



Believers Encourage Mercy – Are We Ready To Partner?

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

June 7, 2020 - Trinity Sunday

Exodus 34:4-9 & John 3:16-18 with 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

We're coming out slowly from our staying home. At least that's the message our leaders are encouraging. As we do so, a second trauma is emerging. This one is more powerful than any pandemic. The virus affects the body. The protest touches the soul.

The virus is scary but we sense we will find a way to live with it once we find a vaccine. It's not to be taken lightly. The scientists are focused on what is needed so we can mix with each other and be safe. Lessons learned and we'll continue to revive.

The protest is much more complex. It is deep within the soul of our nation. The disproportionate impact of the virus on "people of color" who also are financially challenged surfaced the inequality. Will we listen? Will the oppressed be heard?

Will we listen to the signs of the times in light of the Gospel? We need to care for the earth to get to the cause and the cure of the virus. The deeper evil to confront is caused by not listening to people impacted by White Privilege? Are we ready?

If we want to do so, let the Word of Life speak to us. Moses asked the Lord to be merciful and gracious. The people are stiff-necked and stubborn, in denial. But he asked the God, who chose him, to pardon their sins and receive them as his own.

God sent His Only Son because He loves us so much. He keeps on giving. For those taking responsibility for the mess of sin and suffering, His promise is they will not perish. They will not be condemned.

Paul shares a way to proceed. Mend your ways – face the sin of White Privilege. Encourage each other – start the conversation with gentle and humble hearts. Agree with each other – continue to unravel the implications. Live in peace – forgiving the sin.

May the love of the Father, which the world doesn't have ... May the peace of the Son, which breathes healing Build the fellowship of the Spirit to bind us together. This is the gift Mary, the Mother of our Church of all cultures and colors, wants for us all.

Does what we believe encourage mercy? Are we ready to have the conversation?

Sunday Mass!!

It's great to be back at Marygrove for Sunday Eucharist. We will continue to stress safety for all who participate. The church, restrooms, and all other surfaces likely to be touched are sanitized before and after each Mass. Hand sanitizer is available in the front and rear of the church, although we continue to encourage you to bring your own. The blue tape is in place to assist in maintaining safe social distancing. You must wear your mask at all times, except when receiving communion; Father will provide instructions for the safe reception of the Eucharist. There is no coffee and donuts after Mass. The lounge is closed. When leaving, please exit directly to your cars. We ask for your patience as we attempt to ensure the safety and health of all who join us at Eucharist.

We understand that, due to health risks, not everyone is able to attend Mass right away. Accordingly, we are providing this Mass live via Zoom. A link is available on our website, spccdetroit.org. Note that the Zoom experience will also be different, as we will not be able to have the interaction as in past weeks, but we are still glad that you are with us! 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**.

Remembering Those Who Have Past!!

Please pray for Jesses Feagin, a long-time parishioner of St. Francis de Sales and St. Peter Claver, and Damian Brown, brother of Charles Brown. Both entered into eternal rest this past week. Also, please pray for their families.

Letter from Archbishop Vigneron

Last Sunday, Archbishop Vigneron wrote to all the faithful of the Archdiocese regarding changes in how parishes will be organized and operate. A copy of the letter is provided with this bulletin. Over the weeks ahead, Father John, as both our Pastor and our Vicar, will provide more information. You can also go to familiesofparishes.org. A link will be provided on our website.

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: 2 Corinthians 13:11: Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Monday: Matthew 5:11-12: Jesus taught the crowd: "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Tuesday: Matthew 5:14-16: Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

Wednesday: Psalms 16:5ab,8: O LORD, my allotted portion and cup, you it is who hold fast my lot. I set the LORD ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Thursday: Acts 13:2-3: While the disciples were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, completing their fasting and prayer, they laid hands on them and sent them off.

Friday: Psalms 27:8b-9abc: Your presence, O LORD, I seek. Hide not your face from me; do not in anger repel your servant. You are my helper: cast me not off.

Saturday: Matthew 5:33,37: Jesus said to his disciples: "You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow.* Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One."

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

Ministers Schedule

June 14, 2020

With the resumption of public Mass in the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove College, new minister processes and schedules are under development.

Meetings/Events This Week

Monday	5:00 pm	Finance Council via Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
	6:30 pm	Mission Commission via Zoom Video Conference
Wednesday	1:00 pm	Lectio Divina via Zoom Video Conference
Saturday	2:00 pm	Ladies of Peter Claver via Teleconference
Sunday	10:00 am	Mass in Church

Legend: PH=Parish House; MC=Marygrove College
Church refers to the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove College

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.

Collection Results

We continue to rely on your support. If you are unable to join us on Sunday at Marygrove, you can send your weekly donation to the Parish Office. Or you may want to consider online giving. It's convenient, secure, and totally in your control!



Give Online at 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, 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

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

May 31, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I write today with gratitude for the many blessings God has granted the Archdiocese of Detroit during our missionary journey. Six years ago, we asked God to send his Holy Spirit upon us in a New Pentecost, to fill us with an unshakable inner conviction of the truth of the Gospel and a love that compels us to share the good news with those around us. Two years later, through Synod '16 we received clarity that God wanted us to reclaim our Church's missionary identity and we set out with a promise to trust and follow him.

We began in earnest the work of a generation, to unleash the Gospel in southeast Michigan and beyond. Last year, we announced the next phase of this missionary movement, a plan to transform our parishes and schools, making them places where individuals and families can encounter Jesus anew, grow as disciples, and be equipped as witnesses of the Risen Christ.

This continues to be our mission today, even now in the midst of a historic pandemic. The current health and economic crises have disrupted our lives and the life of the Church. This new reality has exacerbated some of the challenges we were already facing. Even before the pandemic, we knew that the way we function in our parishes needed to change. In addition to the shortage of priests available to serve in our parishes and the shortage of vocations for future ordinations, the parish structures we inherited served our mission well in the past, but they needed to be renewed and aligned for mission.

And so, in prayer and in consultation with others, I've discerned that now is the time to respond in faith to the challenges we face and to take the necessary steps to better equip our parish communities for mission. Over the next two years, parishes in the Archdiocese of Detroit will join together to form new groupings called "families of parishes." These groups – these families – of three to six parishes will work together and share human and material resources to further advance our shared mission. This new model will allow groups of priests, deacons, and lay staff to better share their gifts and talents with their entire parish families.

We are not the same diocese we were six years ago when we began this journey. God has been at work in us, in our communities, in our parishes, and in our schools. We have learned to be more docile to the Holy Spirit. We have learned to walk with apostolic boldness and confidence in God. We are committed to working in a spirit of innovation and collaboration. And most importantly, we have resolved to place Christ and his mission above all else.

Over the next several months, groups of clergy and lay faithful will help me discern the leadership and governance structure of the families of parishes and the ways in which this new structure will help all our parishes become vibrant posts of missionary activity. At Advent, my hope is to announce the groups of parishes that will form each family, with the first of them expected to begin to function as a family in July of 2021.

I invite you to visit the website www.familiesofparishes.org to learn more about this process and to sign up for updates. Please join me in praying for this very important step in the life and mission of our local Church. Let us give thanks to God ahead of time for the great work he is doing in our midst. God is with us. He has given us his Holy Spirit as the initiator, guide, and driving force of our mission.

Blessed Solanus Casey, Detroit's own priest, pray for us. Our Lady of Lourdes, protector of the sick, pray for us. And dear St. Anne, patron of our Archdiocese, pray for us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit