

#### Notes from Fr. Steve

On August 15th, (Last Thursday) Catholics around the world celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a solemnity that holds deep significance in our faith. This holy day commemorates the moment when Mary, the Mother of Jesus, was assumed body and soul into heaven at the end of her earthly life. Because several people asked about the history of the Feast I thought it might be helpful to print something here to help people better appreciate the dogma we celebrate on that day.

The Assumption is rooted in the belief that Mary, being sinless and full of grace, was granted the unique privilege of being taken up to heaven without undergoing the corruption of death. This belief emphasizes her special role in salvation history as the Mother of God and the first disciple of Christ. The Assumption highlights Mary's close connection to her Son, Jesus, and serves as a sign of hope for all Christians, pointing to the resurrection and the promise of eternal life with God.

While the Assumption is not explicitly described in the Bible, it is supported by various scriptural passages and the Church's Tradition. For instance, Mary's role is foreshadowed in the Book of Revelation (12:1) where she is depicted as a woman "clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." The early Church Fathers also affirmed Mary's Assumption, seeing it as a fitting conclusion to her earthly life of perfect obedience and love.

The Assumption was formally declared a dogma of the Catholic Church by Pope Pius XII on November 1, 1950, in the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus* Deus. This declaration reaffirmed the long-held belief and devotion of the faithful. Pope Pius XII stated, "By the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own authority, we pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

The Feast of the Assumption invites us to reflect on Mary's example of faith, humility, and obedience to God's will. It is a day to honor her as the Queen of Heaven and to seek her intercession for our own journey towards holiness. As we celebrate this solemnity, let us renew our commitment to living in the grace of God, with our hearts set on the promise of eternal life.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, assumed into heaven, guide us always towards her Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Please remember the parish in your prayers especially the sick and the suffering, your prayers bring them healing, comfort, and peace. God bless you and those you love!



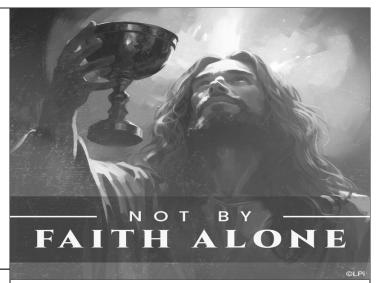
Fr. Steve

You now can donate to St. Rene Goupil using your cell phone! Just take a picture of the QR code in the gathering space or in the bulletin;

it will automatically link you to the St. Rene donation site. Enter the amount you wish to donate, card information and press the "Pay" button. It's that simple! We thank you for your generosity.



CAN CODE TO DONATE TO ST. RENE GOUPIL



# GOSPEL MEDITATION **20**<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

A priest I know was asked by a door-to-door evangelist, "Do you believe in Jesus?" He answered, "Yes, I do. But if I may ask you," he continued, "Where do you experience Jesus' body and blood?" His interlocutor responded somewhat confusedly, "I don't. I just believe in him. That's all that is needed." Later my priest friend would relate to me, "The more I thought about it, that response struck me as totally inadequate. As human beings, we need to encounter Jesus' body and blood, not just hear about him and mentally believe. Otherwise, Jesus is just a ghost."

This week we see this central point as we arrive at the climactic moment of Jesus' teaching on the Eucharist. Jesus has established the importance of believing in him as the "bread of life come down from heaven." Belief deeply matters because it leads to a real, bodily encounter with Jesus through eating and drinking. That's why Jesus emphasizes to an almost outrageous degree the non-metaphorical necessity to "eat my flesh and drink my blood" (John 6:54). The real presence of Jesus' body and blood — he himself, truly, really, substantially — has been the Church's treasure since Holy Thursday. Internal belief in the heart and the ritual act of eating and drinking the Eucharist, the Church has stubbornly insisted on both, not just one or the other.

This is not meant to criticize non-Catholic Christians who deeply trust and love Jesus, nor is it a triumphal elitist claim about the Catholic Mass. Rather it is a humble, trusting acknowledgement that God in Jesus comes to us in a way most proper to human beings: in our hearts *and* our bodies, faith *and* the Eucharist.

— Father John Muir



Thank you to the parishioners who have already pledged their support. The ministries, programs, and services funded by the Catholic Services Appeal help in our parish and throughout southeast Michigan and beyond. If you are still prayerfully considering your sacrificial gift to this year's CSA, you may send your completed pledge card in the preaddressed envelope you received in the mail. You are also encouraged to make your pledge and gift to out parish's campaign online at <a href="GiveCSA.org">GiveCSA.org</a> or you can scan the QR code and donate to CSA, just make sure to put CSA in the note section when you submit your donation online.





If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity at St. Rene look no further. We are looking for volunteers for becoming a Lector, Sacristan, (Lectors & Sacristans for the 5:30 p.m. Mass) Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers (both Youth and Adults for the 4:00 p.m. & 10:30 a.m. Mass), Volunteers to join the watering committee (watering the outdoor plants). If you're interested in any of the volunteer areas that are listed, please contact the parish office and we will gladly pass your information on to the person in charge of the assignments and have them contact you.

#### **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**

We can easily feel obligated to attend a party, wedding, or other event that we find ourselves invited to as a guest. If we want to go, then we get dressed up and rush off with anticipation of fun and good times with friends. If we dread going, we get ourselves together slowly and arrive late, hoping that the event will not be so long and we can then get on with the rest of our day. The difference in our feelings may have to do with many aspects: the host, the attendees, the reason for celebration, or even the venue. Either way, the invitation has been given to us because someone feels that our presence would make a positive difference. Our response is entirely our own. We decide how we will answer the invitation. Every Sunday, every day in fact, you and I have received an invitation to a banquet more celebratory and grander than any wedding or birthday party. The host is actually Jesus Christ himself, and he has prepared a feast that promises to satisfy. He has prepared for this event by giving all he has to give. No host has ever been more gracious. His hope is that you will be happy to attend for your presence does make a tremendous difference. Would he invite you if attending made no difference at all? Will you RSVP with a sense of joy and anticipation? If this is just another invite that obligates you and you approach the event with indifference, the host wonders if you really comprehend what he went through to make this meal possible. He also wonders if you really understand what is truly being celebrated.

-- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Scripture reading from the Book of Proverbs, Wisdom inspires the people to forgo foolishness and eat the food and drink that God has "mixed." This prefigures St. John's Gospel account where the evangelist further develops Jesus' theology of sacrifice and His institution of the Holy Eucharist—the true source and summit, strength and unity, of Catholic life. What a tremendous gift! St. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, encourages us to discern the will of the Lord, and to give thanks for everything in gratitude to God through Christ. As Christian stewards, we strive for union with the Lord by regularly partaking in Christ's Eucharistic banquet. Strengthened by the reception of Holy Communion, we embrace evangelization as we commit to stewardship as a way of life. We do this when we share His joy and peace with our parish community and those brothers and sisters who are in need of our Lord's message of hope. Besides weekend Mass attendance, try to attend at least one weekday Mass to meet Jesus in the Eucharist.



### Prayer of Eucharist

Dear Lord,

May our congregation be more deeply assured of Your love each time we receive Communion.

May our "Eucharist" make our lives a song of worship and thanks, sung to You.

May this sacred food nourish us to be bold and brave disciples of You.

Amen.

## Readings for The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Reading I**Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built her house, she has set up her seven columns; she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine, yes, she has spread her table. She has set out her maidens; she calls from the heights out over the city: "Let whoever is simple turn in here"; To the one who lacks understanding, she says, "Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed! Forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding."

**Reading II** *Ephesians 5:15-20* 

Brothers and sisters: Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another is psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.

Gospel John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." The Jews quarreled among themselves saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever."

# Readings for the Meek

**Sunday, August 18, 2024:**Prv 9:1-6/Ps 34:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (9a)/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58

Monday, August 19, 2024:Ez 24:15-23/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 19:16-22

**Tuesday, August 20, 2024:**Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30

**Wednesday, August 21, 2024:**Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16

**Thursday, August 22, 2024:**Ez 36:23-28/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mt 22:1-14

Friday, August 23, 2024:Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday, August 24, 2024:Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51

**Sunday, August 25, 2024:**Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 (9a)/Eph 5:21-32 or

5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69



# Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:30 a.m.

+Alex Fragnoli Al Fragnoli (Birthday)

# Thursday, August 22, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Aiden Trompeta (Birthday) +Matthew, Mary & Rosie Chakian

# Friday, August 23, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Gloria Trompeta (Birthday) +Richard & Nadine Koehler

# Saturday, August 24, 2024 4:00 p.m.

- +Steven Herbert
- +Walter Broski
- +Rosemarie Calmi
- +Jerry Nowakowski
- +Helen & Julia Boryn
- +Maybelle Koehler
- +Fred Schulte

Mr. & Mrs. Carlito Alo (56th Wedding Anniversary) Eugene Zielinski

+Franklin Langenstein

# Sunday, August 25, 2024 8:30 a.m.

- +John Wyrwicz
- +Josephine Martineau
- +Sharon Murawski

Emily Hernandez (Birthday)

Kathleen Sitarek

+Marcela Raymundo

#### 10:30 a.m.

- +Walt Kalcevic
- +Rose Zappa
- +Sam Zappa
- +Roberto Bastianelli

#### 5:30 p.m.

+Dr. Bayani Blas



#### RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MO-MENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

#### The Fullness of Life

Like any other child of the '90s raised by budget-conscious parents, I've spent my fair share of Sunday mornings in line at an Old Country Buffet, hot plate in hand. Kids ate for chump change on Sundays, and I never left that fine establishment without getting our money's worth. I always came away stuffed to the gills.

But I never, ever remember feeling satisfied.

In fact, if I recall correctly, most of the time I felt rather empty. I was always thinking about the food I didn't get to eat — whatever I couldn't fit on my plate, or whatever they were bringing out from the kitchen just as we were about to leave.

As I've gotten older, it's a feeling I've encountered again and again, and not just at buffets. Haven't we all? The people you think are prefect reveal themselves to be deeply flawed. The things you want the most are never as satisfying to possess as they are to long for. The experiences you anticipate the most end up being letdowns, when instead it's the ordinary moments — maybe even the hard moments, the painful moments — that stand out, that become cherished memories.

Today's scripture readings equate wisdom and fullness with an acceptance of something that makes no sense, that defies scientific explanation, cultural norms, and even common sense: the Real Presence of our God in the Eucharist.

Is it strange to believe that we are consuming the Body and Blood of Christ in our worship, and that only by doing so will we ever achieve everlasting life?

Perhaps. But we are asked to do many strange things as Christians. We are asked to love when we do not feel like loving, when the object of that love has not earned it. We are asked to forgive even when the recipient of that forgiveness does not seek it or merit it. We are asked to believe, in moments when belief feels impossible.

Socrates says that the only wisdom is in knowing that you know nothing. Perhaps the only spiritual fullness is in knowing that there is only emptiness to be had here in this world, that there is no physical experience or indulgence that can really make you feel satisfied and strong. That the only food that really nourishes you in a way that lasts is a small white Host you can barely taste on your tongue.

"My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink."—
John 6:55

Weekend Liturgy Schedule for August 24 & 25				
	Saturday 4:00PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10:30 AM	Sunday 5:30 PM
Presider	Fr. Steve	Fr. Joy	Fr. Steve	Fr. Tim
Lector	Louis Youkhana	Rob Wilson	Thess Monteiro	Virginia Jennings
Altar Servers	Helen DeVera	Karin Nieto	Phat Le Phong Le	
Eucharistic Ministers	J Dzuris M Passalacqua Open	Open Open Open	E Monteiro T Monteiro Open	Open Open Open
Ushers	Tom Pluta Dave Hintz Todd Messineo Karen Messineo Nick Rieser Jim Moravek Omar Oszust Gary Novelli	Tom Dutkiewicz Luis Nieto Al Gyenese Mike Kazyak Ed Stivers Sharon Olszewski Frank Iannotti	Terry Shaughnessy Tom Fooy Ralph Fackler Wilmar Suan Joe Meli Chrisie Fish Chris Norris	Paul Hornung Mike Galuszka Ofelia Fermil Fred Rossi
Sacristan	L Youkhana	K Nieto	H DeVera	V Jennings

Altar Care Team: Friday, August 23rd Team 2

August:

**Altar Linen:** 

Roxann Klee Karin Nieto Antonina Notarantonio

Denise Link

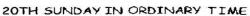
St. Rene St. Vincent de Paul helps with utility bills, clothing, household items, food and in certain cases evictions. If you know of anyone who needs help, please have them call (586)718-4523. They do not need to be parish members. All information is kept strictly confidential.



The St. Vincent de Paul food pantry is in need of the following items:

Laundry detergent, jam, canned chicken, pancake mix, white rice, toilet paper and spaghetti.

\*Please do not donate restaurant condiments.







# St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive

St. Rene St. Vincent de Paul will be having a clothing drive on Saturday, August 17th and Sunday, August 18th. A truck from St. Vincent de Paul will be in the church parking lot for your donations. This drive is for clothing only. Please get ready to donate any clothing on this weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

### STAY CONNECTED

I encourage you to sign up for this resource and make use of the Bible studies, faith formation opportunities, and Catholic movies available. Signing up only takes a few easy steps:

- Visit www.formed.org and click "Sign up."
- Click "I belong to a Parish or Organization."
- 3. Type "Faith at Home Detroit" in the center box under Create New Account. (You'll see it populate from the drop-down menu.) Click "Next."
- 4. Enter your first and last name as well as your email.
- 5. Now you're registered! You can also download the app on you Smartphone. If you need further assistance, contact Formed at www.help.formed.org or toll-free at 844-367-6331.



**PLEASE** REMEMBER ST. RENE **GOUPIL PARISH** IN YOUR WILL





**Our Sunday Offering** August 10 & 11 Thank you for your generous response.

God Bless you!

If you wish to read the bulletin it can be found online at Parishesonline.com then search by zip code. You can go online to the aod.org/live masses to find Weekday and Weekend Masses that can be watched.

# Strawberry Angel Cake

1 pkg. angel food cake mix

1 qt. strawberries

1 lg. ctn. Cool Whip (lite or reg.)

Bake and cool angel food according to package directions. When cake is cool, cut into 3 layers; set aside. Chop up 1/2 quart of strawberries and mix with 1/2cups Cool whip. Slice the rest of the strawberries. Place bottom layer of cake on plate. Cover with half of the strawberry Cool Whip mix and half of the slices. Place next layer on and do the same. Frost with Cool Whip. Refrigerate overnight.

#### CONTENDERS:

MAKING THE CASE FOR LIFE Compassion is pleased to sponsor this powerful training, equipping attendees to

powerfully yet gracefully defend the lives of the unborn

The event is FREE but you must register.

Thursday, August 22, 2024 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

at The Woods Church in Warren

We are also hosting a PASTORS/TEACHERS event the same date. Please invite your pastor to attend both sessions as the

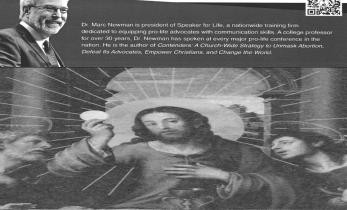
CONTENDERS WILL TEACH YOU

lay to hold your seating, qualify for a free signed

INFO & REGISTRATION AT:

ASSIONPREGNANCYFRIENDS.ORG/CONTENDERS







eucharisticrevival.org



The names for the prayer list for the sick is now done by personal intercession. Please drop the names of those needing prayers for healing in the petition box in the gathering area. We are asking that you take 2 names from the basket and pray for those people by name every day for four weeks. If an emergency comes up please call the parish office and we will get members of the community to pray and offer intercessions for them at daily mass.



We are in need of Sacristans and Eucharistic Ministers. If anyone is interested, please contact the parish office at (586)939-7500.

We are in need of Ushers at the 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses. If you are interested in Ushering, please see one of the Ushers.

#### **Altar Servers**

We are in need of Altar servers, young or adult who would like to serve, please contact the parish office at (586)939-7500. Please come serve at the altar!

### Please Pray for the Family Members of our Parishioners serving in the Military:

MSgt. Jason Bialy, Air Force Josey Blades (Air Force) Airman 1st Julie M. Chervon

Spc. Shaen Connery (Army) P.O. 1st Dale A. Foglyano Nicholas Foglyano (Army) P.O. 2nd Nicolas Fooy (Navy)

Lt Col David Fries Maj. Laura Geldhof Joe Gill, Navy

Staff Sgt. Nicole R. Grenon

Christopher Grubby (Navy) Pfc. Kevin Heath Lt. Christopher Kerr Pfc. Paul Koss (Marines) Lt. Joseph Kraft

Sgt. Joseph Kucharek (Army)

Sgt. Chris Libecki Mark Locricchio (Army) Sgt. Sean McDowell (Army) LCPL Miguel Menzer SPC Matthew Muellenhagen

Maj. Eric Olson

Chief Daniel Przybylinski

(Navy)

Justin Quinn (Marines) Anthony Roszko (Army)

Lt. Greg Siuta Maj. Allison Stewart Sgt Tomas R. Studholme, Jr.

ISG Robert Sutton Sgt. Matthew Sweetman Joel Vasquez, (Navy Seal)

# Prayer for Those Serving in the Military

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.

Bless them and their families for their selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.

Amen



# **Adoration Chapel**

In the documents of the Second Vatican Council, the Church Fathers describe the Eucharist as: "The source and summit of the Christian life. The term "Eucharist" originates in the Greek word Eucharistia, meaning thanksgiving.

"Take; this is my body" Mark 14:22

- 1. The real presence of Christ in the Eucharist is real, true and substantial.
- 2. "It is called the Eucharist because it is an action of thanksgiving to God." (CCC. No. 1328)
- 3. "Jesus awaits us in the sacrament of love." (St. John Paul II, Dominicae cene, no. 3)
- 4. Eucharist makes the one present sacrifice of Christ the Savior." (CCC, no. 1330)

If you would like to take the opportunity to be still and listen to God (without worldly interruptions), we have a need for almost every hour to have a second adorer, thereby making less the need for a substitute. It is a sacrifice being Catholic in our world today, you need contemplation and the grace to make you holy. Please call Mary Peterson to sign up at (586)979-1469 or (586)738-1154.

Uncommitted Hours
Friday 4pm
TAKE TIME FOR PRAYER!

### SAINT RENE GOUPIL Catholic Church

35955 Ryan Road Sterling Heights, MI 48310 (586) 939-7500 Fax (586) 939-7839

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Closed 12 Noon—1:00 p.m. Lunch
Friday 9:00 a.m. - Noon

#### **Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Steven Koehler, Pastor Rev. Joy Chakian, Associate Rev. Mr. John Ball, Deacon Emeritus Rev. Mr. Kevin Tietz, Deacon Michael Novak, Director of Evangelization & Education Alexander Sunga Director of Worship & Music

#### **ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICES**

Legion of Mary
Mary Peterson (586) 979-1469
Divine Mercy
Karin Nieto (586) 447-6927
Ushers
Al Gyenese (586) 808-3128
Perpetual Adoration
Mary Peterson (586) 979-1469
Catholic Social Services
of Macomb
Clinton Twp. (586) 416-2300
St. Vincent de Paul (Poverty Help)
(586) 718-4523
Joseph White, Grand Knight, K of C

# Weekend Liturgy Schedule

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.

Weekday Mass Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 a.m.

Confessions 3:00 p.m. every Saturday

### WELCOME

If you have attended Mass at St. Rene and would like to become a member, please visit our parish office where you can register and discuss all of the wonderful ways to grow in faith through Christian Service, Worship, Youth Ministry, Outreach, Faith Formation, and in our Adoration Chapel. For more information call 586-939-7500.

#### St. Rene Mission Statement

St. Rene Goupil Parish is a Catholic Community, dedicated to strengthening the faith and love of its people. Our mission is to proclaim that Jesus is Lord, to celebrate His Presence, and to reach out to others in His name.

#### **Parish Registration:**

Welcome to all new families/individuals. Please register as soon as possible. Membership is a condition for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation and Marriage.

Registration is also required before the parish can issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be a sacramental sponsor. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office.

#### **Baptism:**

Baptisms are celebrated the third Sunday of the month at 12:00 p.m. A parent preparation class is mandatory. Classes are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call the Parish Office during weekday office hours to register for a class.

**Penance:** Saturday 3:00 p.m. Special schedules for Advent and Lent.

#### Marriage:

Arrangements must be made through the Parish Office at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. One person of the couple must be an active, registered member of St. Rene Goupil Parish for six months.

### **Anointing of the Sick:**

On request or by appointment through the Parish Office.

