



Saint Mary

Reverend Fr. Bosco Padamattummal, Administrator
Deacon Dennis Walters

210 West Main Street, Manchester, MI 48158

Phone: (734) 428-8811

Email: stmarymanchester@gmail.com

Website: stmarymanchester.org

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am



Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time — July 8, 2018

"Lord, help my Unbelief!" Fr. Bosco Padamattummal

The New Testament has a lot to say about believing. It has a lot to say about faith. But it has an awful lot to say equally about unbelief. In the familiar words of John 3:16, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life, for God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world but that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged, but he who does not believe is judged already because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." Unbelief activates divine wrath. Unbelief activates divine judgment.

In the eighth chapter of John's Gospel, John has a lot to say about believing and not believing, that's why we find so many references there to this. He said to them in John 8:21, "I go away and you will seek Me and will die in your sin. Where I am going, namely into heaven, you cannot come." So the Jews were saying, "Surely He will not kill Himself, will He? Since He says where I'm going you cannot come?" And He was saying to them, "You are from below, I am from above, you're of this world, I am not of this world, therefore I said to you, 'You will die in your sins for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.'" The warning that our Lord gave many, many times; "Believe in Me or perish...believe in Me or perish."

Now, just some general thoughts about this text. It is a concluding text of the first section of Mark's Gospel. The section began with an introduction of the purpose of the book, to talk about the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. And then we immediately saw that His coming was a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. And then as the Gospel began to unfold, we saw Jesus preaching the Gospel

in the first chapter, and then calling out His disciples. In the second chapter and third chapter, he is teaching and healing the people. And then it goes on to the completion of the Twelve who are going to be identified as the future preachers of the Gospel; chapters 4 and 5 - more preaching, more teaching, more miracles of healing, deliverance from demons and danger and death. In fact, just prior in chapter 5 verses 21-43 we saw the great healing power of Jesus as He raised the dead daughter of Jairus and on the way to Jairus' house, He healed a woman who had a bleeding problem for twelve years.

Now we need to note that at the end of verse 42 in chapter 5, the general response of the crowds around Galilee is summed up, "Immediately they were completely astounded." That has to do with the resurrection of Jairus' daughter from the dead. But it is also a kind of general summation statement of how Jesus was received in Galilee. Primarily the response was curiosity and astonishment. That does not equal faith, that does not equal repentance, therefore it doesn't equal salvation. But there was interest and curiosity. There were lots of thrill seekers and people who wanted to be healed and delivered from demons and who wanted to see the exhibitions of the great power of Jesus. And they were literally astounded, as well, at His teaching. But open hostility was already in full motion with the leaders of Israel, the Pharisees, the scribes and the Herodians. We learn earlier they were already plotting together to kill Jesus, very early in His Galilean ministry. But for the most part, the crowds were accepting because they wanted the benefits of His power. They were astonished at what He did. But now, when He goes back to His hometown of Nazareth, no large crowd appears there. And He, this time, is astounded. Usually

it was the crowd that was astounded, here it is the Lord that is astounded.

A little bit of background is probably pretty necessary. He had no acceptance at all in His hometown. In Mark 3:21, they thought He had lost His mind. They thought He was a

Volunteers Needed

Please consider signing up to volunteer your time, talents or treasure to the Ice Cream Social. There are envelopes in the pews with inserts to help you decide which ways you are best suited to give. Fill out both the insert and the envelope with the same information. Return the envelope in the collection basket or to the Parish Office. Keep the insert for yourself as a reminder.



Fr. Bosco's article continued from page 1

| PARISH CALENDAR | |
|---|---|
| Mass Intentions, [Requested by], and Parish Activities | |
| SAT., JULY 7 | ORDINARY WEEKDAY/BVM |
| Am 9:11-15/Mt 9:14-17 (382) | 8:30 am First Saturday Mass: <i>† Bernita Aiuto</i> [Tom and Ruth Burch] 3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: <i>† William Boyd, a Birthday Remembrance</i> [The Boyd Family] |
| SUN., JULY 8 | FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME |
| Ez 2:2-5/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a (101) Pss II | 8:00-8:15 am Confession 8:30 am Mass: <i>† Tom Burnett</i> [Burnett Family] 10:00-10:15 am Confession 10:30 am Mass: <i>For the People</i> |
| MON., JULY 9 | ORDINARY WEEKDAY/St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions |
| Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22/Mt 9:18-26 (383) | 11:00 am Funeral Mass: <i>† Betty Walkowe</i> 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting—PC |
| TUES., JULY 10 | ORDINARY WEEKDAY |
| Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Mt 9:32-38 (384) | 8:30 am Mass: <i>INT: Elise Kueffner</i> [St. Mary's Parishoners] |
| WED., JULY 11 | ST. BENEDICT |
| Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Mt 10:1-7 (385) | 8:30 am Mass: <i>† Noreen Burnett</i> [Burnett Family] |
| THU., JULY 12 | ORDINARY WEEKDAY |
| Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Mt 10:7-15 (386) | 8:30 am Mass: <i>† Bernita Aiuto</i> [Michelle and Brad Hochrein] 7:00 pm Ice Cream Social Meeting—FFH |
| FRI., JULY 13 | ORDINARY WEEKDAY/St. Henry |
| Hos 14:2-10/Mt 10:16-23 (387) | 8:30 am Mass: <i>† Frank Tomko</i> [June Faubion] |
| SAT., JULY 14 | ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA |
| Is 6:1-8/Mt 10:24-33 (388) | 3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: <i>† Chuck Cornell</i> [Shirley Krzyzaniak] |
| SUN., JULY 15 | FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME |
| Am 7:12-15/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13 (104) Pss III | 8:00-8:15 am Confession 8:30 am Mass: <i>For the People</i> 10:00-10:15 am Confession 10:30 am Mass: <i>INT: Elise Kueffner</i> [St. Mary's Parishoners] 5:30-7:30 pm Vacation Bible School—MUMC |

NEED HELP?

ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION: Right-to-Life MI Hotline 1-800-57WOMAN or visit www.optionline.org

"AA" group meets Fridays & Sundays at 7:00 pm - Emanuel Church kitchen.

"PROJECT RACHEL" (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291 or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

"COURAGE" is a Catholic (endorsed by Diocese) spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction.

"ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for the families and friends of "Courage" clients. Call 517-342-2596



Please Pray for:

Bonnie Barnard
Duane Beuerle
Ruth Dahl
Rae Emmons
Rosemary Hamilton

Betsy Kripas
Clint Silveus
Strengthening of Marriage
Eddie Walz
Cindy Willis
Mitchell Zink

maniac. For all that they knew, He grew up there for 30 years as a quiet carpenter and now, all of a sudden, He's on to the public scene. He hadn't done miracles as such in Nazareth, but the word about the miracles was everywhere. They were trying to process all of this with a great measure of skepticism and thought that He had lost His mind and actually they found Him in verse 31, "His mother and brothers arrived and standing outside sent word to Him and called Him," the objective was to get Him out of the public situation He was in and save both the public from His madness and Himself as well.

Luke tells us about His earlier visit to His home town synagogue in chapter 4. He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read. This was traditional. This is what the visiting rabbis were invited to do when they came to town. And He had such a reputation already building up, they wanted to hear about Him. He opens up the book of the prophet Isaiah He reads from it two messianic prophecies about the Spirit of the Lord being upon the Messiah: the Messiah arriving to preach the Gospel and proclaim release to the captive, sight to the blind and freedom to the oppressed and proclaim the favorable year of the Lord. He then closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. Everybody was looking at Him. They were fixed on Him. And He said in verse 21, "Today the Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

That's only what He began to say. The rest was Him saying that He was the Messiah Verse 22, "They were speaking well of Him," how could they not? "And wondering at the gracious words which were falling from His lips but they were puzzled and said, 'Is this not Joseph's son?' And Jesus says, 'No doubt, you just want more miracles.' So you're going to say to yourself, 'Whatever was done at Capernaum, do it here.' They're so hard-hearted that He can only wonder at such unbelief in the face of such revelation. Dear Brothers and sisters, Unbelief obscures the obvious. It elevates the irrelevant. And it resents the messenger. And that resentment comes from hatred of the message. It attacks the messenger. Let us pray for the missionaries who are attacked by the unbelievers, let us pray the Lord that anyone from our family or friends who is still in unbelief will think deeply about the power that exerts over their life in time and eternity. May they turn to Christ so that the gates of heaven can be opened and the flood of blessing poured out on that life now and forever, Amen. ☩

AREA NEWS

Bricks 4Kidz will be offered at Emmanuel Church of Christ **July 30th-August 3rd** for kindergarten through 6th graders with special models for middle-schoolers. Contact Eugene Blair by phone 734-748-6039 or email eblair@bricks4kidz.com for info.

The Annual Flea Market hosted by St. Joseph Parish in Dexter on Thursday, **July 12th** and Friday, **July 13th** 9am-6pm and Saturday, **July 14th** 9am-4pm. The Flea Market will be located at our village campus, 3430 Dover Street. For more information visit www.stjos.com or call the Parish Office 734-426-8483.

P A R I S H N E W S

Parish Family Birthdays

- July 7.....Mary Ann Barker
- July 7.....Connie Achtenberg
- July 8.....Ruth Burch
- July 11.....Patrick McGoff
- July 12.....Kimberly Gouwens
- July 13.....John Nashif
- July 14.....Eric Zink
- July 15.....Helena Zink

DSA is not Over Yet!

Please make a gift or pledge soon! Use the envelopes available in church or submit your gift online at www.dioceseoflansing.org/dsa.

Shirt Sale

There will be one final opportunity before the Ice Cream Social to purchase Parish Shirts during this weekend's Masses. The next time shirts will be available for purchase is during the Ice Cream Social.

VBS Needs You!

Vacation Bible School is planned for **July 15-19th** at Manchester United Methodist Church. Many volunteers will be needed to make the event a success. This year dinner will be served to the students and volunteers beginning at 5:30 pm. Sign-up sheets are in the entry of the church for students and volunteers. Please contact Karin Villarreal for more information or to volunteer at stmarymanchester.dre@gmail.com

Alpha on the Horizon

St. Mary's next Alpha Course, which begins on **Thursday, Sept. 13th**, will take place in the Parish Center. Because we'd like younger guests to come, the parish would like to offer childcare for children below the first grade level (older children can attend with parents). Childcare will be in the Parish Center (old Post Office side), and meals will be provided for everyone. If you would like to assist with childcare, please contact Dcn. Dennis at waltersdennis1940@gmail.com.

Made for Happiness

Don't forget to register for the **September 22nd** "Made for Happiness" Diocesan Assembly MADEFORHAPPINESS.ORG The Assembly will close with Mass offered by Bishop Boyea. Admission is FREE, but space is limited. (Note: there will be no Saturday Masses that day, at the Bishop's request.)

Humane Vitae is Fifty!

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. Deacon Dennis will be preaching on this topic throughout the month of July.

Ice Cream Social: In just a little more than three weeks...

...our parish will welcome folks from far and wide coming to our annual St. Mary Ice Cream Social on Thurs, July 26 from 5-8 pm. Much help is needed with food, events, donations, etc. Please put your name on the sign-up sheets in the vestibule or email Susan Fielder (sfielder@umich.edu) to help with some aspect of this great parish tradition! Help is needed before, during, and after the Social. So there is a way for everyone to take part!

Raffle tickets are still available for the ICS drawing. Contact Tom Burch to get yours or a few to sell.

ICS envelopes are in the pews. There are inserts in the envelopes that match the sections on the envelope itself. The insert is a reminder for you to keep. For example, if you choose to help for BBQ, the insert shows that BBQ is on the 23rd, at 9:30 am. You will in turn mark BBQ on the envelope and return it to the parish office during office hours or drop it in the collection basket. You will keep the insert as a reminder of what you committed to.

As always, the food will be fabulous, the Ice Cream and desserts will be yummy, our Country Store will be filled with all sorts of great homemade goods to buy, and there will be gift baskets to win. We have plenty of tents for protection from the heat of the sun and from the rain should it try to dampen our spirits. Come one and all!!!

Thanks to all who have already signed up to help in various ways! And remember to encourage friends and family members to help.

Sanctuary Lamps

are burning this week for:

- 1) INT: Bonnie Barnard, for a successful surgery and full and speedy recovery
(Jim and Marja Warner)
- 2) For the repose of the soul of
† Timothy Owen Kock
Nephew of Inge & Pete
Roncoli
(Jim and Marja Warner)

Altar Flowers

for the week of
SUNDAY, JULY 8TH
In Celebration of our Wedding
Anniversary
(Dick and Mary Ann Fielder)



St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, June 24, 2018

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Envelopes | \$5,708.00 |
| Loose Cash & Checks | \$268.00 |
| Weekly toward budget..... | \$5,976.00 |
| Weekly goal..... | \$5,300.00 |
| Amt. Above goal..... | \$676.00 |

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Building and Maintenance... | \$50.00 |
| Peter's Pence | \$85.00 |
| Poor Box..... | \$14.19 |
| Votive Candles..... | \$51.00 |

For more news and events in the area, please visit our website:
stmarymanchester.org