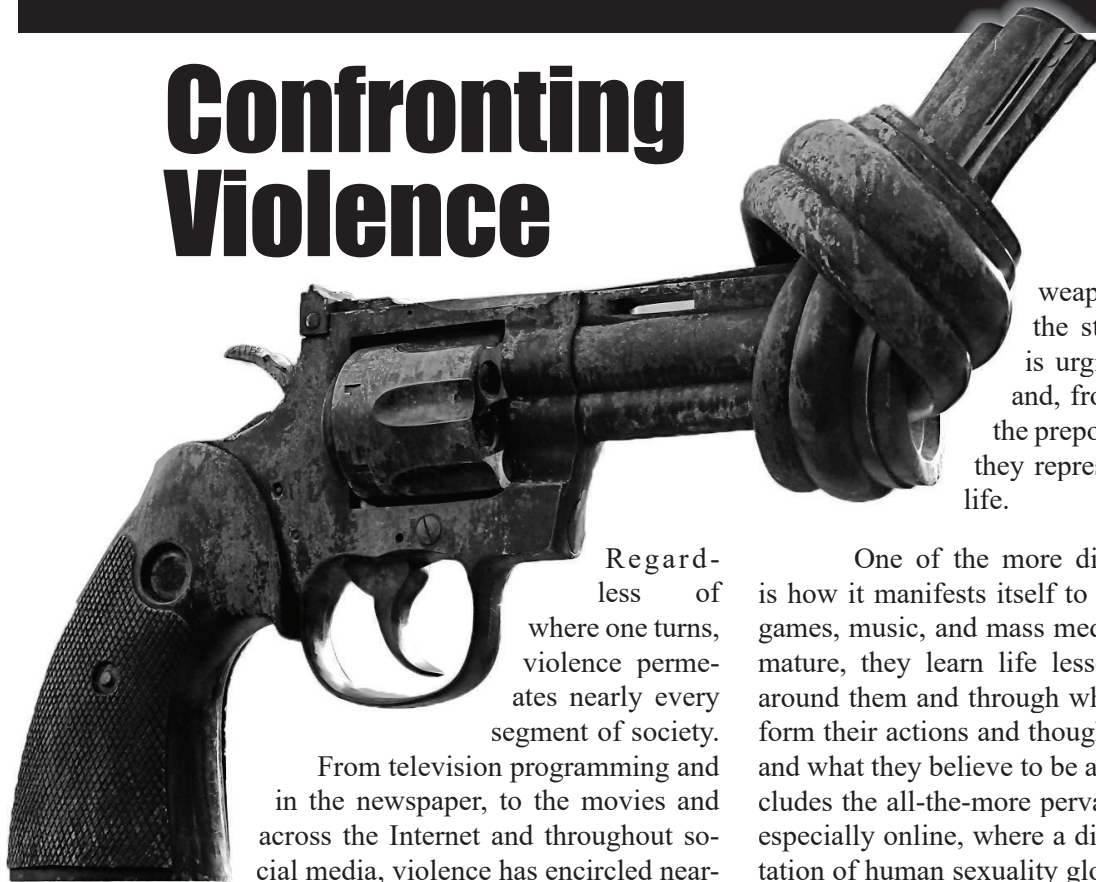


Confronting Violence



Regardless of where one turns, violence permeates nearly every segment of society.

From television programming and in the newspaper, to the movies and across the Internet and throughout social media, violence has encircled nearly every aspect of day-to-day life. Much of the violence depicted on screen or online is intended for “entertainment” purposes to drive ratings and website clicks or to increase the number of ticket sales. Closer to home, it is difficult to catch the local morning or evening news without hearing of an act of aggression, criminal activity, or court sentencing for a crime committed. In all of its forms, violence can be physical, verbal, or emotional, and it impacts people of all ages — too often with deadly consequences.

Much of the violence that exists in society is person against person, frequently involving assault or murder with weapons acquired legally or otherwise. Gang violence is especially responsible for deadly crime that rips apart neighborhoods and communities. In 2013, according to the FBI, more than 70 percent of the murders committed in Michigan involved a firearm; nearly 50 percent of the robberies in the state involved a firearm; and approximately 30 percent of the aggravated assaults involved a firearm. The Catholic Church opposes the use of any instrument for the purpose of carrying out deadly violence: forceps during an abortion, a needle that finalizes a death sentence, or an assault

weapon in the hands of a person on the street. Accordingly, the Church is urging greater control of firearms and, from a pro-life position, opposes the preponderance of deadly weapons as they represent a direct threat to innocent life.

One of the more disturbing elements of violence is how it manifests itself to children through violent video games, music, and mass media. As young people grow and mature, they learn life lessons by interacting with those around them and through what they see and hear. Children form their actions and thoughts based on their environment and what they believe to be acceptable or “normal.” This includes the all-the-more pervasive presence of pornography, especially online, where a distorted and unhealthy interpretation of human sexuality glorifies violence against women, assaults their dignity, and leaves youth with a confused sense of physical love. Acts of violence against children, including those gunned down in their neighborhoods and the young girls physically assaulted walking home or to school, are heart-wrenching.

As society constantly bombards us with varying forms of violence and reports of aggression, many, including children, become desensitized to its act, thereby tacitly accepting violence as a way of life and at times thinking little of its impact. Unfortunately, in our communities, not enough has been done to promote a culture of life that protects and builds up individuals. More often, there is an acceptance and contribution to what Pope Francis calls a “throwaway culture,” using and discarding others rather than respecting and caring for them. Going forward, Catholics and all people of goodwill can help to stem the tide of violence by committing to peace — in our homes, our workplaces, our neighborhoods, and our social interactions.

Reprinted from Focus a publication by the Michigan Catholic Conference. micatholic.org.



Catholic Services Appeal: Commitment Weekend Breakfast

Commitment Weekend for the Catholic Services Appeal takes place on Sunday, June 10th following the 8:30 and 11:15 a.m. masses when we will host our Ambrosian Opera Breakfast in the ARK. We will be celebrating all those who have made a commitment to the 2018 Catholic Services Appeal – and hopefully, the achievement of our goal. We've invited **David DiChiera and a group of performers from the Michigan Opera Theatre to be on hand to regale us with a selection of operatic highlights.**

In gratitude for your support of the Catholic Services Appeal, come join us for this uplifting musical breakfast celebrating St. Ambrose. There is no charge for those who have made a commitment to this year's CSA. Reservations are requested so that we can make adequate arrangements. RSVP by June 7th. Email stambrose@comcast.net or call (313) 822-2814.

Holy Land Experiential Journey

From Monday, June 4th at 3:30 p.m. through Saturday, June 9th, 1:00 p.m. you're invited to join the Weber Center community in Adrian Michigan for a week-long retreat.

Are you unable to travel in person to the Holy Land? This is an opportunity for you to experience a journey and place without leaving the country.

As we become acquainted with the religious, cultural, and sociopolitical realities that were the Judaism of Jesus' day, and lived under Roman occupation, we will read the Gospel narratives with a new and deepened grasp of how Jesus experienced his world and how he struggled to effect God's reign within it. It's a struggle that continues to this day in his homeland and in every land. The Holy Land Pilgrimage at Weber Center has been designed with the hope that each pilgrim will experience the Jesus of ancient Palestine and the Jesus of today with an immediacy that gives us access anew to his living presence among us.

Registration for this experience is open until midnight on June 2nd. Price per person for commuters is \$225, single occupancy is \$425 and double occupancy* is \$325. All meals are included. To register go to weber-center.org. The Weber Center is located at 1257 East Siena Heights Drive in Adrian, Michigan.

Fr. Robert Wotypka, OFM Cap., is moving from a City of Gears to a City of Beers! He has accepted a new assignment in Wisconsin working in an array of direct ministries called Capuchin Community Services in downtown Milwaukee.

St. Ambrose Parish is hosting a farewell fund-raiser for Freedom House (www.freedomhousedetroit.org). Freedom House is a temporary home for survivors of persecution from around the world who are seeking asylum in the United States and Canada.

The party will take place in the ARK on Sunday, June 24th, after our 11:15 a.m. mass, and run until 5 p.m. There will be a live band, dancing, and a Motown-inspired lunch. There will also be Wisconsin beers as well as some Michigan Craft Beer (to remember us by). The suggested free-will offering is a minimum of \$20, with free soft drinks and a cash bar. All proceeds go to Freedom House.

Plan on having a *good* time to honor a *good* Friar's work and support the *good* works of Freedom House.



All Things Considered

It's Memorial Day – a time in the United States when we pause to remember in humble gratitude those who have given their lives in the armed forces. It's a day to visit cemeteries to honor the war dead and say a prayer for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives for their country.

Publicly available data from the U.S. Department of Defense website lists 11 combat-related casualties so far in 2018. Seven of them occurred in a single helicopter crash in Iraq in mid-March. The U.S. Navy reports seven combat-related deaths, bringing the total number of combat-related military deaths this year to 18.

Without diminishing these tragic losses it's shocking to note that nearly as many people – 17 – died in a single shooting in Parkland, Fla. in February. Ten people died in the shooting in Santa Fe, Texas, while nine others perished in various gunfire incidents at U.S. schools this year, according to data compiled by Global News. There were 18 elementary or high school shootings in the U.S. this year — and it's only May. That brings the total number of school shooting casualties this year to 36 — twice as many as the number of reported combat-related deaths.

How did it happen that going to school became as dangerous as serving in the military?

We enjoyed a substantial boost in the Catholic Services Appeal this weekend. We now are a little over half way toward raising our minimum, mandatory total that is expected of us as our share of Archdiocesan operations. Let me remind you that the CSA target assigned to us is a binding tax on the parish — meaning that if we do not remit that amount, it is then posted as a loan which the parish must pay in the future.

Conversely, if we exceed our target, those funds return to our parish

without the customary 7% charge that the Archdiocese normally extracts from all other parish income (except for the Christmas collection).

In the past thirty years, except for one, we have managed to meet and exceed our CSA targets and enjoy a little financial kick-back. Most notably, **Cardinal Maida** allowed us to pass our St. Ambrose Restoration Campaign (ARC) through the CSA books which netted us a significant boost in the project's income. So, properly seen and used, the CSA can be a win-win situation for the larger and the local church.

So, if someone has a significant donation they have been thinking about giving to the parish, one of the most effective way to do so, or a way that benefits St. Ambrose the most, is through the annual CSA.

We have developed a very generous donor base for the CSA here at St. Ambrose. That is evidenced by the healthy average gift last year being over \$400 dollars. But the idea of stewardship is that economic burdens need to be shared according to each one's ability. So, we are not asking for equal gifts. We're asking for equal sacrifice — higher or lower than the average gift.

This year we are making a special effort to expand our CSA donor base by suggesting an entrance level donation from our working parishioners of \$100 dollars which could be paid in ten monthly installments. The Archdiocese even has a reminder system set up for this kind of pledge.

We'll accept a CSA donation whenever it comes to us — but we do have an incentive to wrapping up the project and that is our CSA-MOT donor breakfast which is scheduled for Sunday morning, June 10th. It's here that we get the chance to meet some of the up and coming voices who are part of the Michigan Opera Theatre while at the same time enjoying the company of your fellow parishioners with whom you have shared the CSA mission.

CSA brochures and donor cards were sent to your home. Call us if you need another. Or better yet, go on line at give.aodcsa.org and make your gift electronically. You can use your debit or

credit card. Just be certain to note that your donation goes to the St. Ambrose Parish quota. Once on-line, check out the other CSA materials that are posted there.

In checking out the Catholic Services Appeal listing of services, you see that a whopping percentage of last year's funds went to the operation of Sacred Heart Seminary and other vocation related activities. There are 197 Dioceses/Archdioceses in the United States. Excluding seminaries run and operated by religious order priests, I could find 42 seminaries listed in the United States that were still operated by a Diocese or Archdiocese. That includes high school seminaries, colleges and graduate schools. This does not count the two national seminaries like Orchard Lake, Michigan which exists to train Polish speaking priests for American parishes and the Pope John XXIII Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts which specializes in preparing priests who enter formation later in life.

The ability to operate a home-town seminary is a hugely expensive proposition and big commitment of resources for a local church. Your support to the CSA goes in proportionately large measure to the importance of preparing priests for our parishes.

Speaking of parishes, our newly ordained, **Fr. John Maksym** will be starting his first priestly assignment shortly at St. Joseph's Parish in Lake Orion, Michigan. St. Joe's is one of the largest parishes in the Archdiocese with an enrollment of 3,000+ households (compared to the 900 here). In addition, there is a large elementary school with 300 students and 850 students in their Religious Education Program. The pastor, **Fr. Mike Verschaeve** has a large staff, but Fr. Maksym and **Deacon John Manera** are his only ordained helpers. Together they cover six weekend masses, 180 baptisms, 80 funerals and 65 weddings a year. Suffice it to say that our newly ordained will be quite busy. He described it as duty on an Aircraft Carrier rather than a Destroyer.

TRP

Faith Formation Station

REGISTRATION for 2018-2019: Be sure to look in the mail in the next couple of weeks for the upcoming registration forms for religious education. The AOD has some updates for required registration information; so be sure to carefully review the mailing. We will again offer an early-bird tuition discount incentive for families who register by July 1st.

CATECHISTS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are in need of a few new catechists for the 2018-2019 religious education year. There are openings in Kindergarten, Grade 3, Grade 5, and Grade 6 as well as extra volunteers needed in the office on Sunday mornings. If you or someone you know might be called to the ministry of sharing one's faith with the children of St. Ambrose parish, please consider joining our catechetical team. We will provide you with all the support you need. If interested, please call the office: (313) 822-1248.

CONFIRMATION: As Brother Robert is being transferred to Milwaukee for his next assignment with the Capuchins of the St. Joseph Province, he will no longer be coordinating our program and, therefore we need to make a few scheduling changes. Please look for an official update letter in the mail soon regarding dates for the following Confirmation programming: service day, retreat day, and fall class schedule. In the meantime, we encourage students and families to write Brother Robert a letter of farewell and thanksgiving for his ministry to the parish and to the program.

Kelly Woolums

Vincenian Reflection

As we celebrate the mystery of the Trinity we also realize the mystery of how much God loves and cares for us each day. Believing in this, our lives can then overflow in thanksgiving and praise. This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the love and care of Jesus to the poor by assisting families, providing food, funds for utilities, rent and other bills, etc.

Post Diakonos

Its provenance is subject to debate, but I love the proverb no less: "God writes straight with crooked lines." It comes to mind this Memorial Day as I reflect on the literature that has come forth from our nation's most recent decades of war. I commend to your attention anything that has appeared in Harper's since 9/11, (www.harpers.org), particularly their dispatches from Afghanistan and Iraq.

Is it not wise to intertwine Veterans Day and Memorial Day the way the liturgical calendar intertwines major events? Note, for example, the way March 25th, Feast of the Annunciation, falls nine months before the Nativity of our Lord. So let us look to veterans to tell the story of their fallen brothers and sisters, as well as share from their own lives. The account that is staying with me is one that ran in the New Yorker earlier this month (newyorker.com/magazine/2018/05/07/the-spy-who-came-home), the May 7th edition. It defies summary, but I'd be shocked if anyone who encounters it doesn't read it in one sitting.

The person profiled in the article was in the hot zones, no, make that the fiery furnaces, of this century's military engagements. He did not flourish in the work, nor did he see much flourishing where he served. The reporter said that he wore a note pinned to his flak jacket: "Tell my wife it was pointless." From the CIA he went to a lucrative stint as a private sector security consultant, and today he is a beat cop in Savannah GA. His journey within the realms of executing foreign policy, of carrying the burdens of the American empire, and coming to understand what are the duties and possibilities for individuals within civil society is a secular expression of Saint Teresa of Calcutta's call: "If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." This citizen, whose faith is never mentioned or named, has decided to forego nation-building for the building up of one neighborhood, one city, one radio call at a time. He has gone, therefore (Mt 28: 19), and though he is not heard calling on God, God is surely with him.

Accountability time: I will be away the middle three weeks of June, taking courses at the Summer Peacebuilding Institute at Eastern Mennonite University (emu.edu) and at the Little Rock Scripture Study. Please excuse any missed columns. The generosity of parishioners and the stewardship of Father Tim and the St. Ambrose staff have made it possible for me to go attend EMU, so please accept heartfelt thanks.



Promo cards for the June 24th farewell fundraiser are on their way to everyone's home. This week's rejected rebranding of the event is "**East Coast, West Coast, All Around the Lake.**" Good call, Father Tim. The Majestic Detroit, through the kind generosity of the Zainea family, is donating all the craft beers, which will greatly add to the efficacy of our fundraising. So remember, to quote a T-shirt I saw at the Milwaukee airport, "Drink Wisconsibly."

Fr. Robert Wotypka

**Playscape
Birthday Party**

NEXT
Saturday, June 2 from 9 to 3

**Look for sign-up sheets at the back of church
and plan to party and work next Saturday.**

The Buzz

I hope you had a chance to participate in some part if not all of last weekend's celebration of the priestly ordination of our local son, **Fr. John Maksym**. I think we had a nice parish representation at the Cathedral on Saturday morning for the nearly three-hour ceremony. Most commented on the magnificent pageantry and beauty of that event. True enough, especially for those who rarely get to the Cathedral or diocesan liturgies. But it was cathedral liturgy – not parish liturgy; ok for its setting, but not really transferable to meet parish needs and expectations. I thought about a food analogy: for someone who likes Beef Wellington for instance. How often have you had it? Where was it served? How many make it for their family every week?

I truly appreciated the comments of many who attended both the ordination as well as the 11:15 mass of thanksgiving here at St. Ambrose. What I most often heard was the positive appreciation of both – with an acknowledgement of the differences between them – without any diminishment of the magnificence experienced in the parish Eucharist. It was truly “Catholic” at some of its best!



I want to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge and thank the extraordinary “lectors” who helped us experience some of the linguistic diversity in the Body of Christ in the first reading at mass last weekend from Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-11. First, at all three masses, **Greg Urbiel** graced us with words spoken in the Attic form of ancient Greek. I learned that this form would eventually evolve into the Koine Greek that was used in the writing of the New Testament. At 4:00 mass, **Elizabeth Puleo-Tague** proclaimed verses in Italian, her daughter **Julianna Tague** in Spanish, **Diane Maennle** in German, and her husband **Wolf** in French.

At 8:30 mass, Greg returned along with **Kim Truza** (well-known to GP South students and families) sharing the verses in Spanish, and the very unique and always popular **Xiao Yu (Shelly) Grech** speaking in Mandarin/Chinese. At that mass I added some Church-pronunciations of the words in Latin. Then finally at the 11:15 mass, Mr. Urbiel came back for us one more time along with **Anna Balow** in Italian, **Colette Gilewicz** with French, **Lupe Davila** in Spanish, **Dan Clark** with German, and not least at all – **George Bush** using the Latin he used to teach. Thanks again to all of you great folks. The Holy Spirit spoke to us in a very special way through, with, and in you.



Tomorrow, Memorial Day, is not only the unofficial beginning of the summer season, but also is more importantly a traditional time of focused attention on those who have died – especially military personnel during times of war. For many it is a time of visiting and tending to the cemetery gravesites of family members and loved ones. In our faith tradition, it can be a respectful, ongoing part of fulfilling one of the corporal works of mercy: to bury the dead.

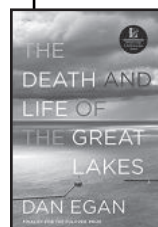
Prayer at a cemetery can heighten our awareness of the dearly departed's continuing closeness to us in the Communion of Saints. The format could be anything you choose. Some suggested components might include Psalms 25, 27, or 130; a reading from I Thessalonians 4: 13-18; the Litany of the Saints including patron saints of everybody in the family, along with those of the deceased; the Lord's Prayer and Hail Mary; and the traditional “Eternal rest ...”, etc. No matter how little or much you include, the visit and the memories will be worth it for everyone involved.



And speaking of happy things, next Saturday is the Playscape Birthday Party on Alter Road. Some important construction work is needed this year, along with the usual safety and beautification updates. Come be part of the fun of providing another summer of safe fun for our neighborhood children – next Saturday: 9-3.

Chuck Dropiewski

Marcellina's Book Club



The Great Lakes hold 20% of the world's surface fresh water and provide sustenance, work and recreation for millions of Americans. But they are under threat as never before, and their problems are spreading.

In the Death and Life of the Great Lakes, author Dan Egan paints a portrait of an ecological catastrophe happening before our eyes – blending the epic story of the lakes and the ways we can restore and preserve them.

We are in the process of connecting with the author to see if he can pay our book club a visit at a date to be announced. Pick up a copy of the book and get a head-start in reading this important work which was one of this year's twenty Notable Book Honorees by the State Library of Michigan.

The Beehive

is the parish weekly bulletin of the
St. Ambrose Catholic Community
Detroit/Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

Pastor: Rev. Timothy R. Pelc

Assistant: Rev. Robert Wotycka OFM, Cap

Pastoral Minister: Charles Dropiewski

Religious Education: Kelly Anne Woolums

Minister of Music: Norah Duncan IV

Office Manager:

Sacramental Celebrations

Masses: On the Lord's Day –

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Baptism: Arrangements for both adults and infants to be made by contacting the rectory.

Penance: As announced and by appointment.

Marriage: Couples should contact the rectory office a minimum of six months in advance of the proposed date to make arrangements.

Funeral: Normally celebrated within one week after the deceased's passing.

Directory

Parish Office: 15020 Hampton

Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230

Tel: (313) 822-2814 **Fax:** (313) 822-9838

Email address: stambrose@comcast.net

Religious Education: (313) 822-1248

Pastoral Ministry: (313) 822-2017

Ark Scheduling: (313) 822-2814

Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

Monday, May 28

Memorial Day

Office Closed - No Services

Tuesday, May 29

8:30 a.m. - Mass - David White;

Bob Ramsey; Saul Soriano, OFM.cap.

Wednesday, May 30

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

Thursday, May 31

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 a.m. - Mass - John & Catherine Guinn

Joan Sossi, Wilson Baker; Julia Obee

Friday, June 1

St. Justin, martyr

8:30 a.m. - Ray & Rosanna Tessmer;

Mary Kay Linne; Henrietta Kolak

Saturday, June 2

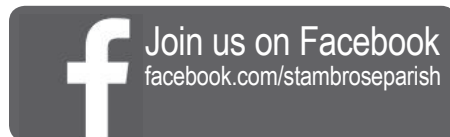
4:00 p.m. - Mass - For All People

Sunday, June 3

The Body and Blood of Christ

8:30 a.m. - For All People

11:15 a.m. - For All People



Scriptures for the 8th Week of Ordinary Time

Monday, May 28

- 1 Pt 1: 3-9
- Ps 111: 1-2, 5-6, 9, 10c
- Mk 10: 17-27

Tuesday, May 29

- 1 Pt 1: 10-16
- Ps 98: 1-4
- Mk 10: 28-31

Wednesday, May 30

- 1Pt 1: 18-25
- Ps 147: 12-15, 19-20
- Mk 10: 32-45

Thursday, May 31

- Sep 3: 14-18a or Rom 12: 9-16
- (Ps) Is 12: 2-3, 4bcd, 5-6
- Lk 1: 39-56

Friday, June 1

- 1 Pt 4: 7-13
- Ps 96: 10-13
- Mk 11: 11-26

Saturday, June 2

- Jude 17, 20b-25
- Ps 63: 2-6
- Mk 11: 27-33

Sunday, May June 3

- Ex 24:3-8
- Heb 9: 11-15

The Fest of the Body & Blood of Christ June 2nd and June 3rd

4:00 p.m. – Saturday – Celebrant: Fr. Wotypka **Lector:** Elizabeth Puleo-Tague

Eucharistic Ministers: Maria Cox- & Adam Borkowski,
Karen McShane, Matthew Strong, Mary Urbanski

Altar Servers: Julianna & Kiernan Tague

8:30 a.m. – Sunday – Celebrant: Fr. Pelc **Lector:** Norman Cure

Eucharistic Ministers: Colleen Gatzke, Christopher Harrison, Joan Jackson,
Maggie Jackson, Bernadette Pieczynski, Chris Walsh

Altar Servers: Alyssa Flores, Nathan Lipka

11:15 a.m. - Celebrant: Fr. Bede **Lector:** Leslie Leitch

Eucharistic Ministers: Anne Billiu, Lupe Davila, Joseph Hugh,
Janis Ramsey, Darryl Swiatkowski, Patty Yaden

Altar Servers: Dominik & Malvina Lubanski

Your Envelope Speaks ... the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish

requires a *minimum* of..... \$10,100.00

On Sunday, May 20, 2018

in envelopes we received \$7,056.00

in the loose collection \$814.00

in electronic donations \$1,390.00

in children's envelopes..... \$1.00

for a total of..... **\$9,271.00**

Under budget for the week..... **\$829.00**

Number of envelopes mailed 900

Number of envelopes used..... 151

*"The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and if children then heirs, heirs of God and
joint heirs with Christ..." – ROMANS 8:16-17*

*Shouldn't we be good stewards of our inheritance,
using our time in prayer; our talent in
charitable works and our treasure to care for
the Church that God has left to us?
Our Church is a treasured heirloom from God.
Do we treat it that way?*

Our Sick

Please pray for those who are seriously ill or who are hospitalized: Pat Blake, Maria Chinchilla, Karen Culver, Ann Sullivan Kay, Josephine Marino, Donald Miriani, Bonnie McKenna, Mary Myers, Jeanne Noto, David Schumacker, Matthew Elias, George Bucec, Emilie Kasper, Arthur Stoyshin, Anna Noto Billings, Vilma Rivers, Vilma Marone, Eileen O'Brien, Martha Luna, Dan Urbiel, Dina Engels, Liz Linne, Donna Barnes, Betty Greenia, Alexandra Cullen, Charmaine Kaptur, Darby O'Toole, Alexandra Billiu, Frank Gregory, Jeri Krueger, and Josephine DeCastris..

Young Professionals

Young professionals in their 20s or 30s, are invited to join the Young Catholic Professionals (YCP). Develop your faith in a fast-paced professional world, receive mentorship from chapter board members, gain exclusive access to executive speakers, build incredible friendships with other leaders in Detroit and across the country, and grow invaluable management and leadership skills.

Email info@ycpdetroit.org to learn about our open positions. For more information about our organization and upcoming events, visit ycpdetroit.org and youngcatholicprofessionals.org.

2	0	CSA
1	8	Box Scores

Number of Families 900

Returns to date 80

Average Gift ('17).....\$440

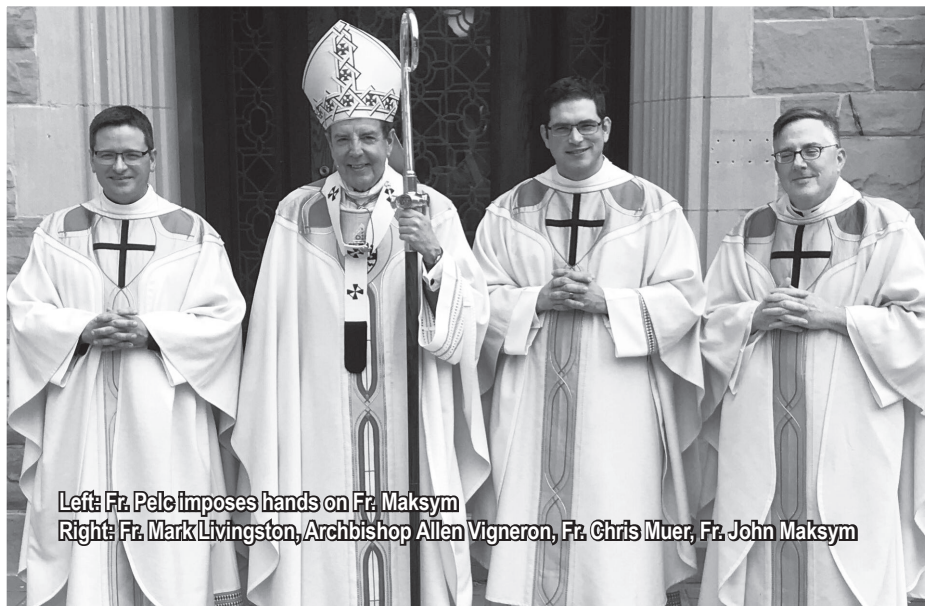
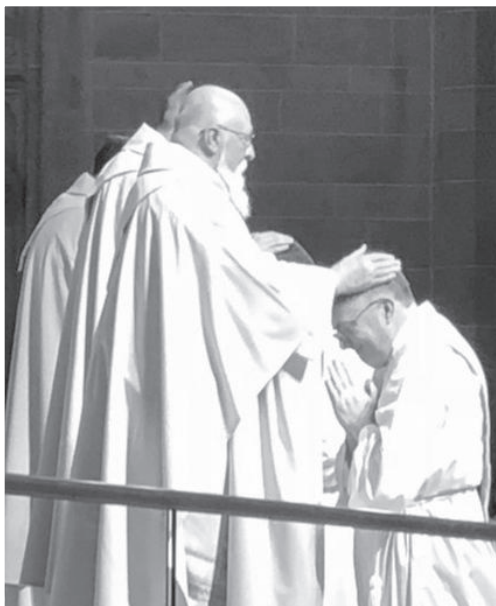
Quota for the Archdiocese\$87,418

Property/Liability Insurance ... \$52,000

Parish '18 Target.....\$139,418

Received as of 5/21/2018..... \$45,153

- We need your participation to help cover our share of the burden of operating the Catholic Church in Southeastern Michigan. Contribute by using the CSA forms sent to you, or you can make a contribution electronically through stambrosechurch.net.
- After our obligation to the Archdiocese is met, the overage will be applied to our property/liability insurance. Last year, we funded 26 weeks of premiums.



Left: Fr. Pete imposes hands on Fr. Maksym
Right: Fr. Mark Livingston, Archbishop Allen Vigneron, Fr. Chris Muer, Fr. John Maksym



From Left to Right, the family of Fr. Maksym: John's sister, Cathy Townsend, Darryl Hicks and John's sister Helen Hicks, and his brother Roy Maksym
For the complete color gallery go to facebook.com/stambroseparish.

