of the Holy Trinity to reaffirm our Confirmation commitment as "chosen to be sent."

Even though we pray this novena as a preparation for the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, you can also pray a novena to the Holy Spirit any time you want. So, let us pray with great confidence and trust in our God who is all Good and Loving.

Copies of the Novena are in the rear of the church and will be posted on the parish website.



2020 Catholic Services Appeal WE DID IT!!

Congratulations to all! We have now surpassed our 2020 CSA target of \$6,736 by \$280! That means that \$140 will be donated to our St. Vincent de Paul Ministry, which provides food and other services to those most in need in our parish community. Thank you to all who have donated to the CSA Campaign.

By now, many of you have received a mailing regarding the 2021 CSA Campaign. We will officially kick-off the campaign on Sunday, June 13.

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, 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

May 16, 2021

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

Minister of Service: Sandra Horn

Lector: Patricia Woods

Meetings/Events This Week

Sunday	10:00 am	Mass in Church and via Zoom
Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
	7:00 pm	Formation Team Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday	11:00 am	Lectio Divina via Zoom
	7:00 pm	Community Peace Circle via Zoom
Thursday	6:00 pm	Community Meal 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

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

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

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair