



Look Deeper Than What Is Seen and Heard

2nd Sunday of Lent – Gn.12:1-4 & Mt.17:1-9 with 2Tm.1:8-10 – March 5, 2023

By Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R. – Priest in Solidum

What does Paul mean by a “holy life”? Whatever the word holy means, it can be seen for what it is not. It is not the Devil’s way. It means a holy person is responding to the three major challenges that all of us face in a way that’s different.

We tend to want to have what we need to be secure. We are concerned about what others think of us. And for whatever reason we want to have power over others. Put together, all of us tend to be self-centered.

Go into each of the three – liked by others, admired by others, have power over others. We center on ourselves and what we gain. It’s where most people start. It is what comes naturally. To be holy is to change the narrative – to fall in love with Jesus.

When we fall in love with Jesus – we like Him, we admire Him, and we let Him have power over us. To start with Jesus is to perceive life through His vision and to hear life through His mission. All of a sudden, life is passing, and we are willing to move.

Take the walk of faith of Abram. He leaves his own home. God called and he responded. From Ur of the Chaldees – modern-day Kuwait – to what we call Jerusalem. He is called to become the Father of many Nations. He’s given a new name – Abraham.

Take the walk of hope of Peter, James and John. They go to the top of the mountain. They see Jesus transfigured. He is the only one in their life with everyone falling away. Jesus is the center of their lives.

Take the walk of love of Paul. He was willing to face into the hardship of the Gospel with the strength of grace. We are willing to risk our securities and let God be in control. This is what love is to overcome all fear, even of death.

To know someone who lives this way is a grace. Fr. Norm Thomas, the Pastor of Sacred Heart who died, was such a person to me. He supported people with whom he lived and moved. He saw and heard them in a deeper way. He believed in them. He hoped in them. He loved them. For me he showed what it means to be holy, to love.



Fr. Norman Thomas smiles during an interview in his office at Sacred Heart Parish in Detroit’s Eastern Market for a Detroit Catholic article in November 2022. The iconic priest served for more than half a century at the parish, which became a beacon of Black Catholic culture, spirituality and social justice advocacy during Fr. Thomas’ tenure, earning him the nickname “the people’s pastor.” Fr. Thomas died Feb. 27 at the age of 92. (Valaurian Waller | Detroit Catholic)

Support the States Tea

Our Third Annual Virtual States Tea began in December and runs through February. **As of today, we have received \$2,350.** If you did not receive information in the mail, contact the parish office or the parish website at spcccdetroit.org.

Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance

2023 Urban Parish Spirit Award

Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at Sacred Heart Church 1000 Eliot St. Detroit

**Congratulations to our Parish Spirit Award recipient!
Miss Arianna Caderao.**

Arianna is our Parish Lector and a National Honor Society member and is among the youngest recipients in our community.

In addition Arianna will begin working in our Parish as an Admin Intern as of March 4th. Please welcome Ariana with your usual support and love.

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.

Champions!



Catholic High School League Champions!

They did it! For the first time since 2010, Loyola's Varsity Basketball team is Catholic League Champions! Congrats to our young men. Good luck in the MHSAA playoffs! You can read all about their championship season so far in "Student and Athlete"

here: https://studentandathlete.org/022523_athlete_fro

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

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

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, Wayne Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

MEETINGS / EVENTS March 5th to March 12th

- Sunday** March 5th 10:00 am Mass at MC and via Zoom
Celebrant: Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R Priest in Solidum
Minister of Service: Alan Flounory
Lector: Gwen Cook
- Tuesday** 10:00 am St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
14400 Puritan St. Detroit 48227
- Wednesday** 11:00 am Lectio Divina via Zoom
- Saturday** 11:00 am Evangelization Team Training
PH on Grove St.
2:00 pm Ladies of Peter Claver
(Conference Call)
- Sunday** March 12th 10:00 am Mass at MC and via Zoom
Celebrant: Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R Priest in Solidum
Minister of Service: Mary Caroline Jonah
Lector: Kathryn Crutcher
Legend: PH=Parish House; MC=Marygrove College
Church refers to the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove

There is a handicap ramp available on the east side of Liberal Arts bldg. Also the handicap lift is in disrepair and waiting on new parts.
The Marygrove Conservancy apologizes for this inconvenience.

St. Peter Claver Catholic Community

Parish Office: 13305 Grove St., Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 342-5292

Church Location: Marygrove College-Sacred Heart Chalel
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

Team Captains:

Evangelization: Ed Shea

Formation, Mary Radford

Administration, Jeff Flounory

Commission Chairs:

Mission Commission, Tanda Flounory

Ministry Commission, Sandra Horn

Stewardship, Clarence Watts

Elders Counsel, Larry and Willetta Rhodes