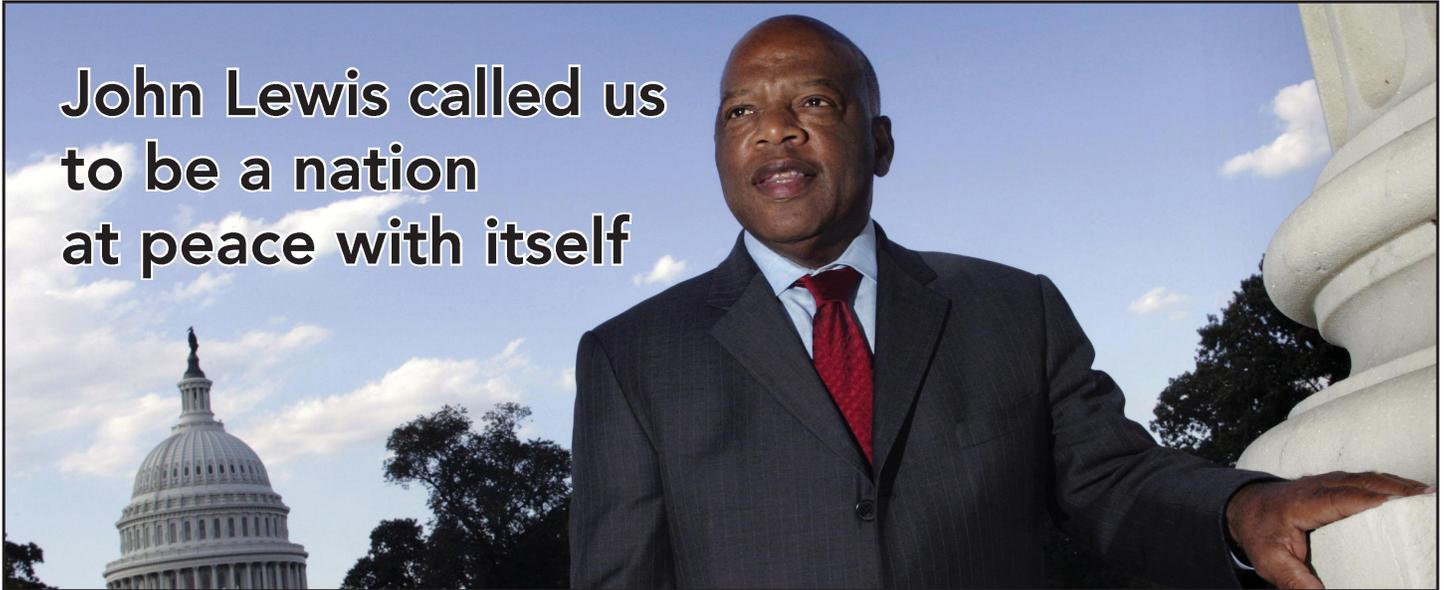


St. **A**mbrose Parish

JULY 26, 2020
BEEHIVE

**John Lewis called us
to be a nation
at peace with itself**



It was painful to learn that civil rights hero and U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) died July 17 from pancreatic cancer. He was the last surviving speaker from the 1963 March on Washington, but was best known for leading the civil rights march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, in 1965 on what would become known as “Bloody Sunday.” John was among the marchers beaten by state police that day and suffered a fractured skull.

John would later lead civil rights pilgrimages to Alabama to bring his colleagues in Congress, civil rights luminaries, and faith, business and labor leaders together to reflect on a time when our country came together to overcome a difficult crisis. I had the privilege of working with John on those pilgrimages when I served as president of the Faith & Politics Institute.

The pilgrimages were also an opportunity for the participants to ask themselves what reconciling work remained to be done in our own time. Every year as we finalized our program, John would say: “One more time to Alabama.” He referred to the sites on those pilgrimages as “holy ground.” He believed the journey had lessons to teach us still.

At the Civil Rights Memorial fountain in Montgomery, Alabama, designed by Maya Lin, I watched John standing quietly with his hand dipping in the water touching the engraved names of those who had given their lives in the fight for civil rights. He slowly touched each name, and I heard him say softly, “I knew so many of them.”

Selma, the Brown Chapel and the Edmund Pettus Bridge were the culmination. The pilgrimages stirred memory, and many folks came back year after year, but these pilgrimages were no mere walk down memory lane. One year, Alabama Troopers were lined up. The commander came forward to give John an apology and a welcome to Alabama.

Another time John welcomed Elwin Wilson to the pilgrimage. Wilson was the former Klansman who beat Lewis in 1961 when John’s Freedom Ride bus stopped in Rock Hill, South Carolina. In 2009, Wilson experienced a conversion of heart. He traveled to Washington to apologize to John, who invited him to come to Selma as a testimony to the power of reconciliation and the Beloved Community.

Another year, former Alabama Gov. George Wallace’s daughter, Peggy Wallace Kennedy, came to walk together with John across the bridge. For John, the movement was always about the Beloved Community, about reconciliation, no matter how long it takes. The pilgrimages were a vehicle for that. One year, the two congressional co-leaders were House Democrat Steny Hoyer and House Republican Mike Pence. As a clergyman, I saw John as a true spiritual leader, a moral leader, in these moments. There was a grace at work in him.

In 2010, when I was invited to join the team at Unite-Here International Union (unitehere.org) to take up the fight for immigration reform, I went to see John, along with my predecessor at the Faith & Politics Institute, the Rev. W. Douglas Tanner Jr. John was quite familiar with UniteHere, having

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A nation at peace with itself

continued from page 1

served as co-chair of the union's immigration freedom ride in 2003 with then-union leader Maria Elena Durazo, now a California state senator.

John listened to my discernment about what I felt was a new "call." After a moment of silence, he looked me in the eye and said: "Father, the immigration movement is the next chapter in the civil rights movement. You have heard the trumpet call. And you must answer." In our spiritual traditions, that is what we call confirmation of a call!

In 2013 along with 200 others, I was arrested with John in front of the Capitol Building. We spent the next 10 hours or so in lockup, protesting the inaction of the House of Representatives to pass a comprehensive immigration reform bill. That was just one more of those many examples of what John Lewis called "getting into good trouble."

John often said, "You got to keep your eyes on the prize." The prize we need to keep our eyes on is the Beloved Community. He also said we should pray "that America will become a nation at peace with itself." I loved that every time I heard him say it — a nation at peace with ourselves.

We are a poorer nation today for the passing of John Robert Lewis. And yet, we are richer for his pointing us toward the Beloved Community — and for calling us in our fractured times to be a nation at peace with itself.

Let me end with these words of challenge and encouragement that Lewis tweeted out not so long ago:

"Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

By Fr. Cleve Kiley for [National Catholic Reporter](http://NationalCatholicReporter.com); www.ncronline.org. Fr. Kiley is a priest of the Chicago Archdiocese who served as the president and CEO of the Faith & Politics Institute in Washington and currently serves as a senior adviser at Unite-Here International Union.

Vatican Instructions on Parish Reform and Diocesan Restructuring

The Vatican's Congregation for Clergy published instructions Monday on reforming parishes and restructuring dioceses to better serve their "singular mission of evangelization." The 24-page document is called "The pastoral conversion of the parish community in the service of the evangelizing mission of the Church" and seeks to "foster a greater co-responsibility and collaboration among all the baptized," according to Mgr. Andrea Ripa, the under-secretary of the Congregation for the Clergy. The under-secretary described the instructional document as an "instrument with which to support and accompany the various projects of parish reform and diocesan restructuring."

"One could say that the essence of the present Instruction is to recall that in the Church 'there is a place for all and all can find their place,' with respect to each one's vocation," Ripa said in an introduction to the document July 20th. The instruction, which does not introduce anything new to Church law, sets out provisions of the existing law and guidelines to preserve "the faithful from certain possible extremes, such as the clericalization of the laity and the secularization of the clergy, or from regarding permanent deacons as 'half-priests' or a 'super laymen,'" the under-secretary wrote.

Signed by Pope Francis on June 29th, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, the instruction promotes greater cooperation among different parish communities, emphasizing the need for the parish to be inclusive, evangelizing, and attentive to the poor. "Pastoral activity needs to go beyond merely the territorial limits of the parish, to make ecclesial communion more clearly transparent by means of the synergy between ministers and diverse charisms, structuring itself as a 'pastoral care for all', at the service of the diocese and of its mission," the document states.

To achieve this goal, the document recommends the establishment of "pastoral regions or units" entrusted to the oversight of an episcopal vicar appointed by the bishop. "At the heart of a process of renewal, instead of passively undergoing change by supporting and going along with it, there exists today the need to individuate new structures that will incite all those who make up the Christian community to fulfil their vocation to evangelize, with a view to a more effective pastoral care of the People of God, the 'key factor' of which is proximity," it states.

Cardinal Beniamino Stella, prefect of the Congregation for Clergy, underlined that societal changes, including increased mobility and the "scarcity of priests" in the West, point to the need to look "beyond the idea of the traditional parish."

"Today people move and attend church wherever they find themselves," Stella explained in an interview with Vatican News after the new instruction was released. "Therefore many projects for the reform of parish communities and diocesan restructuring are already underway," he said, adding that the document seeks to guide these reforms within the ecclesiastical norms of the Church, rather than reforms "dictated only by personal taste."

The document builds on the 2002 instruction from the Congregation of Clergy, "The Priest, Pastor and Leader of the Parish Community," and the Vatican interdicasterial instruction "Ecclesia de Mysterio," on the collaboration of laity in the ministry of priests. It includes instructions on the suppression or merging of parishes, ways of assigning pastoral ministry within the parish, the pastoral council, the sacraments, and the renewal or "conversion" of parish and diocesan structures.

"The historical parish institution (must) not remain a prisoner of immobility or of a worrisome pastoral repetition, but rather, it should put into action that 'outgoing dynamism' that, through collaboration among different parish communities and a reinforced communion among clergy and laity, will orient it effectively toward an evangelizing mission, the task of the entire People of God, that walks through history as the 'family of God' and that, in the synergy of its diverse members, labours for the growth of the entire ecclesial body," it states. Cardinal Stella said that "the parish perhaps has been treated so far almost like a palace, a castle to be guarded, to be protected."

"It seems to me that we have to remove the keys, open the doors, air out the room, and go outside," he said. "Here, this outgoing dynamism, which the pope has spoken of many times, means looking outward, seeing who needs faith: the whole world of youth, the whole world of those who need God but do not know which way to go."

By Courtney Mares for the Catholic News Agency, catholicnewsagency.com.

All Things Considered

The subject of returning to school this fall is being hotly debated across the country. Kelly Woolums and I met this past week to discuss our approach to our Religious Education program here at St. Ambrose this fall. After consultation with our catechists and neighboring parishes, the consensus was for us to move to an all on-line program at this point in time.

Fortunately, the publisher of a program we are already using has developed in inter-active electronic program that will easily fit our curriculum. It also allows for the continuing involvement between our students and their teachers in multiple ways. One of the odd benefits of the pandemic is that it is forcing us to think outside the box when it comes to evangelization.

The Church has been saying all along – *It is within the family where children are raised and formed as human beings. The parental role in this human formation is governed by love, a love which places itself “at the service of children to draw forth from them (“e-ducere”) the best that is in them” and which “finds its fullest expression precisely in the task of educating.” (Compendium of Catholic Social Teaching, No. 239)* The family is the “first school.” We’re now putting that lofty ideal into practice.

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A number of our First Communion families have opted to bring their child to the Lord’s Table individually. You’ll be seeing that happen at different masses over the Summer and Fall. Ten families, however, have opted for a corporate Communion celebration, which we will schedule for a Saturday in October. Two families decided to wait a little longer. Whatever the option, trust us to make the First Eucharist of our students a truly memorable event.

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We’re already surpassed last year’s registrations for Kayaking the Canals next month. The company running the event for us has opened up some more slots. Salvage whatever you can out of this Covid-laden Summer by joining in this unique parish event. And what could be better than a day on the water, then by following it up with mass!



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In the 1,768 columns I’ve written for this bulletin, I’ve never turned my page over to a guest columnist. But these are unusual times, made even more unusual because our Archdiocese has opted to initiate a restructuring of parishes and to change how they would be staffed – particularly from the perspective of the clergy. The following is by Grant Ruttinger, our Parish Council President.

TRP

How will our St. Ambrose family fit into the Family of Parishes? Imagine waking up one morning to discover that you and your whole family have been adopted ... by three other families. And what’s more, you find out that the head of your family (let’s say, your Father) is now looking out for you on a part-time basis because he’s dividing his time with those other three families, too. Sound a little disorienting?

Welcome to the Archdiocese of Detroit’s new pastoral and governance model called “Family of Parishes.”

The model, covering its 218 parishes, calls for a pooling of resources with multiple priests and deacons assigned to care for a group of three to six parishes with one pastor leading the whole group. The goal is for parishes to benefit from greater collaboration. The Archdiocese cites the priest shortage and Covid-19 as the driving forces behind its disruptive reorganization.

As President of the St. Ambrose Parish Pastoral Council, I have been tracking this development since it was announced by Archbishop Vigneron on May 31. It is clear that Family of Parishes will have a profound impact on St. Ambrose Parish, how it is managed and how our faith community will be served in the future ... the very near future.

This coming Advent, the groups of parishes forming each family will be announced, and the first wave will be operating by July 2021 – one year from now.

While the Archdiocese makes it very clear that it is moving forward with Families of Parishes, it also states, “the details have not yet been decided regarding how to make this model work in the best interest of our communities.” With input from clergy and lay leaders, these details are to be finalized in the coming months.

Fr. Tim has kept the Parish Council in the loop since the announcement. Council members recently received a Workbook and PowerPoint presentation from the Archdiocese seeking our lay input, which we provided, along with some important questions.

The Workbook sought a snapshot of the parish, asking “What is your parish best known for?” Our reply included descriptions of our diversity, beautiful building and gathering space, community outreach and special events. Another question asked, “What would you identify as the key strengths/characteristics of your parish?” Our reply pointed to resilience, welcoming people, religious education and leadership. It’s not clear how this lay input will be used to finalize the details.

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All Things Considered

Continued from page three...

From the PowerPoint slides, we know that there are three planning teams at work. Governance/Leadership is focusing on questions related to the priest assignment process, parish pastoral and financial councils, leadership teams and financial officers.

Mission Direct is discussing ways to minister directly to the faithful, including religious education, youth ministry and the possibility of newly created staff positions related to evangelization and community engagement. Mission Support is considering questions related to parish administration including human resources, IT, finance and facility maintenance. At the end of the day, the sharing of administrative talents will likely result in downsizing (job loss) at some parishes.

The plan also makes clear that a single Parish Finance Officer will oversee the financial operations of all parishes within a given Family. This leads to some serious questions about fundraisers and offertory collections. For example, will Oysterfest profits and weekly collections from St. Ambrose be funneled into the Family of Parishes to which it belongs and then be distributed as determined by the Parish Finance Officer?

Other top-of-mind questions relate to communications. With respect to mass schedules, once the Family of Parishes is operational, many parishioners will likely want to attend mass where their former pastor is celebrant. How and when will parishioners within the Family find out who is celebrating the coming week's masses and at which church? How will parishioners stay informed about developments and programs specific to St. Ambrose? How will we hear from Fr. Tim, Kelly Woolums and Chuck Dropiewski?

At this point in time, there's a lot to take in and process, and there are many more questions than answers. Let's pray that the resilience that has helped St. Ambrose weather so many storms over the past 104 years will guide and sustain our parish in this current storm called Family of Parishes

Grant Ruttinger

The Buzz

This is already the last week of July. Whew! How can this summer be flying by so fast?! I just don't understand how time can be picking up speed.

In today's first reading, a young Solomon is praying for understanding. Notice he doesn't ask for wisdom, and he doesn't ask this for some self-serving purpose. (If you go back to chapter 3 of Genesis, this is a delightful contrast with how the theme of knowledge was portrayed in the original sin episode.) In a "pleased" response, God gives Solomon a heart that is both wise and understanding beyond compare. How about spending a reflective moment or two this week before August arrives deciding whether it is better to be a truly wise and prayerful servant for others or a self-serving "wise guy"?! You know what God prefers, but the choice is strictly ours.



When it comes to public issues such as the death penalty, there is often more heat than light shared among folk. The U. S. Supreme Court, after a 17-year moratorium on federal executions, decided to let them start up again. A couple took place almost immediately. Several more are scheduled.

The wisdom of the Catholic Church now flat out opposes this practice. This teaching just doesn't get the same press as our anti-abortion stance receives. Can you imagine political candidates courting the religious or Catholic vote by paying lip-service as an anti-Capital Punishment candidate?

Nor does our voice coming from official Catholic leadership use much volume about this. Yet it is still part of the same "seamless garment" of Respect for (all) Life that we should wear proudly. It's been reported that several Catholic bishops joined more than 1,000 other religious leaders who wrote to the President and Attorney General to stop these killings: "As our country grapples with the Covid-19 pandemic, an economic crisis, and systemic racism in the criminal legal system, we should be focused on protecting and preserving life, not carrying out executions."

Since there were only several Catholic officials who spoke up, I guess more wisdom leadership needs to come (as with so many of the recent moral movements in our country) from people at the grassroots. (Read in this my ongoing theme of the Domestic Church!)

Has this topic come up in your home – or even your personal awareness – at all? How do you feel about it? Do you know the basis for the Church's teaching about capital punishment? When the age is appropriate (Kids are aware early; don't delay too long!) how do you share thoughts, feelings, judgments, etc. about this with your children? It may be difficult, but it's important and worth it. And don't let anyone say it's a political issue and the Church should stay out of it. The experience of the Domestic Church teaches us that we are members of the "polis" and that we are the Church. We stand in both. Don't stand on just one leg. God gave us two; be wise and use both.



Today's second Scripture reading includes a line that says, "We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." If you or someone you know has been called by God and would like to nurture that gift of faith in the Catholic community, the RCIA may be a "good thing" to help it grow. You owe it to yourself to check it out. There is no cost nor obligation when you enter into the adult process of learning more about the Catholic Church. For more information, give me a call anytime at 313-332-5631. Or you can stop and speak with me after either weekend mass. For those called by God, the alternative to responding – is unwise!

Chuck Dropiewski



KAYAK THE CANALS!

of St. Ambrose Parish

Not many parishes enjoy waterways like St. Ambrose. Join us for a guided 2-hour Kayak Canal tour on two successive weekends in August – 12 persons per tour!

Paddle out to the Detroit River, around Grayhaven Island, past the Fisher Mansion and by the waterfront residences of Jefferson Chalmers.

The Saturday August 15th or the 22nd
Launch is @ 12:00 pm
\$55 per kayaker -

This private tour is professionally conducted by Detroit River Sports and is great for beginners and experienced kayakers alike.

Kayak and safety equipment provided.

stambrose@comcast.net
or 313-822-2814

The Beehive

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

Pastor: Rev. Timothy R. Pelc
Pastoral Minister: Charles Dropiewski
Religious Education: Kelly Anne Woolums
Minister of Music: Louise Veltri
Dr. Norah Duncan IV – on hiatus
Office Manager: Peggy O'Connor
Secretary: Mary Urbanski

Sacramental Celebrations

Masses: On the Lord's Day –
Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday - 10:00 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) 332-5633
Pastoral Ministry: (313) 332-5631
Ark Scheduling: (313) 822-2814
Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

E-Donations

St. Ambrose Parish is equipped to make electronic transfers from your checking account or credit card on our website. Christian Financial Credit Union brings parishioners and friends the ability to make an electronic contribution to St. Ambrose on a regular or one-time basis.

Your checking account or credit card may be used to make a single donation; or you may set up automatic weekly, monthly or quarterly contributions on a schedule. This solution is not meant to replace the current envelope method of collection, but instead to provide an additional alternative for those who might prefer to make their contributions electronically.

We hope this additional financial service allows you another way to manage your stewardship to St. Ambrose. Visit stambrosechurch.net for more information on electronic giving.

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

July 27

Weekday - 17th week in Ordinary Time

July 28

Weekday 17th week in Ordinary Time

July 29

St. Martha

July 30

St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop & doctor

July 31

St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest

August 1

St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop & doctor

1:30 - Wedding - Sara Hilu & Chris Iverson

4:00 p.m. Mass - 18th Sunday in Ord. Time

August 2

10:00 a.m. Mass - 18th Sunday in Ord. Time

•Web broadcast of Mass from

St. Ambrose will begin at 8:00 a.m.

and will be accessible throughout the day.

Spending Spotlight

St. Ambrose been feeding the folks at the St. John Center for the homeless on Kercheval in Detroit every Saturday since the start of the pandemic. We also serve meals to the Grosse Pointe Public Safety officers on Saturday too. The cost to prepare one recent meal for 130 people: \$880.00.

Scriptures for the 17th Week in Ordinary Time

July 27

Jer 13: 1-11

(Ps) Dt 32: 18-21

Mt 13: 31-35

July 28

Jer 14: 17=22

Ps 79: 8-9, 11, 13

Mt 13: 36-43

July 29

Jer 15: 10, 16-21

Ps 59: 2-4, 10-11, 17-18

Mt 13: 47-53

July 30

Jer 18: 1-6

Ps 146: 1b-6b

Mt 13: 10-17

July 31

Jer 26: 1-9

Ps 69: 5, 8-10, 14

Mt 13: 54-58

August 1

Jer 26: 11-16, 24

Ps 69: 15-16, 30-31, 33-34

Mt 14: 1-12

August 2

Is 55: 1-3

Ps 145: 8-9, 15-18

Rom 8: 35, 37-39

Mt 14: 13-21

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The ban on public masses is slowly being lifted. We will continue to tape the 4:00 masses for broadcast the next day. We have opened that mass to a congregation of 25% of the building's capacity - roughly 150 persons.

Face masks and social distancing is required.

For the foreseeable future, there will be one Mass here on Sundays at St. Ambrose which will be offered at 10:00 in the morning. Again, we can only allow 25% of the building's seating capacity - 150 persons - and face masks and social distancing is required.

View Saturday's mass at facebook.com/stambroseparish or [stambroselive on youtube.stambrosechurch.net](https://youtube.stambrosechurch.net) starting at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday.

Your Envelope Speaks ... the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish requires a *minimum* of..... \$10,100.00

On Sunday, July 19, 2020

in envelopes we received..... \$8,323.00

in the loose collection \$1,224.00

in electronic donations \$4,146.00

for a total of..... \$13,693.00

Over budget for the week..... \$3,593.00

Number of envelopes mailed 782

Number of envelopes used 40



Our Sick

Please pray for those who are seriously ill or who are hospitalized: Pat Blake, Karen Culver, Ann Sullivan Kay, Donald Miriani, Bonnie McKenna, Jeanne Noto, David Schumacker, Matthew Elias, George Bucec, Emilie Kasper, Darby O'Toole, Anna Noto Billings, Vilma Marone, Eileen O'Brien, Martha Luna, Liz Linne, Donna Barnes, Alexandra Cullen, Charmaine Kaptur, Frank Gregory, Alex Billiu, Wayne Wallrich, Jerry Hansen, Jackie Walkowski, Kristen Kingzett, Denise DiBiancha, Valerie Dryden, Maria Simcina, Albina Checki, Brian Tague, Sharif Hannan, the Capuchin friars under quarantine and those suffering and hospitalized worldwide with COVID-19.

Our Dead

Sean Patrick O'Connor (66) was a father to his family -twice. Upon the death of his parents at age 19, he assumed legal guardianship of his four siblings so that the family could stay together. Then he married, raising his own family. In both cases, he was the gentle head of the clan, protecting and loving them all.

Sean attended DeLaSalle and East Catholic High Schools. He found his calling as a union representative for Chrysler where he refined his pro-people skills as an advocate for those who didn't have anyone else. This extended to Sean's being a fervent social justice warrior.

But Sean will be remembered best for his classic Irish braggadocio and wild sense of humor. He always brought a smile to others through storytelling and laughter. Even as he struggled with cancer and a lung condition, he continued to make jokes from his hospital bed. For him, the focus always needed to be on others.

Sean is survived by his siblings; Kevin, Peggy, Claire and Patty. He had three spouses; Marie, Cindy, now deceased, and Mary. He had three children, Briana, Casey and Alex. A great joy for him was the birth of his first grandchild, Elinor.

An inveterate sports fan who especially loved baseball, Sean's funeral was celebrated here on July 23rd - the day before the Tigers' first game of the season.

Faith Formation

Appearing alongside is another Vacation Bible School opportunity that anyone can participate in this summer is **Journey With Jesus**. The religious education directors in our SERF vicariate put together this program for our parish families. This summer adventure in faith will carry you through the summer's Sunday readings.

On this journey, you'll travel through God's Word with the help of songs, video lessons, activities and prayers. You'll discover some of the amazing things Jesus wants us all to know about his love for us. This digital passport can be printed, used online or both ways. The way to get the most out of the journey is to do the activities before the upcoming Sunday's readings; that way when you hear God's Word at mass, you'll understand even more about what Jesus wants you to know. But the best part is that you're welcome to travel on this adventure in whatever way works for your family. The link for this program can be found on the parish website and in the bulletin as well. I hope you take time this summer to enjoy your journey and some special time with Jesus!

Kelly Woolums

Lay Down Your Burdens

Health care workers, have you been able to process your stress from the COVID crisis? Do you need some time to get away from all your responsibilities? Are you eager to feel hope again? Our friend, Fr. Tom Nguyen and Chaplain Bridget Theodoroff, M.A.P.S. will present a morning of releasing your burdens and reflection.

The retreat will be held on Thursday, August 3rd starting at 8 a.m. The retreat will be held outside (as long as weather permits) at the Capuchin Retreat Center at 62460 Mt. Vernon in Washington, MI. Face coverings will be required, social distancing will be observed. The cost per person is \$25. To register call (248) 651-4826 or email info@capretreat.org.



Journey with Jesus!

Your digital passport
for a Family Summer
Adventure in Faith

Created by religious education directors of our SERF vicariate (including our very own Kelly Woolums), this special Vacation Bible School is your passport for a summer **Journey with Jesus!** This family adventure in faith will carry you through the Sunday readings through August 30th.

We'll travel through God's Word with the help of songs, video lessons, activities and prayers. You'll discover some of the amazing things Jesus wants us all to know about his love for us.

You're welcome to go on this adventure in whatever way works for your family. To get the most out of the program, do the activities during the week, before the upcoming Sunday. So when you hear God's Word at mass, you'll understand even more about what Jesus wants you to know.

You can download the program from stambroseparish.net or email stambrose@comcast.net to have the passport emailed to you. Take this summer to enjoy your journey and some special time with Jesus!



August 2nd

Matt 13:1-9 — Jesus Feeds 5,000

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowd heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick.

When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over - twelve baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men not counting women and children."

Pray: Thank you Jesus for always being there for me and providing for my needs. May I always remember to count my blessings and share what I have with others. Amen.