



*Sr. Laura Toth in the Community of the Franciscans of the Eucharist
made her Profession of Final Vows on April 23, 2022*

From Fr. Christopher Ankley

Dear Friends,

At the time of World War II Coventry England was an industrial town of some 320,000 residents. And because it was home to many factories Coventry was frequently bombed by the Germans. But on November 14, 1940 it was targeted for an especially devastating bombing. That night over the course of several hours more than 500 German bombers pummeled the city by dropping over 36,000 bombs, setting everything on fire. More than 60,000 buildings were destroyed in the attack and it was such a brutal attack that the Germans even invented a new word as a result. From that night on whenever an attack was especially devastating, it was said that the target was "coventried."

Now among the buildings destroyed was St. Michael's Cathedral. After the bombing raid only a few walls, of the once grand Cathedral were left standing. One of the walls left standing was behind the main altar, and it remains standing today. After the war a workman took two beams of charred wood that had fallen from the roof of the Cathedral and he formed them into a cross planting it into the ground where the main altar once stood. And on the wall behind the cross two words were etched into the stone. Those two words were, "Father forgive." Of all the words that could have been carved into the ruins of a church destroyed by an attack that aimed to not only devastate buildings but to kill people, the survivors chose these two words, "Father forgive!"

Today in the Church throughout the world we are celebrating what is known as the Feast of Divine Mercy. This Feast was given to us by Pope St. John Paul II. He gave it to us on April 30th in the year 2000. This Feast was instituted as the result of a series of visions that a Polish sister, named St. Faustina Kowalska, had of Jesus back in the 1930s. In these visions, Jesus made known to her in a very powerful way that His mercy is beyond anything we can conceive,

and that it's His great desire for all men and women to come to Him, regardless of what is in their pasts, and to trust in His Infinite Mercy.

Jesus also revealed to St. Faustina that it was His desire that on this 2nd Sunday of Easter in the Church across the world this Feast would be celebrated. And so it is today. And at the very center of this great Feast are the words that are carved into the ruined wall of St. Michael's Cathedral in Coventry: "Father forgive!"

Because, of course, 1900 years before these words were carved into that stone, they rang out from the lips of Jesus, lifted high on a cross on Good Friday. With a crown of thorns piercing His Sacred Head, His sinless and pure flesh shredded by the Roman scourging, and His hands and feet held fast by nails pounded into Him by men He had created out of love for friendship, Jesus cried out, "Father, forgive!"

St. Aelred, a British saint from the 12th century once commented, that not only does Jesus cry out for forgiveness, but He even goes above and beyond to make excuses for those wounding and crucifying Him. St. Aelred wrote this about the manner of our Lord's forgiveness from the Cross.

"Father, he says, forgive them. Is any gentleness, and love, lacking in this prayer? Yet he put into it something more. It was not enough to pray for them: he wanted also to make excuses for them. Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. They are great sinners, yes, but they have little judgment; therefore, Father, forgive them. They are nailing me to the cross, but they do not know who it is that they are nailing to the cross; if they had known, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory; therefore, Father, forgive them. They think it is a lawbreaker, an impostor claiming to be God, a seducer of the people. I have hidden

my face from them, and they do not recognize my glory; therefore, Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing."

That cry of forgiveness was uttered for the Roman soldiers who tortured Him to death. That cry was uttered for the Jewish leaders who mocked Him and handed Him over to Pilate to be crucified. That cry was uttered for the Apostles, all of whom except John, ran away and left Him alone. That cry was uttered for Judas, who for 30 pieces of silver betrayed His Creator and the Creator of the universe. That cry was uttered for me and for all of my sins. That cry was uttered for you and for all of your sins.

So, what is it we're supposed to do today, as we call to mind the extraordinary mercy we have received from God? Two simple things come to mind. First, let us make sure we take and make some time today to praise God for the fact that He is rich in mercy and forgives us. Let's not be ungrateful or take for granted all that Jesus has done for us. His mercy endures forever. Second, let's pray today for those in our parish family who have not yet personally experienced God's mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Let's pray for those who are discouraged or even despairing because of a poor choice they made, maybe many years ago now. Let's pray for those who are afraid to draw near to Jesus. Let's pray that God will draw them to Himself, that He will bring them back to the beautiful Sacrament of reconciliation, that they will know that the words, "Father, forgive" aren't just some words carved into a wall of a ruined church, but a cry from the heart of their Savior, uttered for them.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Christopher J. Ankley

Mass Schedule

Saturday, April 23 - Vigil: Divine Mercy Sunday

5:00 pm † Peggy Crane by Pat O'Reilly

Sunday, April 24 - Divine Mercy Sunday

8:00 am Dave & Dee Wygant by Joanie Marshall

10:00 am † Maureen Simms

12:00 pm † Deceased Members of the Tindall Family

2:00 pm The People of St. Joseph & St. Jerome **Burmese**

5:00 pm † Connie Becker by Jerry & Sharon Green **Spanish**

Monday, April 25

8:00 am Intentions of James Zalewski

Tuesday, April 26

8:00 am † Charles Dinkins by Bill & Nancy Hood

Wednesday, April 27

8:00 am † Walter & Evelyn Hudson by Jack Hacia

Thursday, April 28

6:00 am High School Breakfast with Jesus

8:00 am † Betty Wezensky by Dee Wygant

5:00 pm Holy Hours for Vocations

Friday, April 29

8:00 am † John A. & John E. Meneguzzo by Family

8:30 am Adoration

4:45 pm Benediction

Saturday, April 30

8:00 am † Art Ramirez by Puentes Family

10:30 am School First Communion

3:30 pm Holy Hour for Life

3:30 pm Confessions

Saturday, April 30 - Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter

5:00 pm † Maureen Simms by Jonny & Frank Skeltis

Sunday, May 1 - Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 am † Betty Wezensky, wife of Lawrence P. Wezensky, by Bauman Family

10:00 am † Helen Thompson by Joanie Marshall

12:00 pm † Jonathan Galbreath

Religious Education First Communion

2:00 pm The People of St. Joseph & St. Jerome **Burmese**

5:00 pm † Doug Marshall by Joanie Marshall **Spanish**

Readings For: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41, Rv 5:11-14, Jn 21:1-19



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

- Monday 7:00 pm in St. Joseph Church **Spanish**
- Wednesday 9:00 am - Saturday 9:00 am in St. Philip Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel at the Seton Center
- Thursday 5:00 to 6:00 pm Holy Hour for Vocations
- Friday 8:30 am - Benediction 4:45 pm St. Joseph Church
- Saturday 3:30 - 5:00 pm Holy Hour for Life in St. Joseph Church

St. Joseph: To sign up for a Holy hour or to be on the sub list for Friday Adoration, please call Marlene: 962-8641 and leave your name and phone number.

St. Philip: Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel at the St. Philip Seton Center, Wednesday 9:00 am to Saturday 9:00 am, call Betty Dillard: 962-8255 to sign up.

More Opportunities for Prayer

- **Liturgy of the Hours** See page 4 for QR code.
- **Lucernarium** Fridays May 6 and 20. All are invited for sung night prayer in the church at 8 pm.
- **Parish App** Find over 50 Catholic prayers, and set up prayer reminders so you don't forget!
- **Pray for those who are home-bound.**
- **Pray for those who are sick or in need.** See the box on page 5.
- **Pray for Priests & Deacons** See below for prayer intentions.
- **Rosary** After 8 am Mass weekdays, before 10 am Mass Sunday, First Friday May 6 in Parish Center Chapel.

Priests & Deacons to pray for starting Sunday

Fr. German Perez-Diaz, Fr. Harry Potter, Fr. Antony Rajesh, Fr. Peter Rocca, Fr. Ken Schmidt, Fr. Brian Stanley, Deacon Al Bell

Pastoral Care of the Sick If you know someone who would like Communion brought to them at home, please contact Linda Kellogg at 269-965-2074.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour & Confessions 2:00 pm on Sunday, April 24, at St. Jerome, 221 Collier

Minister Schedule May 1 & 2		Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM	Sunday, 12:00 PM
	Cantor	Annette Kukla	Cecilia Krajewski	Stanley Hoxie	James Zalewski
	Reader	Pat Squires	Angela Adamson	William Bogan Nicole Fetterhoff	Shirley Youmans
	Server	Brendan Bailey-Vega Arvin Buenevida Renzo Sanchez	Helena Lan John Lan	Alonso Campos, Gregory Sang Jovani Mejia-Hernandez Santiago Nu-ez-Rojas	Bosco Lian Luke Lyon Josh Lyon
	Usher	Ann Harnisch Kenneth Kropen Chuck Mead	Kimberly Gould Kelli Grenfell & Kelly Klein Matt Marske	Conrado & JoEllen Campos Brandi Gage (sub req.) Kayleigh Gage (sub req.)	Judith Buch, Peggy Myers Susie Labrecque Beverly Stevens

Protector of Children, Pray for Us



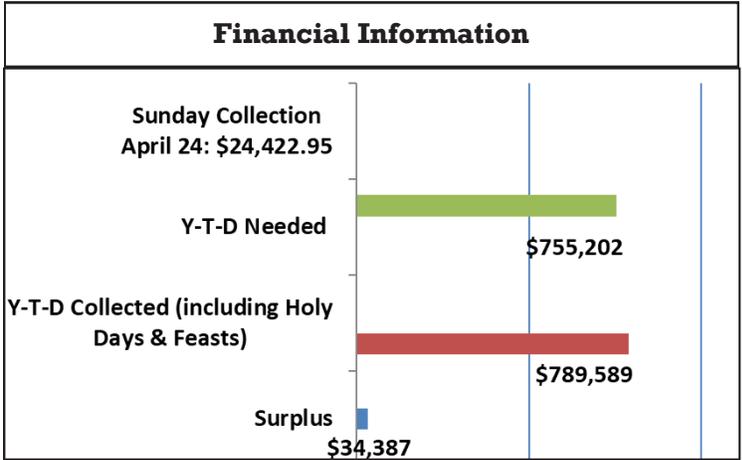
The Diocese of Kalamazoo has and will continue to cooperate with the Michigan Attorney General’s investigation and encourages anyone with information related to misconduct to call the reporting number set-up by the Michigan Attorney General’s office at: **844.324.3374**.

The Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service has been established to receive reports of sexual abuse and related misconduct by bishops and to relay those reports to proper Church authorities for investigation. To make a report, visit ReportBishopAbuse.org or phone (800) 276-1562. When a report includes a crime, such as the sexual abuse of a minor, it will also be reported to civil authorities. Otherwise, reports will be kept confidential.

Do Not Be Misled A deceptive Constitutional Amendment petition is circulating to allow for unlimited and unregulated abortions in the state. This would legalize abortion at any time of pregnancy, for any reason, and prevent health and safety requirements for abortion facilities. If you are approached by a person collecting signatures, ask to first review the text of the proposal. Decline to sign if the description reads “Constitutional Amendment to: establish new individual right to reproductive freedom...” For more information, go to www.supportmiwomenandchildren.org.

Save the Date! Detroit Province CCW - Triennial Convention: Beacons of Light, April 29-30 at the Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth, Michigan
All information, including schedule and registration form can be found on our website stjosephbc.org on the Council of Catholic Women page (under service).

The Knights of Columbus Insurance agencies of Michigan invite you to a free webinar featuring speaker and behavioral finance expert Joe Jordan. The webinar, “Purpose Driven Retirement Strategies,” takes place Wednesday, April 27, at 7 pm. Online registration can be done at www.KofCWesleyAgency.org. Click on the Live Events tab at top right to go to the registration site.



May 8	BCACS Endowment Fund
May 15	Catholic Relief Services
June 5	Mt. Olivet Cemetery
June 26	Peter’s Pence



Online Giving Make donations to St. Joseph Church via your mobile phone, smart device or computer. You may make a one time donation or set up a recurring weekly or monthly donation. Visit our website stjosephbc.org or myParishApp today to sign up.

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Liturgy of the Hours, eBreviary
The Liturgy of the Hours prayer for the current hour is offered using the QR code pictured, courtesy of ebreviary.com. Morning Prayer, Daytime Prayer, Evening Prayer & Night Prayer are available for every day.

Looking to spark the faith of your children or grandchildren? Check out Camp Sancta Maria located in Gaylord, MI.
We are a Catholic camp that provides fun experiences in a technology-free zone (they won’t even miss their cell phones!) while immersed in a faith-filled environment. We offer separate camping experiences for boys and girls that include daily Mass, horseback riding, swimming, archery, various sports, high and low ropes, campfires, crafts and more. For additional information, or to learn about our Covid-19 safety protocols check us out at www.CampSanctaMaria.org or call (248) 822-8199.

Honor Your Father and Mother The Tri-Parish Pro-Life Ministry invites you to join us in honoring parents for giving us life.
There will be Masses offered at St. Joseph on May 8 at 10, June 4 at 5, June 19 at 10, and July 2 at 5 to remember and pray for both our living and deceased parents. If you would like your loved ones remembered at these Masses, please fill out the form below and drop it in an envelope along with your donation in the collection basket by May 1 (marked Tri-Parish Pro-Life Ministry). The names of your loved ones and the contributors will be included in a special insert in the bulletin on May 7/8. Cards will be available at the parish office and in the church library for you to pick up and present to your living parents to let them know they have been remembered at these Masses. Contact Cathy Hirzel at 968-4639 for more information.

Contributor _____ Phone _____ Amount * \$ _____

In memory of/in honor of: _____

*checks made out to Tri-Parish Pro-Life Ministry

Prayers for the Sick/Those in Need

Jeannette Aleo, Chris Bradley, Chuck Brown, Eric Burtrum, Gerry Campbell, Sue Case, Jessica Clark, Carolann Craum, Linda Cumback, Melody Dulyea, Patricia Elliott, Bernadette Emmons, Margaret England, Mary Faber, Jeannette Gagnon, Bernadette Heldt, Theresa Henderson, Mary Hepler, Linda Holcomb, Donna Hoxie, Judy Jacobs, Carolyn Kewley, Pat Kukla, Joseph Larner, Robert Lindstrom, Jakob Livingston, Victor Lupina, Scott Marko, Curtis Mason, Walt Matyasic, Lori Ann McAdam, Katie Miller, Laurie Morris, Pat Murphy, Mike O'Hare, Karen Partin, Jeannette Peevers, Sandy Power, Sally Ringle, Cheryl Scales, Julie Schoder, Shirley Springer, Carole Skalka, Carol Strobe, Michael Sutton, Frank Swart, Devi Umapathi, Michael Wells, Elizabeth Wells, Allen Wiseman, Sara Wixson, Dee & David Wygant, Tiffany Yager, Christine Ybarra, Marion Zull

Prayers for the Deceased

Jayna Ankley, Geri Bateman, Christina Slayton, Zun Thio, Lawrence P. Wezensky

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

From the St. Joseph Parish Vocations Ministry

"Uplift Your Priest" time, April 25-May 6, starting the Monday following the Second Sunday of Easter, was started in 2020 by Vocations Ministry to show our priests appreciation for the risks they take in giving us the sacraments and spiritual support during the COVID pandemic. Hundreds of priests around the world have actually died of COVID from bringing the sacraments to hospitalized patients. Priests continue to take risks in spreading the gospel and the sacraments. So let's remember to uplift our heroic priests during these trying times by keeping them in our prayers and thanking them for their beautiful ministry.

The Catholic Vocation Fund

The Catholic Vocation Fund is an endowment fund managed by the Battle Creek Community Foundation. Income and dividends are used to support religious vocations. Contributions can be made by writing a check payable to The Catholic Vocation Fund and mailing it to Battle Creek Community Foundation, 32 West Michigan Avenue, Ste. 1, Battle Creek, MI 49017. **THE FIRST \$10,000.00 DONATED TO THE CATHOLIC VOCATION FUND, BY JULY 1, 2022, WILL BE MATCHED DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR.**

Cereal City Concert Band Presents Let's Dance!

April 24, 3 pm Pennfield Performing Arts Center
Tickets at the door: \$10 Adults,
\$5 Seniors, Veterans & Students

An Act of Mercy, Visiting the Sick

This time of year can be difficult for families that have aging parents. We have been contacted by a few of those families seeking assistance in one way or another with their aging parents. Showing an Act of Mercy can look like this:

- Spend time volunteering at a nursing home – Get creative and make use of your talents (e.g. sing, read, paint, call Bingo, etc.)!
- Take time on a Saturday to stop and visit with an elderly neighbor.
- Offer to assist caregivers of chronically sick family members on a one-time or periodic basis. Give caregivers time off from their caregiving responsibilities so they can rest, complete personal chores, or enjoy a relaxing break.

If these things are something that you can offer our families, please contact Barb at bkinaid@bcacs.org. She would be happy to share the information with you. God Bless You.

This weekend we celebrate the Sunday of Divine Mercy. God's greatest desire is to forgive us, pouring out His infinite mercy upon us so that we may be healed. If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. Contact Project Rachel, sponsored by the Diocese of Kalamazoo, at 616-340-1824 or mwalsh@ccwestmi.org

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WWW.BCPRAYERBREAKFAST.ORG

Sign language interpreters will be present.

The Community Prayer Breakfast is an affiliate fund of BCCF.



Purse Bingo - Saturday, May 21
St. Jerome Parish,
229 Collier Ave, Battle Creek

Doors open at 5:30 pm, Bingo begins at 6:00 pm.

Cost per ticket is \$15. For additional information/tickets call St. Jerome Office: (269) 968-2218
Tickets will also be sold at the door.



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SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022
6:30 pm–Midnight

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Questions? Contact Pete Werner, Event Coordinator 269.209.2569 | 269.968.6574 | premiervalet@att.net
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Parish Directory

Pastor Fr. Christopher Anklely
fchris@bcacs.org
Parochial Vicars Fr. Pius Cung
 *frpius@bcacs.org*
 Fr. Max Nightingale
 *frmax@bcacs.org*
Deacons..... David Krajewski, James Nelson

St. Joseph Catholic Church
 61 23rd Street North
 Battle Creek, MI 49015
 Phone 269-962-0165

Emergency Assistance
 St. Vincent de Paul Society 969-5606
Pastoral Care of the Sick
 If you are homebound, contact Linda Kellogg
 965-2074

Sacrament of Baptism
 Parishioners should call the Parish Office to
 make arrangements.

Sacrament of Penance
 Saturdays 3:30 pm, 1st Friday 12:00 pm,
 1st Saturday 8:30 am, and by appointment.

Sacrament of Eucharist
Sacrament of Confirmation
 Contact our Schools or our Director of Faith
 Formation.

Sacrament of Marriage
 Parishioners must contact one of the parish
 priests at least six months before setting a
 wedding date.

Sacrament of Holy Orders
 If you or someone you know has a vocation,
 contact a parish priest for assistance.

Sacrament of Anointing the Sick
 In case of an accident, surgery or other
 emergency, call 962-0165.

Parish Staff
**Director of Operations, RCIA and Adult
 Faith Formation** Barbara Kincaid
 • *bkincaid@bcacs.org* 962-0165
Director of Liturgy and Music. James Zalewski
 • *music@bcacs.org* 962-2133
**Director of Religious Education and
 Youth Ministry** Max Crean
 • *mcrean@bcacs.org* 788-3598
Communications, Music Ellen Tipton
 • *etipton@bcacs.org* 962-0165
Echo Apprentice Emma Schuler
 • *eschuler@bcacs.org* 962-0165

Parish Ministries
All Saints Superfest..... Ed Bauman
 • *edbauman@hotmail.com* 962-1328
Boy Scouts Troop 325 Eddie Thomas
 • *scoutmaster325@gmail.com* 420-0924
Catholic Men's Fellowship..... Ryan Hoch
 • *ryanmatthew1970@gmail.com*
Connecting with Mercy Mary Sine
 • *sine74@msn.com*
Council of Catholic Women..... Colleen Vitale
 • *cvitale@mail.com* 517-256-9162
Evangelization..... Tony Wocjik
 • *tonyatstjoseph@gmail.com*

Finance Council..... Ed Bauman
 • *edbauman@hotmail.com* 962-1328
Formed Access Code..... **PTRKXD**
Friday Adoration..... Marlene Hazdra
 962-8641
Hispanic Community Fr. Max Nightingale
 • *frmax@bcacs.org* 962-0165
Jail Ministry Rita Wahmhoff
 • *ritawahmhoff@yahoo.com* 968-3067
Knights of Columbus..... Dave Sprague
 • *tsadave@aol.com* 734-604-1323
Lakeview Food Pantry Janet Borders
 • *jdbdvm@comcast.net* 965-2632
Legion of Mary..... Linda Kellogg
 • *kellogg-dl@att.net* 965-2074
Newcomers..... Phil & Mary Sue Avery
 • *marysue_a@yahoo.com* 979-9105
Rosary Makers Guild Angie Disher
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 269-274-7409
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