



“Do You Not Know It Had To Be This Way?”

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

April 26, 2020 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:13, 22-33 & Luke 24:13-35 with 1 Peter 1:17-21

We know the story. We've heard it many times. Peter explains to the Jewish people the results of violence. They killed the way to the truth that leads to life. He did not stay in the grave. What does it mean to us? What do we understand?

We know the story of the road to Emmaus. We've heard how the two were walking back home. Jesus came. They didn't recognize Him. They knew the facts in detail. Then He said, "Don't you know it had to be this way?" They didn't understand.

They invited Him to stay with them. They were probably a married couple and were hospitable and probably curious. We don't know. What we know is, they got it when they recognized Him in the breaking of the bread. When He became Bread.

When we start to share how we remember Covid-19, will we remember how we were distant from the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation? Will we share how we grew in our love for each other? Will we share how being with those we love mattered?

The loss of what we depend to survive was taken away by a virus. We are not certain we understand this disease completely. We are looking for a vaccine not to be sick and die from it again. We have no reason to think the virus can be eliminated.

Jesus calls us to see that to live our lives for what silver and gold give us is to live a futile way of life. St. Peter wrote to us in his letter today. The power to forgive and love unconditionally, this brings back life lost through selfishness and restored by giving.

I see the virus as a symbol of social sin, an expression of self-interest of some that used creation blind to the impact on the common good. I understand the reason we are chosen as Eucharistic people, to share compassionately, "It had to be that way."

We have been part of the sin, no different than the Twelve who didn't understand until He rose. It's our moment to share what recognizing Jesus in the breaking of the Bread opens us to see. Eucharist leads from death to life. Do we want to understand?

Response to Coronavirus

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, all public Masses in the Archdiocese of Detroit, as well as in-person faith formation programs and other parish events and meetings, are suspended indefinitely.

If you have a private need, such as to arrange for a baptism, marriage, anointing of the sick, funeral or individual confession, please contact the Parish Office.

The "live" Parish Calendar, along with other information, are available on the parish website at [sppccdetroit.org](https://www.sppccdetroit.org).

Let's continue to pray for one another!

Virtual Mass

While you are unable to attend Mass in person, you can benefit by participating in Masses offered on TV or online. Check your TV listing for Masses offered on CTND, or go to <https://www.aod.org/livemasses>, or go to our website at [sppccdetroit.org](https://www.sppccdetroit.org).

Father John celebrates Eucharist each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. from the chapel of St. Paul's Retreat Center via Zoom Video Conference. To join in the celebration, go to the parish website.

If you have any questions, call Ed Shea at (248) 633-4476.

Zoom MiniSeries: Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World

This 7-part mini-series continues via Zoom conferencing on Thursdays. Two time slots are available, 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The links to join will be on our parish website.

Take part in the mini-series to learn how the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, along with our Gifts of the Holy Spirit can be strengthened to bring Eucharistic healing into the communities to change the world.

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.

A Verse a Day For You to Pray

Today: Psalms 16:1-2: Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge; I say to the LORD, "My LORD are you." O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot.

Monday: John 6:28-29: So the people said to Jesus, "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent."

Tuesday: John 6:35: Jesus said to the crowd, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

Wednesday: John 6:37-38: Jesus said to the crowds, "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me."

Thursday: John 6:44-45: Jesus said to the crowds: "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him, and I will raise him on the last day. It is written in the prophets: *They shall all be taught by God.*"

Friday: Matthew 13:57b-58: Jesus said to the people, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and in his own house." And he did not work many mighty deeds there because of their lack of faith.

Saturday: John 6:67-69: Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

Note: All verses are taken from the Mass readings for the day.

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Alls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren & Marcella 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, Wayne Weamer, Carmel Weems, Leonard & Ona Wilson

Please Pray for Them as They Pray for Us!!

Also, Please Remember in Prayer:

Olivia Boulden, Christopher Durant, Rochelle Evans, Jesse Feagin, Kiara Harris, Marley Jonah, Mary Caroline Jonah, Johnetta Mutes, Elke Rittenhouse, Elaine Ryles, Charles Tilghman, Jon Viado, Vickee Viado, Constance Washington-Daniel, Larry Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

Ministers Schedule May 3, 2020

No Mass Scheduled Due to Coronavirus.
Check your television listings for Masses on EWTN or CTND, or go to our website at spcccdetroit.org.

Meetings/Events This Week

Monday	5:00 pm	Finance Council via Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Vicariate Meeting via Zoom Video Conference
Wednesday	1:00 pm	Lectio Divina via Zoom Video Conference
	6:30 pm	Stewardship Commission via Zoom Video Conference
Thursday	1:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
	7:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
Saturday	9:30 am	Vicariate Planning Meeting via Zoom Video Conference
	3:00 pm	Sacramental Mentorship Meeting via Zoom Video Conference
Sunday	10:30 am	Mass via Zoom Video Conference

Collection Results

During these difficult times, we rely on your support. Weekly donations can be sent to the Parish Office. Or this is an excellent time 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: Monday - Thursday,
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

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

Mary Chavez-Thedford, Administrative Assistant

Ronald Galletero, Facilities Manager

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair