



Saint Mary

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WEEKEND MASSES:

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



Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time — August 19, 2018 "Do You Desire the Bread of Eternal Life?" Fr. Praveen Francis Kurisingal

In Jn 6:51-58 we see that Jesus' listeners quarreled amongst themselves. Because Jesus says, "I am the bread that came down from heaven: whoever eats this bread will live forever." Who can eat the flesh of a man? So, they object, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat?"

Before examining the Lord's reply, let's place today's Gospel passage in its proper context of John 6. There's a unified theme closely linking the three parts of this chapter. First, the chapter begins with Jesus feeding the crowd of 5000 by multiplying five small loaves of bread. But Jesus' simple blessing dispenses with both time and effort. Later that night, while the disciples are struggling to steer their boat on the storm-swept sea, Jesus comes walking towards them on the surface of the water. In this case Jesus was declaring, "I can suspend the laws of nature for My BODY." Later that afternoon, some of the crowd that had been fed, came to Jesus on the other side of the lake in order to make Him their 'bread king.' Jesus used the occasion to promise that someday He would give a special BREAD that would be His own BODY.

In short, when He fed those hungry thousands with only five small loaves, He proved, "I can do what I want with bread." And by walking on the water, He confirmed, "I can do what I want with My body."

When did Jesus fulfill the awesome promise? At the Last Supper, when He blessed the bread and wine saying, "This is the cup of my blood ..." For almost 2000 years the Church has firmly taught that whenever the priest at Mass does what Jesus did at the Last Supper, the bread and wine are changed in substance to the Lord's true flesh and blood, even though they are physically remain the bread and wine. The accidentals of the bread and wine stay the same; the substance changes into the Lord's own body and blood, soul and divinity. This marvelous change the Church calls transubstantiation.

We cannot understand this by our intellect but by faith. Faith creates an intimate relationship with us. So, Jesus wishes to become the bread of life eternal and that desire is realized in His sacrificial death. All these are done and is doing the same in the Sacrament of the Eucharist for making a good relationship with us, to love us and show the love of God. That's why when some disciples refused to accept this teaching, Jesus allowed them to walk off and leave Him. He did not call them back by rationalizing, "Wait, you're misunderstanding Me! I'm only referring to a symbolic eating of My flesh." No, He turned to the twelve and asked, "Do you want to leave Me too?" Jesus really wished to teach them that the presence He spoke of was not symbolic, but real. So serious examination of John 6 leaves no room for doubt that Jesus is really, truly and substantially present in the Eucharist to reveal His love. If He could do miracles, if He could cure the sick, if He could raise the dead, He can be present

really, truly and substantially in the Eucharist. All these are to reveal His love.

So love demands union. The greater the love, the more intimate is the union desired. The lover longs to be joined to the beloved—in thought, in letters, in phone conversations, in physical presence. So

Jesus' love demands our response, that is, our eagerness to eat this bread, our eagerness to get in touch with Jesus and His love. That intimate relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ is the fullness of life. Jesus, "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood remains in Me and I in him." It is the will of God that we have life in its fullness. This fullness of life is in Christ, the living bread of life.

So today St. Paul, through his teaching warns us, "do not continue in ignorance but try to understand what the will of the Lord is." So, let us humble ourselves rather than remain stubborn like the Jews and come to the banquet of the body and blood of Christ. Let us stop doubting the real presence of Christ in the



The Ice Cream Social was so wonderful, here are more photos.

Fr. Praveen's article continued from page 1

PARISH CALENDAR

Mass Intentions, [Requested by], and Parish Activities

SAT., AUG 18	ORDINARY WEEKDAY/BVM
Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32/Mt 19:13-15 (418)	3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: † Rodney Alan Hnizdor, 8th Anniversary <i>[Donna Hnizdor, Sister]</i>
SUN., AUG 19	TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
Prv 9:1-6/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58 (119) Pss IV	8:00-8:15 am Confession 8:30 am Mass: † Gerald Damian <i>[Claudia Damian]</i> 10:00-10:15 am Confession 10:30 am Mass: For the People
MON., AUG 20	ST. BERNARD
Ez 24:15-24/Mt 19:16-22 (419)	No Mass Today in Manchester
TUES., AUG 21	ST. PIUS X
Ez 28:1-10/Mt 19:23-30 (420)	8:30 am Mass: † Bernita Aiuto <i>[John and Beth Ball]</i>
WED., AUG 22	QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Ez 34:1-11/Mt 20:1-16 (421)	8:30 am Mass: INT: Elise Kueffner <i>[St. Mary Parishioners]</i>
THU., AUG 23	ORDINARY WEEKDAY/St. Rose of Lima
Ez 36:23-28/Mt 22:1-14 (422)	8:30 am Mass: † Bernita Aiuto <i>[James and Eleanor Hodges]</i>
FRI., AUG 24	ST. BARTHOLOMEW
Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51 (629) Pss Prop	8:30 am Mass: † Richard Krzyzaniak <i>[The Krzyzaniak Family]</i>
SAT., AUG 25	ORDINARY WEEKDAY/BVM/Sts. Louis and Joseph Calasanz
Ez 43:1-7ab/Mt 23:1-12 (424)	3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: † William Boyd <i>[The Boyd Family]</i>
SUN., AUG 26	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69 (122) Pss I	8:00-8:15 am Confession 8:30 am Mass: † Christine Marie Hessling <i>[The Hessling Family]</i> 10:00-10:15 am Confession 10:30 am Mass: For the People

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church ...

Please believe in the possibility for hope and help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Every diocese in the United States now has a Victim Assistance Coordinator who is available to obtain support for your needs, to help make a formal complaint of abuse to the diocese, and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative if you desire. The Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Lansing is:

Adrienne Rowland, LMSW, ACSW
1-888-308-6252
arowlandvac@dioceseoflansing.org



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

Holy Eucharist. Instead, let us make efforts to be reconciled to Christ the living bread of life.

I know that some of us have many reasons that seem genuine for staying away from the Holy Eucharist. But they are doubting without tasting this love by receiving the Bread of Life. All we need to do is to make efforts by clearing all the obstacles that block our spiritual eyes, minds and ways. That is, those obstacles preventing us from receiving the body and blood of Christ. Once again today, the psalmist tells us, "Taste and see that the Lord is good." ❧

AREA NEWS

Last Outdoor Movie Night at Manchester United Methodist Church! Movie will begin at 8:00pm **August 24th**. For questions contact the church office at 734-428-8495.

"Mary: Model of Faith for Contemporary Times," offers the opportunity to explore who Mary is in our contemporary world. The retreat begins at 6:30 pm **Friday, August 24th**, and ends at 3:00 pm **Saturday, August 25th**. For more info or to register, visit www.webercenter.org and click on "programs." Registrations may also be made by contacting Weber Center at 517-266-4000 or webercenter@adriandominicans.org.

Campus Visit at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids for all rising high school juniors and seniors will be **August 31st**. The Admissions Office invites you to discover what life at AQ is all about. Go to aquinas.edu/aqday for more details or to register for the event.

CHICKEN RUN! Join Old St. Patrick Catholic Church **Saturday, September 15th** at 7:00 am for the "Chicken Run" which includes a Half Marathon, 12K Run, 5KRun/Walk and 1Mile Fun Run. Broasted Organic Chicken Lunches for \$10 will start at 11 am and includes potato salad, coleslaw and roll. Children under 6 can participate for free with an adult entry. For more info and on-line registration visit: <http://ospchicken.run> or email: ospchickenrun@yahoo.com

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Catholic marriage enrichment has upcoming weekends: **Sept. 28th-30th** at Holiday Inn-Troy, **Oct. 5th-7th** Augustine Center-Petoskey or **Nov. 2nd-4th** Saginaw Center for Ministry-Saginaw. Space is limited, so apply today at www.wwme.org or contact Andrew & Alaina Wollner at 734-531-9191 for more info.

Music Minister sought for St. Mary Chelsea This is a 15-19 hour/week position. Please visit dioceseoflansing.org to apply. Contact Beth Ewald at bewald@stmarychelsea.org for info.

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



Please Pray for:

- Bonnie Barnard
- Duane Beuerle
- Ruth Dahl
- Rae Emmons
- Rosemary Hamilton
- Tom Kladzyk
- Denise Kratz

- Betsy Kripas
- Clint Silveus
- Corey Wagner
- Eddie Walz
- Cindy Willis
- Denise Yekulis
- Mitchell Zink

P A R I S H N E W S

Parish Family Birthdays

Aug 20.....Kristy Krzyzaniak
 Aug 23.....Mary Cousino
 Aug 23.....Howard Remski
 Aug 24.....Connor Brochue
 Aug 24.....Bruce Detloff
 Aug 25.....Lisa Dobis
 Aug 25.....Melanie Woods
 Aug 26.....Maureen Doyle
 Aug 26.....Mary Honeycutt

School Supplies Needed

The Knights of Columbus are conducting a drive for school supplies. All items collected will be given to local children in need. Please consider purchasing a few extra items while you shop. Gray bins will be at the entryway of the church until **September 9th**. Items needed include: dry erase markers, washable markers, Clorox wipes, baby wipes, glue sticks, Kleenex, crayons, 2 pocket folders, lined paper, backpacks, lunch boxes and pencils. Gift cards for the families to purchase clothes are also a great idea.

Religious Education News

Religious Education packets have been mailed to families. If you did not receive your packet please email Karin Villarreal at stmarymanchester.dre@gmail.com. You can also pick up a registration packet in the vestibule or the Parish Office. Classes start **September 10th**. Religious Education for grades 1st-8th meet at the Parish Center on Monday's from 3:15-4:45 pm. First Reconciliation/First Communion classes meet on the third Sunday of the month, September through April, from 12:00-1:30pm. Confirmation classes meet about three times through the school year and the class work is completed online. Please email with any questions, suggestions, or fun ideas.

Diocesan Assembly Prayer Project

Bishop Boyea is looking for people to pray in a special way for the upcoming Made for Happiness assembly. He has blessed 4 images of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas. Each family that volunteers should pray with the image for at least 30 minutes in their home before passing it on. Go to madeforhappiness.org and click "Support" to sign up.

Mass for Seniors

The Annual Senior Parishioners' Recognition event hosted by the Washtenaw Catholic Council on Aging will be held at St. Thomas the Apostle in Ann Arbor on **Friday, September 21st**. Bishop Boyea will celebrate Mass at 11:00 am and a luncheon will follow. Please RSVP to Dianne Schwab at 734-396-7063 no later than **August 31st**. Anyone wishing to carpool should meet at St. Mary Manchester at 10:00am.

Ministry Scheduling

Altar servers, lectors, ushers and EMHCs please look over your calendars for the month of October. Please submit any schedule requests to Astrida no later than **August 31st** by emailing her at astridapunches@gmail.com

Alpha on the Horizon

St. Mary's next Alpha Course, which begins on **Thursday, Sept. 13th**, will take place at 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

Registration is still open for the **September 22nd** "Made for Happiness" Diocesan Assembly at 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.)

Ladies, Deepen Your Relationship with Christ

The women of our Parish are invited to St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt for our annual retreat **September 28th-30th**. The theme for this year's retreat is "From Chaos to Order: A Scriptural Guide to Building a Life Giving Community." Call 517-669-8321 to register. Suggested donation is \$175.

Sanctuary Lamps

are burning this week for:

- 1) Repose of the Soul of
 †Helen Brady
 (Inge and Peter Roncoli)
- 2) †For the martyred priests of
 the Philippines
 (Inge and Peter Roncoli)

Altar Flowers

for the week of
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19TH
 In Remembrance of
 †Gerald Damian
 and our 43rd Anniversary
 (Claudia Damian,
 his loving wife)

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, Aug 5, 2018

Sunday Envelopes\$6,760.00
 Loose Cash & Checks\$128.00
 Welcome Envelopes\$55.00
 Assumption.....\$10.00
 E-Giving.....\$150.00
 Weekly toward budget.....\$7,103.00
 Weekly goal.....\$5,300.00
 Amt. **ABOVE** goal\$1,803.00

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Building and Maintenance .\$.664.00
 Poor Box.....\$58.00
 Votive Candles.....\$84.00

Rummage SALE

Thanks to the Rummage Sale Coordinators and all of their volunteers!!!

Total sales were
\$3,937.91