



He Knew Who Sent Him. Do We? Stay The Course!

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

September 12, 2021 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9 & Mark 8:27-35 with James 2:14-18

Jesus knew Who He was. He knew His roots. He was raised by His parents. They were centered on their vision and mission. When obstacles arose, they went into reflection alone first. Then they shared. Then they decided – to Egypt, to Nazareth

Today is the famous question that is the turning point in Jesus' Public Life. He has his closest disciples alone – "Who do people say I am?" The crowd see the sizzle. You see the substance. "Who do you say I am?"

If you were to ask people close to you, "who do you say I am?", what would they say? Would they follow the thinking of the first Apostle to die for Jesus' Way? Would they say of us, faith with works is our way of life? Would they say we are for real?

Do we know who we are as Catholic Christians? Do we know our Center – Jesus in the form of Bread and Wine? Do we know His central message – I forgive and I want to heal? Do we know His decision to choose us to stay the course in the midst of mess?

We have obstacles along the way. But we don't lose our way, become doubtful, lose our joy and despair. In fact, we are more encouraged to look for opportunities to show we are "doers of the Word and not just hearers!"

Our country is facing the challenges of weather and work, schools and safety, health and equity. Add what you see for our city, for our community, for your family, for yourself. As you look at it all, ask yourself – Do you know who you are?

Do you know you are loved and lovable? Do you know Jesus is the Way out of No Way? And do you know that Jesus wants you and me to have the support we need to stay the course? This is why we are together in community, centered on Eucharist.

I'm from Missouri – the Show Me state. I hear what you say. I see what you do. I know what you mean. Listen to Jesus' test. When the obstacle of My death comes and I am seen as a loser, will you be faithful? Will you believe what you cannot see?

Let's be glued to Jesus here. Let nothing stop us from doing what we believe.

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.

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

Feast of St. Peter Claver

Thursday, September 10, was the Feast of St. Peter Claver, the patron saint of African slaves, and the patron saint of our parish. Many of the members of our Knights of Peter Claver and the Ladies Auxiliary are joining with fellow Knights and Ladies from throughout the city at St. Charles Lwanga today. We will celebrate St. Peter Claver next Sunday. At that time, Father will also commission the members of our four Leadership Teams - Pastoral, Evangelization, Formation and Administrative - as we continue to strengthen the mission of our parish, inspired by the charism of St. Peter Claver, to reach out to the four faces of our community.

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.

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.

Remembering Grady Parker

Last week, an old friend of our parish, Grady Parker, passed into eternal life. Visitation for "Mr. Parker" will be today until 9:00 p.m. at the James H. Cole Funeral Home on Schaefer. The funeral will be tomorrow at 11:00 a.m., also at Cole's, with family hour at 10:30 a.m. Please keep Grady and his wife, Celestine, in your prayers.

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

Ministers Schedule

September 19, 2021

Celebrant: Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.
Minister of Service: Mary Caroline Jonah
Lector: Alther Redd

Meetings/Events This Week

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| Sunday | 10:00 am | Mass in Church and via Zoom |
| Tuesday | 10:00 am | St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon |
| Wednesday | 11:00 am | Lectio Divina via Zoom |
| Thursday | 6:00 pm | Community Peace Circle via Zoom |
| Friday | 12:00 pm | Ministry Commission at PH |
| Saturday | 12:00 pm | Administrative Team 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



The poster for the 2021 Annual Harvest Affair features a vibrant, abstract background with a portrait of a Black man. It includes the Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance logo and text announcing a dinner and celebration of Black artistry on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, from 6:00-8:30 PM at Shed 5 of the Historic Eastern Market. Tickets are \$55.00 per person, and masks are encouraged. Contact information for John J.F. Thorne is provided.

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