



**What's in the Middle Between the Beginning and the End?**

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

**November 21, 2021 – Christ the King**

**Daniel 7:13-14 & John 18:33-37 with Revelation 1:5-8**

Let's stop and get the big picture. Let's put our lives in perspective. These are two of the messages that come to me as I reflect upon the Word of Life as we come together to celebrate the feast of Christ the King – the first born of the dead.

Daniel's way of inviting us to see is through the vision of one like the Son of Man meeting the Ancient One. He sees everything connected. Son of Man means the ideal person free from fallen human nature. What's life like when free from death?

Pilate is the interrogator of Jesus, asking three questions. The answers were not what he expected. Pilate wanted to hear what he wanted to prove he was right. As is so often the case, his questions were actually his answer, his truth. What a loss for him.

I suggest this is so often the case for so many of us. We come to Jesus with our questions. But really they are not questions open to truth. They are too often our truth closed to another questioning our answer. How hard to listen to what I don't know!

Are you the king of the Jews? Jesus questioned Pilate inviting him to take responsibility for his relation to Jesus. It's like Jesus wanted to dialogue with Pilate as a person and not as a judge. Pilate reacted – I don't belong to you or your people.

What have you done? Jesus continues to invite Pilate to learn a new way to see life. Jesus uses the word "Kingdom" for those chosen to be free. How different from our way of seeing "Kingdom" as people of power free to choose who lives and who dies.

Then you are a king? Pilate heard the answer that was his first question. Jesus responded with one word "Truth" that will last after the "Lie" loses by winning. The last question Pilate will ever ask before he left without waiting to hear – "What is Truth?"

I invite us to come with our questions open, truly wanting to know what we do not know. We are somewhere between our birth and our death. I encourage us to turn each of our experiences into open questions, like Mary did, believing Jesus knows the way. What a gift chosen by Jesus Who is the Truth. Our end is Life not death. Surprise!

**2021 Catholic Services Appeal**

CSA campaign pledges remained this week at **\$3,790 (50% of total)**. In addition, we have commitments of **\$1,285**, which will put us at **67%** of total; however, **we remind those who made commitments that they must still submit a pledge card, or complete their pledge online**. We thank all those who have made their pledges and commitments, and **we ask all others to make a pledge as soon as possible**. Remember – amounts pledged over target will be shared 50/50 with our St. Vincent de Paul ministry, directly benefitting those in need in our parish neighborhoods.

Solicitation packets are available here in church, or by contacting the Parish Office. **Choose how 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 or mail it to the Parish Office, or 3. Pledge online through the parish website.**

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Talent Fest**

Our Leaders In Motion and Leaders On Mission will present the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Talent Festival via YouTube this Saturday, November 27, at 6:00 p.m. You will be able to access the Talent Fest through the parish website (spcccdetroit.org). If you have any questions, contact Chris Kendall, and please pass the word about the Talent Fest to your friends, children, grandchildren, schools, neighbors, etc.

**Parish Pastoral Council Elections**

Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations to the new Parish Pastoral Council. We will be speaking individually to those selected to determine their readiness to serve on the Council. Once this process is complete, Father John will announce the final results.

**Celebrating Our 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Next Sunday, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent, is the 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Peter Claver Catholic Community. Please join us for our 10:00 a.m. Mass and invite others – your children, grandchildren, neighbors, friends – to join us, and maybe get to know us. Light refreshments will be available afterwards.

**Thanksgiving Day Mass!**

Thursday is the day to gather with family and friends to give Thanksgiving for all our blessings. Start your day at 10:00 a.m. here at Marygrove for celebration of the Eucharist with Fr. Alex Steinmiller.

***Bring in your loose coins. Tanda Flounory will collect them for donation to the parish. Every little bit supports the parish mission!***

***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.

**Celebrate Black Catholics and their Artists**

In the Fall of 2020, Professor Larry Lunsford, Assistant Director of Education and Outreach, Community Arts Partnerships of the College for Creative Studies (CCS), and 11 of his student artists took on the challenge to create a display of original art depicting 22 Black Catholics both past and present.

Later today at 2:30 p.m., in the heart of Black Catholic History Month, St. Suzanne Our Lady Gate of Heaven Parish (19321 W. Chicago) will hold a reception for those student artists, their families and the teachers from CCS, to honor their accomplishments and shine the light on the lived virtues of the Black Catholic personages who are depicted in this show. All are invited to celebrate the art and the artists!

Lights refreshments will be served. Secured Parking is provided. COVID protocols will be observed.

**Ministers Schedule**  
**November 25, 2021**  
**Celebrant: Rev. Alex Steinmiller, C.P.**  
**Minister of Service: Bill Tidwell**  
**Lector: Alther Redd**

**November 28, 2021**  
**Celebrant: Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.**  
**Minister of Service: Mary Caroline Jonah**  
**Lector: Patricia Woods**

**Meetings/Events This Week**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Mass in Church and via Zoom</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Lectio Divina via Zoom</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Mass in Church and via Zoom</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Knights of Peter Claver</b>
	<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Ministry Commission/Formation Team at MC</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Mass in Church and via Zoom</b>
	<b>2:00 pm</b>	<b>Knights of Peter Claver</b>

**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)*

**Time to Prepare**

Next Sunday begins the holy season of Advent – that time when we prepare ourselves for the birth of our Lord at Christmas. Our theme this year will be *Follow the STAR, Become the Light*. Handout materials will be provided each week.

A Reconciliation Service will be included with our Mass on December 5. The Christmas Vigil Mass will be celebrated on December 24 at 6:30 p.m., preceded by a Christmas Concert at 6:00 p.m.

Finally, this Saturday, November 27 at 12:00 noon, the Ministry Commission and Formation Team will join to clean and decorate the chapel for Advent. **All hands are welcome!!**

***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, David Gallesero, Ara Grier, Sandra Griffin, Karen Hickman, Myrtis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Augusta Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Dorrell Moore, 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, Diana Wicker, 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, Andre Fox, 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*

*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*  
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*Jennie Sinatra, Formation Director*  
*Christopher Kendall, Engagement Coordinator/Music Minister*  
*Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair*  
*LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair*