



**Jesus Planned The Work and They Worked The Plan!  
Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.  
May 17, 2020 - 6th Sunday of Easter  
Acts 8:5-8,14-17 & John 14:15-21 with 1 Peter 3:15-18**

Jesus knew they would know what to do and understand how to respond once they receive proper counsel from the Holy Spirit. Jesus also knew He would give them the courage to accomplish the "Impossible," if they kept their focus on Him.

We are surrounded by some who are confused and others who are afraid. Then there are others who think everything will be all right. We just need to wait it out. Sadly, some are taking matters in their own hands. Wisdom is turning to foolishness.

We have our mission. Peter explained what our mission is "Beloved: sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence..."

We know we were baptized. But we also know that we were confirmed. There is a special relationship to the Holy Spirit that Peter and John brought to the Gentiles. The Advocate Jesus promised – to comfort the disturbed and disturb the comforted.

In Exodus and in Revelations what we are experiencing was described, as I see it. The plagues to end slavery in Egypt and the battle between Good and Evil in Revelations – both speak to upheaval and chaos caused by fallen human nature.

We know that violence breeds violence. We understand that wanting to plan the work of creation rather than work His plan ends in sickness and death. We have been encouraged by the Word of Life to know this too shall pass but God's Word will not.

Now is the time to share. Our hope is in the God who chose us as He chose Mary. Read in Revelations Chapter 12 of the battle between the dragon and the woman. Read in Revelations 18-19 of Babylon falling and the new heaven and the new earth emerging.

Let's be ready to give the reason for our hope. Focus on Confirmation's gifts of the Holy Spirit. They focus on our foundation in hope – to know and understand that He didn't change the world but the world didn't change His Plan. Pray the world's way doesn't change us as we witness to the Lamb!

**Resumption of Public Celebration of Eucharist**

On May 12, in a **Letter to the Faithful** (*provided later in this bulletin*), Archbishop Vigneron announced that public Masses can resume in the Archdiocese of Detroit beginning May 19. Accordingly, we will resume our Masses at Marygrove College on Sunday, May 31, at 10:00 a.m. Clearly, at least in the near term, Mass will be different, requiring wearing cloth masks and practicing social distancing, among other changes. More details will be provided next week.

We understand that, due to health risks, not everyone will be able to attend Mass right away. Accordingly, beginning May 31, we will provide the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass from Marygrove via Zoom or some other technology. A link will be available on our website [spcccdetroit.org](http://spcccdetroit.org). If you do not have access to the internet, you can benefit by participating in Masses offered on TV. Check your TV listing for Masses offered on CTND.

**Note that Father John's celebration of next Sunday's Mass will be via Zoom only at 10:30 a.m. from St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center.**

**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 Letter from Archbishop Vigneron**

May 12, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters,

I write today to share some measure of hope during this difficult time of pandemic and social distancing. In recent weeks, we have watched with relief as our State of Michigan gradually opened to select businesses and activities, with prudent precautions firmly in place to prevent a severe “second wave” of the coronavirus pandemic. In keeping with this gradual reopening of our society, it is necessary that we make similar arrangements within our local Church to allow once again for the communal celebration of Holy Mass, which at its core is the most “essential” activity known to our world.

In these liturgical directives you will see details for the return to public Mass on May 19, 2020. The most important category of individuals to participate at Mass at this time should be those preparing to enter the Catholic Church in the weeks ahead. These directives will need strict adherence for all public liturgies, including weddings, funerals, and baptisms. The Mass you may attend in the weeks ahead will look and feel quite different from the Mass you remember from two months ago. It will be imperative for all of us – pastors, parish staff, volunteers, and all the faithful – to work together during these times. The pandemic is not over and safety precautions must be followed in order to promote the continued health and safety of everyone in our community.

Additionally I am sharing with you updated liturgical guidelines, which have been assembled by the COVID-19 Liturgical Committee. These guidelines have taken into account expert advice from the medical community, liturgical experts, and public health leaders. They are meant to assist pastors and the faithful in safely participating in Holy Mass while maintaining the sound health precautions counseled by health and government officials. Through it all, we must remember that this virus does not discriminate between gatherings; a group gathered for sacred worship is not immune by the merits of its gathering. It is only through our careful observance of these precautions that we make it possible to resume public Mass. For more information about all these guidelines and other resources, please visit [www.aod.org/emergencyresponse](http://www.aod.org/emergencyresponse).

When this pandemic began, I directed priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit to suspend all public Masses as we assessed the situation and explored a safe way to bring Christ to the people, both through the Word of God and the Sacraments. This was an unfortunate but necessary decision in light of the severity of the pandemic and the number of unknowns associated with this new and deadly virus. Know that I have prayed during this time for you, the faithful of southeast Michigan, especially during my private and live streamed Masses. I pray you have felt the loving comfort of Christ as you awaited the day you could return to his Real Presence in the Eucharist. And I rejoice with you and thank God today as we move toward the gradual reopening of our parish communities.

Asking the continued intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron*  
Archbishop of Detroit

### A Verse a Day For You to Pray

**Today: John 14:18-20:** Jesus said to his disciples: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you."

**Monday: Psalms 149:5-6a,9b:** Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy upon their couches. Let the high praises of God be in their throats. This is the glory of all his faithful. Alleluia.

**Tuesday: Psalms 138:1-2ab:** I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth; in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise; I will worship at your holy temple, and give thanks to your name.

**Wednesday: John 16:12-13c:** Jesus said to his disciples: "I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth."

**Thursday: Acts 1:7-8:** Jesus said to the apostles: "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

**Friday: John 16:22:** Jesus said to his disciples: "So you also are now in anguish. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you."

**Saturday: John 16:23b-24:** Jesus said to his disciples: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you. Until now you have not asked anything in my name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete."

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

### Ministers Schedule

May 24, 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](http://spcccdetroit.org).

### Meetings/Events This Week

Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
Wednesday	1:00 pm	Lectio Divina via Zoom Video Conference
Thursday	1:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
	4:00 pm	Leaders On Mission via Zoom Video Conference
	7:00 pm	Sharing the Cure to a Wounded World via Zoom Video Conference
Saturday	4:00 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](http://spcccdetroit.org)

### Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Aills, 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

### 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: Monday - Thursday,  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

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**Reverend John Phelps, C.Ss.R., Pastor**

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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