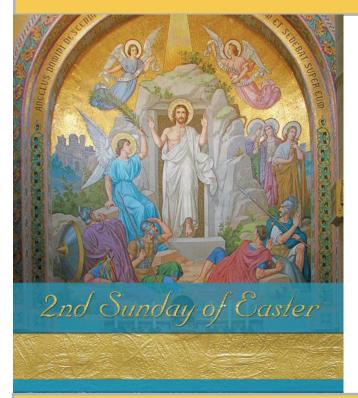
Saint Mary's Church

15164 Juniper Dr. Marne, MI 49435 / 616.677.3934 / www.saintmarysmarne.org

April 16, 2023 ~ 2nd Sunday of Easter / Divine Mercy Sunday



Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:30PM St Mary Sunday 8:30AM St Michael Sunday 10:30AM St Mary Sunday 4:30PM St Michael

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Tuesday 9AM St Mary

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Wednesday 9AM - St Michael

Adoration begins after Mass until 2:00 pm

Thursday 9:00 AM St Mary Friday 9:00 AM St Michael

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:30 PM—4:15PM-St Mary

Sunday 3:00PM -4:00PM St Michael

Tuesday 2:00 PM—3:00 PM St Mary Wednesday 2:00 PM—3:00 PM St Michael

(or anytime by appt. please call parish office)

St. Mary Parish Office

Monday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Tuesday - 8:00AM - 4:30PM

Wednesday - 8:00AM - 11:30AM

Thursday - 8:00AM to 4:30PM

St Mary's Mission Statement: We, the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, by our baptism have become the People of God, dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are a community built on faith and the sharing of individual talents, abilities and skills for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by prayer and the sacraments, we continue the mission of Jesus to reveal God's presence in all of human life.

Pastor:

Rev. Michael Hodges / frmhodges@grpriests.org 616.677.3934

For emergency please call: 616.745.1409

Deacon:

Deacon Tom Roberts / troberts@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.3934

Business Manager:

Todd Kline / businessmanager@saintmarysmarne.org

Parish Secretary:

Cathie VanGessel / secretary@saintmarysmarne.org

Director of Religious Education:

Rebecca Chicklon / dre@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.5065

Youth Minister—Life Teen grades 9-12

Rebecca Chicklon / dre@saintmarysmarne.org 616.677.5065

Director of R.C.I.A: Jill Brown-616.677.3934

Maintenance/Custodian: Jim & Marian Looks: 677.3934

Liturgical Minister:

Gary Karr / 616.677.3934 / gkarr@saintmarysmarne.org

Music Director:

Dr. Bernie Stanko 616.490.3836 / berniestanko@hotmail.com

Pastoral Council:

Sharon Davis, Becky Warners, Vito Dolci, Geary Farrell, Doug Frantz

Finance Council:

Lisa Bradley, Jose Gomez, Todd Kline, Scott Lampe, Mel Northup

Martha League: Parish Office: 16.677.3934 (assistance with meals during illness or injury)

Prayer Line:

Parish Office 616.677.3934 or Linda at 677.3269 for evening requests call Darlene 616.453.0157 or email: bfa1414@vahoo.com

Our Cluster Parish:

St Michael's - 17150 - 88th Avenue Coopersville, MI 49404 616.384.4026 www.saintmichaels.us

Mass Intentions

Saturday April 4:30PM	† Elizabeth Oziemkiewicz by M/M Carl May MA Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary	
Sunday April I 8:30AM 10:30AM 4:30PM	† Ron Raczkiewicz by Pam Raczkiewicz	
Monday April I	7 NO MASS	
Tuesday April I 9:00AM	8 COMMUNION SERVICEMA Adoration begins after Service until 2pm / NO CONFESSIONS Today	
Wednesday April 19 NO MASS, ADORATION OR CONFESSION MI		
Thursday April 9:00AM	20 † Bob Bacon by Ed SteffesMA	
Friday April 21 9:00AM	† Jamie Thomas by Mark & Val Patterson MI	
Saturday April 4:30PM	† Ruth Kasul by Knights of Columbus #11581 MA Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:30 PM—4:15 PM - St Mary	
Sunday April 2 8:30AM 10:30AM 4:30PM	† Carl Goosen by Dave & Pat Goosen	

MA=St. Mary MI=St. Michael's



For the Week of April 16, 2023

Sunday	Divine Mercy Sunday
	Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31
Monday	Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday	Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn: 3:7b-15
Wednesday	Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday	Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday	Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday	Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
Sunday	Third Sunday of Easter
	Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk

St. Michael's Liturgical Ministers				
	Apr 23 / 8:30 AM	Apr 23 / 4:30 PM		
Altar Servers	Clare Taylor Bryson Lindberg	NEED TWO		
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Tom Jennie Taylor Denise Parish Jennifer DeMull Mark Phillips NEED TWO	Deacon Tom NEED ONE		
Lector	Chris Albrecht	Carol Reens		
CLW	Marissa B. & Cindy L.	NO CLW		

Rosemary Weigel

Ray Maka Duane Snowdin

Calvin Lindberg
Curt DeVos
Anna Jonaitis

Sacristan

Ushers

Music

NEED ONE

NEED TWO

Anna Jonaitis

St. Michael's Liturgical Minister

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers				
	Apr 22 - 4:30PM	Apr 23 - 10:30AM		
Sacristan	Vito Dolci	Gary Karr		
Altar Servers	Kassidy Britt MaKaelyn Britt	Lauren LeMieux Ty Ricord		
Host	Deacon Tom Butch Schoenborn Rose Mary Schoenborn	Deacon Tom Jim fritz Margie Jirous		
Cup	Lauren Petrauskas Breton Petrauskas Michelle Lampe Steve Lampe	Christina Withers Janette Ney Becky Warners Need One		
Hospitality	Austin Lampe Matt Karr Need Two	Jim Looks Marian Looks Anthony Leale Nettie Leale		
Lector	Sara Patterson	Jessica Pabst		
Music	Bernie Stanko	Bernie Stanko		

Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 16

Divine Mercy Sunday is a very special Sunday when the Divine Floodgates from Heaven are wide-opened and Jesus offers us the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment to any soul, who goes to Confession and receives Him in Holy Communion, on that day.

Sunday - April 16 at St Michael 3:00PM-4:00PM, Confessions 4:15PM, Divine Mercy Chaplet 4:30PM, Mass

Prayer for Divine Sunday

Lord our God, in this great sacrament we come into the presence of Jesus Christ, your Son, born of the Virgin Mary and crucial for our salvation. May we who declare our faith in this fountain of love and mercy drink from it the water of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



24:13-35

Cluster News and Community News and Events

ATTENTION! ALL EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST:

As part of the Eucharistic Revival, Bishop Walkowiak has mandated retraining for all Extraordinary Ministers in the Diocese of Grand Rapids. This training will include updated Diocesan Norms. Our nearest training session will be offered at Saint Mary's/Spring Lake on Saturday, April 29 at 10:00am. If you are unable to attend on this date a full schedule of trainings from which you can choose are available on the webpage of the diocesan Office for Worship at https://grdiocese.org/ministries/worship-3/

Whether you serve during Mass or minister to the sick, we are all asked to register at that website for the session you plan to attend. If you are not yet a Eucharistic Minister but are being led to this ministry, this session will be an excellent introductory training. Contact Kevin at St Michaels or Gary at St Marys for more details or with help registering.

INTO THE MYSTERY

Sat. June 10 | 9:30 - 5:30 p.m. Aquinas College

Join Catholics from across the diocese for a day to celebrate our unity in faith and sacrament. The special day, called Into the Mystery will strengthen the foundation of your faith through the following opportunities:

- Celebrate Mass with Bishop Walkowiak
- Experience the Lord's mercy in the sacrament of confession
- Join the public Eucharistic procession
- Explore the Vatican display of Eucharistic Miracles
- Participate in Eucharistic Adoration in Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Chapel

This event marks the transition into the parish year of the National Eucharistic Revival. Join us for this daylong celebration and stay afterward for a festival with live music and food available from local food trucks!

Registration is \$10/person or \$40/household. To learn more, visit grdiocese.org/eucharistic-revival

Youth Ministry

Summer Activities for Youth

This summer youth may engage in a Mission Trip, Steubenville Trip, help with Vacation Bible School, engage in Parish service projects and other fun day trips! Some of these options are for High School aged Youth and some are for Middle School Youth and some are for both. After May 21, Middle School Youth are those entering 6-8 grade next fall and High School Youth are those entering 9th grade through 12 grade next fall, as well as, those newly graduated. For more information and/or dates please contact Rebecca.

High School Youth Ministry (9-12 Grade)

Weekly gatherings: are offered and help teens grow in faith. These gatherings include, food, games, topic and activities. Friends welcome!

Questions or comments

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon at 616-677-5065 or dre@saintmarysmarne.org

Fr. Mike's Musings

Last week we joyfully celebrated the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead—Easter. It is through the acknowledgement of this great mystery of a supernatural presence overcoming the boundaries of a natural occurrence that is at the root of our Christian belief and on which is structured the practices of the Roman Catholic faith, chiefly the Eucharistic dogma of the Church. We have already covered a great deal of what distinguishes our eucharistic theology from that of other, primarily Protestant, Christian understandings—reality vs. symbolism. But how does this belief system carry through beyond the confines of the Eucharistic celebration into the world of our modern era and serve to bring us closer to God the Father.

The reverence for the body, the eucharistic body of Jesus and His body the Church, indeed the bodies of all those with whom Jesus identifies—not just the unborn, but the poor, the marginal, the immigrant, the hungry child, the abused woman, those who suffer from racial or sexual discrimination, those disenfranchised or denied their rights by the state, the prisoner on death row—each and every one of these grounds the Catholic concern for honoring all corporeal life. Pope Francis has repeatedly made clear that abortion is not the only sin against the body of Christ. If we have learned anything from the Covid-19 pandemic, it is how closely we are related to each other—body, mind, and spirit. It is not just "my body", but rather the universal body that brings us together into one cohesive entity beyond the mere ties of biology.

But what is the Body of Christ that we receive? "Transubstantiation" is not the best place to start. It is a philosophical term, very different from the language of the New Testament that speaks of encountering the risen Jesus in the meal, in the bread and wine. Paul tells us that the cup of blessings in the Eucharist gives us a participation or communion in the Blood of Christ, and the bread broken gives us a participation or communion in the Body of Christ. Luke speaks of the first disciples recognizing the risen Jesus in the breaking of the bread. John's language is more literal: Jesus says, "unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you", but the reference is still to a meal. Does the risen Jesus literally have flesh and blood? How do we understand the nature of the risen body? It remains a mystery, one that fascinated many of the Church Fathers and contemporary theologians.

Paul struggled to understand Christ's glorified humanity in I Corinthians, but his language breaks down when he tries to describe it. He calls it a spiritual body, speaking of the risen Jesus— "the last Adam"—as a life-giving spirit. The later development of the doctrine of the Trinity can provide some insight here. The doctrine of the Trinity is an articulation of what is revealed of God: Father, Son/Word and Spirit. On that basis, reflection turns to what is often thought of as the "inner" or eternal life of God: three persons, diverse in mission, one in being. When we receive the Eucharist, the risen Christ, Son, and Word of the Father, no longer bound by space and time, comes to dwell in us, uniting us with Himself and with one another in His body, the Church. In receiving holy Communion, we truly encounter the risen Christ, who gives Himself to us as food and drink, his "Body and Blood."

The Body of Christ offered to Christians in consecrated bread and wine is not something but is someone. This someone, Jesus Christ, in the Eucharistic species unites with us in a cohesive unity through faith in His reality as God-made-Man, the union of the Divine and the Natural. This reality encompasses the whole of our universal being—body, mind, and spirit. Thus, the Eucharist is not only what brings us into communion with the supernatural, but also with one another as natural beings. But if the belief in this reality is not present, then the universal body is incomplete and a true and full relationship with God the Father will remain beyond the grasp of our feeble human understanding. The reality of "Eucharist" will not advance beyond the symbolic idea of "Communion". The great gift of the Easter celebration will be lost, and it too will be relegated to just another holiday on the calendar, hastily remembered and just as quickly forgotten.

Meal Train for Fr Mike

The office has received many requests to provide Fr Mike a homecooked meal, (Don't worry, he is not sick or have an accident) we have created an online MEAL TRAIN to coordinate this effort. If you would like to cook a meal for Fr Mike, please sign up here: https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/8vv97n (or call the parish office) This is great opportunity to show our appreciation to Fr Mike for all he does for our Parish Cluster.

St. Mary's Parish News

Religious Education



Children's Liturgy of the Word: Resumes today April 16.



Religious Education:

Classes will resume on April 12



Questions or comments:

Please contact Rebecca Chicklon atdre@saintmarysmarne.org or 616-677-5065

High School Youth MinistrySEE CLUSTER PAGE FOR MORE DETAILS

Knights of Columbus #11581 News

Upcoming Events:

October 8 - Community Breakfast and Blood Drive Register here:

https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/149333

For more info please contact Grand Knight Rob Rander: robrander82@gmail.com or visit: https://www.saintmarysmarne.org/knights-of-columbus





Proceeds to help fund our council's charitable giving



St Mary Parish Prayer Line

If you would like to request a prayer for our parish prayer line please contact the parish office or Linda at 677.3269. For evening requests call Darlene 453.0157 or email: bfa1414@yahoo.com Please continue to pray for all of our sick, hospitalized & homebound parishioners and all of the personal intentions that St Mary's Parish parishioners hold close to their hearts.

Welcome

We are pleased to **welcome** our newly baptized child of God into the St Mary's parish family

Maze Joseph Runyon

Baptized on April 16, 2023

Son of Matthew & Kristin (Lemieux) Runyon
Through this baptism you have received the light of

Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life. Shine as a light in the world, to the glory of God the Father.



Catholic Service Appeal 2023

Next week, we begin our annual Catholic Services Appeal. Your support of CSA benefits both parish and diocesan ministries, including formation of our future priests, the ongoing education of teachers and faith formation staff, proclaiming Christ's message through the media, evangelizing our youth, and aiding members of our community struggling with family issues, hunger, and homelessness.



Diocese of Grand Rapids
Catholic Services Appeal

Please prayerfully consider how sharing your gifts will benefit many – in our parish and beyond. Learn more at GRdiocese.org/CSA.

Please Pray for our Engaged Couple

Marissa McDonald & Christopher Barczak

October 7, 2023 (St Mary)

Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in their respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen



Explore Priesthood Discernment Group

The Explore Priesthood Group is a discernment opportunity sponsored by the diocesan Office of Priestly Vocations. Each month, young men (ages 16 – 35) are invited to gather and discern God's will for their lives. Time for prayer and reflection will be held monthly at St. Stephen Parish in East Grand Rapids from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

This year's final discernment opportunity is April 23.

Questions? Please email Fr. Stephen Durkee, director of priestly vocations, sdurkee@grdiocese.org. To RSVP, please email Pattie Reynolds at preynolds@grdiocese.org.



Giving Back to God				
	April 1/2	April 8/9		
Regular Contributions	\$4457.00	\$6858.96		
Capital Improvement	\$370.00	\$70.00		
Online Contributions	\$735.00	\$1725.00		
Children's Contributions	\$9.00	\$36.00		
Total	\$5571.00	\$8689.96		

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BULLETIN!

St. Michael's Parish News



Scrip News— Scrip totals will be updated next week.

St. Michael's Ladies' Tea Party —

for women of all ages. Saturday, April 22th 10:30-12:30pm in the Family Center.

Come for brunch, entertainment and some Spiritual tea. Seating is limited. Pre-registration is required no later than April 18. Contact the parish office to register.





Help Wanted — St.

Michael's is looking for someone interested in a part-time general/ preventive maintenance position. Duties include light general/ preventative maintenance, basic repair and the coordination of out-

side contractor support. The hours would be approximately 5–10 hours per week, as needed. The schedule could be 2-3 hours a day, 2-3 days a week. This would be a great job for a retired person. Please call the parish office if interested.

St. Michael's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Our program is offered during Sunday morning Mass. Children 3-9 years old are welcome to join us each week. The liturgical color for Easter is white, which signifies joy, exuberance, celebration, resurrection, victory, purity and innocence. We are in the greatest season of celebration in the liturgical year. It is so important that it lasts for seven weeks.

Elementary Faith Formation: This program is for students in grades 1-5. We meet on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30 pm. Our program ends on Wednesday, April 26 with an end of the year celebration for all students and their families. Parents and siblings are asked to join us at 6:15 pm for a children's Mass. There will be an ice cream social immediately following. Let us end the school year with faith, fun and fellowship! Please pray for our First Communicants as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion: Jordyn, Kensington, Hunter, Aiden, Piper and Viktor.

Middle School Faith Formation: Grades 6, 7 and 8 will meet on Sundays after the 8:30am Mass, from 9:45 to 11:15 in the Youth Room. The 8th Grade students will also receive Confirmation Preparation during that time. **Class resumes today, April 16th.** Please keep our Confirmation Candidates in your prayers as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation: Elijah, Maxwell, Alivia, Dylan, Aurora and Klara. They will be confirmed at The Cathedral of St. Andrews on April 30, 2023 at 3:00 PM.

St. Michael's Parish Family

Remembers in Their Prayers: Kevin Johnson, Anne Pols, Alexandria Gordon, George Langlois, Brooke Campbell, Linda Abel-Carroll, Jackie May, Marvin Hecksel, Dennis Goosen, Jean Mayse, Ken Heflin, Winnie Spencer, Alice Goll, the victims of abortion, & the men and women in the military.



St. Michael's Sanctuary Lamp

for +Joanne Kluting by Dave & Lori Hastings

St. Michael's Preschool

Have you considered St. Michael's Preschool for your child or grandchild? If not, you should! Come see what a great experience St. Michael's Preschool can provide. Come meet our Director/Teacher, Cindy Lindberg! Preschool meets on MWF from 8:45—I1:45 am (Mon. 8:45am-2:30pm for 4-year-olds). For more info, call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026.

CSA 2023 — Thank you for your gifts to 2023 Catholic Services Appeal! Your generous support funds essential diocesan ministries that strengthen us in Christ. Our parish goal for 2023 is \$59,280.00 and 100% participation, which means every parishioner should return their pledge card. To date, we have pledged \$25,940.00 (or 43.76%) toward our goal. Please continue to pray for the success of this important effort.

Spring Cleanup at St. Michael's — will

be Saturday, April 22, beginning at 8 a.m. Bring a rake, shovel, wheelbarrow and be ready to cleanup the grounds. Many hands make light work!



Reminder —

Please remember, there will be no Mass, Adoration or Confession this Wednesday, April 19. If you need to make a private appointment with Fr. Mike, please call the Parish Office at 616-384-4026.

Giving Back to God				
April 2 & April 9, 2023				
Adult Envelopes	\$6,282.00			
Loose Cash	\$571.00			
Children's Envelopes	\$45.75			
Holy Day	\$2,365.00			
Total	\$9,263.75			
Building Fund	\$215.00			
Financial Assistance	\$10.00			
Catholic Relief Services	\$20.00			
Easter Flower Memorial	\$1153.00			
Thank you for your continued support!				



Keeping Life Alive

Believing in the Resurrection gives a person cause for rejoicing. Since Jesus came out of the tomb with new life, all tombs have become wombs for those who enter them as Jesus did. We who were baptized into Christ's death have entered into the tomb to be reborn into his life. Baptism is the tombwomb of our birth to hope, to an imperishable inheritance and to a salvation which will be revealed in all its inexpressible joy only at the end of time.

What sustains our hope in the promise of our Baptism? What helps us believe in the reality of Jesus' Resurrection and of our own? What keeps alive the love we have for him whom we have never seen?

The answer is multiple: the gift and power of grace, prayer, expressing our faith, choosing hope and love. But what sustains us in our daily activities? What keeps us faithful in fulfilling our duties? The oldest answer for Christians is community: the expression of

faith in discipleship, liturgy and sacraments and in a lifestyle flowing from these. The earliest Christians "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers...[They] had all things in common..."

A believing Church is a Church eager to learn.

A parish that studies the teachings of Jesus grows in faith. All those who use the continuing education programs offered in parishes sustain not only their own faith but also the faith of all the others who attend. Although we certainly have to spend time alone with Jesus to let his message penetrate our hearts, we listen to him first in community. Jesus sent his disciples out not one by one but two by two.

Only witnesses are credible—and teachers to the extent they are witnesses. Discipleship only flourishes

APRIL 16, 2023

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:42-47; I Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

in a Church that lives out what it learns. A Church that bears witness in action is a Church that experiences the reality of the risen life. To bear witness to the Resurrection we must live the risen life, "be intent on things above, not on things of earth" (Colossians 3:2) and show it in our life-style. We were baptized not only to know the truth but to make the truth credible to others by professing our faith in visible acts of pro-

phetic witness.

A celebrating Church is a Church that experiences the joy of the risen life. Liturgical prayer, prayer offered together, the public expression of faith and commitment—this is one way to "have all things in common." We don't hoard the riches of our faith to

ourselves, to gloat over them in private; we make a party out of the gifts God has given us. The truth of the eucharistic banquet is not manifest unless it is a potluck supper. The Mass is not said by a priest for a congregation; the Mass is celebrated by a community of priests, with one who is ordained to preside. When we give ourselves "to the breaking of the bread and the prayers," we give life to one another. But we have to "devote" ourselves, not just be passively present. We are a community of priests, not of onlookers.

We need to sustain our faith by human contact with the living Jesus

Finally, like Thomas, we need to sustain our faith by human contact with the living Jesus: to see him, hear his words and feel his touch. We do this especially through the sacraments, special ways in which Jesus still ministers to us in human words and gestures. When we sin, for example, we do not silently ask forgiveness in our hearts from an invisible God and then trust that it is granted—any more than we do that with each other. A line in an old movie claimed that love means you never have to say you're sorry, but no one who loves could stand not to say it. So, when we sin, we say it in human words to Jesus present in a human priest; we hear human words of forgiveness spoken in response. All the sacraments are human encounters with the risen Jesus. When we act as sacraments, visible signs of faith, hope and love, to one another, we sustain Jesus' life in the world and give his peace.

REFLECTING ON THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

Second Week of Easter

Pray daily: Heavenly Father and God of mercy, increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you. Amen.

Monday: John 3:1-8. Nicodemus said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs...apart from the presence of God." What in your life shows others that God is with you? What shows your belief that God is with the Church?

Tuesday: John 3:7-15. Jesus said, "And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life." Nothing bears greater witness to the truth of Jesus Christ than responding to evil with love. When and how can you do this?

Wednesday: John 3:16-21. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal

life." Spend some time absorbing the fact that Jesus loves you this much.

Thursday: John 3:31-36. "He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure." Do you believe Jesus shares his Spirit with you abundantly? How can you open yourself to receive more light and love from the Spirit?

Friday: John 6:1-15. "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Do you believe you have something to offer the community, some contribution which will nourish others' faith? How do you try to share your gifts with others?

Saturday: John 6:16-21. Jesus said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." What are your greatest fears? Your daily ones? How can you turn them over to Jesus in trust?

LIVING THIS WEEK'S GOSPELS

As Christian: Put some visible symbol in your home or worksite as a reminder that you are living the risen, divine life of Christ; for example, holy water, a beeping watch, a white cloth.

As Disciple: Ask yourself if there is some parish Scripture study or faith-sharing group in which you could participate.

As Prophet: Change one thing in your life or life-style precisely as a way of sharing your faith through witness, that is, through some way of acting which makes no sense apart from your faith in Jesus Christ.

As Priest: Reexamine how you participate in the liturgy. Do you consciously take an active part as a priest? Does your body-language, posture, words and actions help others experience joy in these celebrations?

As King: Try to be a sacrament of hope to others through your words and actions. Refuse to look glum. Speak of what gives hope, not of what is depressing. Try to promote peace around you.

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