



# Saint Mary

of the Assumption

Reverend Fr. Bosco Padamattummal, Administrator  
Deacon Dennis Walters

210 West Main Street, Manchester, MI 48158

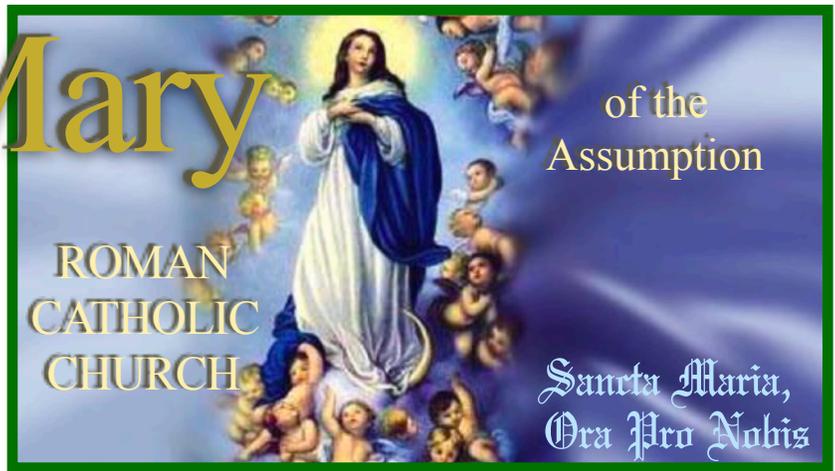
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**WEEKEND MASSES:**

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



## Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 22, 2019

### “Is your Wealth Securing your Eternity?” Fr. Bosco Padamattummal

There are about 40 parables that our Lord has given. One out of three parables has something to do with money, including today’s Gospel. The man who is supposed to be the hero in this Gospel story is a really bad man but Jesus has a message from this man’s evil behavior for the sons and daughters of the light.

Jesus began this parable saying, “There was a rich man who had a manager who was reported to him as squandering his possessions.” It’s a simple story, but what bothers some people is Jesus commends the bad guy. Listen to His closing: “And his master praised the unrighteous manager because he had acted shrewdly.” Then in verse 9 Jesus says, “And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of the wealth of unrighteousness.” Is Jesus saying, “Follow the behavior of a wasteful, prodigal, deceitful, selfish, cunning, unprincipled person?”

When the rich man hears about his manager’s mismanagement he acts immediately, “Give an accounting of your management for you can no longer be manager.” In other words, “You’re fired. I want you to go back and I want you to account for what you’ve done.” The steward doesn’t defend himself. He knows he’s not going to save his job. He is losing his home, because in ancient times they lived on the estate where they served. He’s losing his income, and he’s losing his reputation because now everybody is going to know that he was incompetent. So in verse 3, he says to himself, “What shall I do? I’ve got to have a place to live. I’ve got to have an income. What am I going to do to secure my future. So, I have a plan. I’m going to contact all the people who owe my master debts, and I’m going to discount all their debts so that they will be obligated to me.” The discount is huge. The man who is getting the 50

percent discount doesn’t want to ask questions. Why? Because this is a deal he never could have hoped for. So in verse 8, Jesus puts a shock element to this story, “His master praised the unrighteous manager.” He’s not praising him about his incompetence, his prodigality. He’s praising him because he acted shrewdly.



25<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
IN ORDINARY TIME

“If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth?” - Lk 16:11

Jesus’ comment on this is pretty amazing. Verse 8, “The sons of this age are more shrewd in relation to their own kind than the sons of light.” The manager took careful advantage of an opportunity. He worked the situation to secure his future; benefit his future comfort. Pretty impressive plan, pretty well-designed. By reducing the debts, he indebted everybody to him. He had done them immense good. They are now obligated to him for his great generosity. There are many of them who are obligated. They are all concerned about their own honor. These debtors are crooks. They don’t ask many questions, but when they’re told something is going to be

lucrative, they can’t sign fast enough. They get sucked in to take what they’ve got and multiply it to secure their future.

Jesus is telling us that if the perverted, wicked sons of this age use every imaginable approach to secure their temporal future, shouldn’t you be careful how you act in regard to your eternal future? That’s the point, use your money, your possessions, your wealth to secure your eternity. The wealth has in itself no virtue, no righteousness, but can purchase friends with it who will receive you into the eternal dwelling. Buy friends for heaven who will be standing at the gate welcoming you when you arrive. In a most amazing and

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## PARISH CALENDAR

### Mass Intentions, [Requested By], Parish Activities

<b>SAT., SEPT 21</b>	<b>St. Matthew</b>
Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13 (643) Pss Prop	3:00 pm Youth Group CIA Mission Lock-In - PC 3:30-4:30 pm Confession <b>5:00 pm Vigil Mass: †Rita Townsend</b> [John and Beth Ball]
<b>SUN., SEPT 22</b>	<b>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
Am 8:4-7/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13 (135) Pss I	8:00-8:15 am Confession <b>8:30 am Mass: †Eileen Green</b> [John and Tina Doyle and Family] 9:30-10:30 am Religious Education - FFH 10:00-10:15 am Confession <b>10:30 am Mass: For the People</b>
<b>MON., SEPT 23</b>	<b>St. Pius of Pietrelcina</b>
Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18 (449)	<b>12:10 pm Mass: † Nicholas Hnizdor, an Anniversary Remembrance</b> [Daughter, Donna Hnizdor] 7:00 pm Evangelization Team Meeting - FFH
<b>TUES., SEPT 24</b>	<b>Weekday</b>
Ezr 6:7-8, 12b,14-20/Lk 8:19-21 (450)	<b>8:30 am Mass: †Camilla Kidd</b> [Alice Kidd]
<b>WED., SEPT 25</b>	<b>Weekday</b>
Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6 (451)	<b>8:30 am Mass: †Blake Eshenroder</b> [Janet and Bill Shurtliff]
<b>THURS., SEPT 26</b>	<b>Weekday/Sts. Cosmas and Damian</b>
Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9 (452)	<b>8:30 am Mass: †Rita Townsend</b> [Duane and Darlene Kuebler]
<b>FRI., SEPT 27</b>	<b>St. Vincent de Paul</b>
Hg 2:1-89Lk 9:18-22 (453)	<b>8:30 am Mass: INT: Improved Health for the parents of Dr. Jeff Rogerson</b> [Donna Hnizdor]
<b>SAT., SEPT 28</b>	<b>Weekday/Sts. Wenceslaus, Lawrence Ruiz and Companions</b>
Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45 (454)	3:30-4:30 pm Confession <b>5:00 pm Vigil Mass: †JoAnn Fletcher</b> [Pete and Inge Roncoli]
<b>SUN., SEPT 29</b>	<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
Am 6:1a,4-7/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31 (138) Pss II	8:00-8:15 am Confession <b>8:30 am Mass: †Michael Scully</b> [Marjorie Scully and Family] 9:30-10:30 am Religious Education - FFH 10:00-10:15 am Confession <b>10:30 am Mass: For the People</b>

### Need Help?

<b>Alternatives to Abortion:</b> Right to Life MI Hotline 800-57WOMAN or visit <a href="http://www.optionline.org">www.optionline.org</a>	<b>"AA"</b> group meets Fridays and Sundays at 7:00 pm - Emmanuel Church Kitchen.
<b>"Courage"</b> is a Catholic (endorsed by Diocese) spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction.	<b>"Encourage"</b> is a separate support group for the families and friends of 'Courage' clients. Call 517-342-2596
<b>"Project Rachel"</b> (post-abortive reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line:517-993-0291 or email <a href="mailto:nlc@resurrectionlansing.org">nlc@resurrectionlansing.org</a>	For more news and events in the area, please visit our website: <a href="http://stmarymanchester.org">stmarymanchester.org</a>

Fr. Bosco's article continued from page 1

gracious and merciful manner, the Lord says, "You can take that wealth that isn't going with you and while you're here, you can make friends that will welcome you into heaven." How do you do that? Everybody will have different ways to do that. But one thing is pretty sure, life is pretty short for me and for you. Endless personal accumulation is meaningless. Life is short and you don't know how short. But Eternity is eternity! It is a very, very long time. So on the final day when my life ends and I'm separated from everything I have, I'm going to find out who is standing on the edge of heaven welcoming me as a friend. What a gift of a parable that the Lord has given us.

It's not about how much we have. It's about who you are. It's about what your priorities are. It's about whether heaven is where your heart is. It is obvious that faithful people are faithful people whether they have little or much; and unfaithful people are unfaithful whether they have little or much. If you are a faithful person, you are concerned about the advance of the kingdom and you are committed to making friends for eternity. You may say, "Well, I've been hoping to win the lottery." But if you did win the lottery, the lottery won't change your heart. Only God can change your heart. If your heart is not towards heaven, then the lottery is going to conflict you even more. The amount you possess is not the issue. Your character is the issue. Your commitment is the issue. Your love for heaven is the issue. Or you say, "Wait a minute, what I have is mine. I earned it. I worked hard for it. The Bible says you cannot serve God and wealth at the same time; Jesus says, you're going to hate one and love the other, or you're going to be devoted to one and despise the other. Dear brothers and sisters, the possession of wealth should be a means God has employed for you and for me to secure eternal reward and heavenly friends. ❖

### Area News

**You were Made for More** featuring Christopher West at St. Patricks in Brighton **September 25th** at 7:00 pm. Seating will be limited, so get your tickets soon by visiting <https://bit.ly/2HoHkGI>

**Ignite and Equip** Pro-life Conference in Lansing **September 28th**. Register: <https://bit.ly/2kDAogW>

**Fall Garden Day** at St. Louis Center. Join us for refreshments and to help prepare beds for winter. **Sunday, September 29th** 2:00-4:00 pm.

**Life Chain** Be a public witness for the unborn **Sunday, October 6th** 2:30-3:30 pm. We will stand on the north side of Michigan Ave Between First Presbyterian Church and S. West Ave. in Jackson.

**Annual Christmas Bazaar** will be held on **Saturday, December 7th** 10:00 am-4:00 pm at St. Mary Catholic Church, 10601 Dexter Pinckney Rd. in Pinckney MI. Looking for Crafters and Vendors. Cost for an eight foot table space is \$ 45.00. For information, contact Mary 734-878-6563.



*St. Mary  
Roman Catholic  
Church  
Stewardship*

**WEEKLY COLLECTIONS  
Sunday, September 8, 2019**

Sunday Envelopes .....\$3,990.00  
Loose Cash & Checks .....\$49.00  
Welcome Envelopes .....\$33.00  
Coffee Hour .....\$79.00  
E-Giving .....\$120.04

Weekly toward budget .....\$4,192.04  
Weekly goal .....\$5,300.00  
Amt. **BELOW** goal .....\$1,107.96

**OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:**  
Buildings and Maintenance...\$839.00  
Poor Box .....\$37.60  
Votive Candles .....\$54.00

*Parish Family  
Birthdays*

Sept 21.....Shaun Bonkowski  
Sept 21.....Patrick Flaherty  
Sept 26.....Mike Bossory  
Sept 27.....Laurie Sanders  
Sept 28.....David Bonkowski

*Altar Flowers*

For the week of **September 22nd**  
In Honor of the marriage of our  
Children, Katie & Tyler Gouwens  
sponsored by

*Tim & Kim Gouwens and  
Frank & Cindy Remski*

*Sanctuary Lamps*

are burning this week for:

1. Congratulations to  
Katie and Tyler Gouwens  
on their Marriage!  
(Jim and Marja Warner)

September 25 - November 3  
**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**



The 40 Days for Life story was made into a major motion picture: UNPLANNED. Join the effort! Make your appointment with God today at 40daysforlife.com/annarbor.

PRAYER VIGIL TO END ABORTION  
WED. SEPTEMBER 25 - SUN. NOVEMBER 3  
7 AM - 7 PM OUTSIDE PLANNED PARENTHOOD

The Planned Parenthood abortion center is located at  
3100 Professional Drive, Ann Arbor. Parking is on the street.

Sign up for your vigil hour 1 time or weekly:  
40daysforlife.com/annarbor

*Parish News*

**Pro-Life Petition**

The Knights of Columbus will be outside the church after Masses **September 21st-22nd** seeking signatures for the petition to ban dismemberment abortions in Michigan. The Governor has promised to veto any such bill that comes across her desk. A minimum of 400,000 signatures is needed to override a veto.

**Security Help Needed**

Fr. Bosco would like anyone with expertise in installing security cameras to contact him about setting up a new surveillance system at our Parish Center in the near future. Please call the Parish Office at 734-428-8811 if you can offer any help or advice with this important project.

**Month of the Rosary**

October is approaching and once again the Rosary will be said 30 minutes before each of the weekend Masses. Would you be willing to lead the recitation of the rosary at any of the Masses? If so, please call Marja Warner at 428-9506.

**Christmas Decorations**

The Christmas Holiday Decorating Committee is planning another way to remember loved ones. Parishioners will still be able to purchase memorial poinsettias as in past years and, as always, take the plants home after Christmas. In addition, this year you may purchase a gold Christmas tree-bulb from Bronner's. The 4-inch bulb can be printed with the names of your loved ones. We can have up to 14 letters, printed in 1, 2 or 3 lines. The cost of each bulb will be about \$13.75. Unlike the poinsettias that you take home, the monogrammed bulbs will be carefully stored and reused every year.

We still want to fill the altar with poinsettias, but the tree ornaments will be an alternative. We will need to place our order by mid-October to receive the bulbs before Christmas. Order forms will be in the vestibule and can be turned in with the Sunday collection. Checks should be made to St. Mary's.

**Help Restore Hope**

The Diocese of Lansing Catholic Women's Conference will be held on **Saturday, October 12th**. Visit <https://bit.ly/2lMYvtr> for giveaways. Or visit [LansingDiocesecwc.org](http://LansingDiocesecwc.org) for more information. Sponsorships are available, contact Becky Loveland for more info 313-330-5617.

**Prepare Your Heart**

Join fellow parishioners on a bus trip to enjoy *Glory of Christmas, A Christmas Extravaganza* at Northridge Church **Saturday, December 14th** at 1:00pm. Tickets for the show are \$22, cost for the bus will be determined by the amount of passengers. Please contact the Parish Office to sign-up.

**DSA Goal Met**

Thank you to everyone who made a contribution to these year's Diocesan Services Appeal. We exceeded our goal! Thank you all for your generosity.

**Masses and Memorials**

If you would like to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Flowers or request a Mass for an intention or memorial, openings are available. Call the Parish Office at 734-428-8811.

**Adorn your Yard**

Consider adding a simple white cross to your landscaping in order to give glory to God and witness to the resurrection. The Knights of Columbus made it easy by constructing simple white crosses just the right size. You can purchase one for \$5 at The Flower Garden.

**Please Pray for:**

- |                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Matt Beals                       | Tom Kladzyk         |
| Duane Beuerle                    | Wilma Lentz         |
| Burkina-Faso (ongoing terrorism) | Larry McGee         |
| Dana                             | Babette Medlock     |
| Maxine Delaschmit                | Patrick Muldoon     |
| Walt Faubion                     | Ron Panches         |
| Ray Gavin                        | Paula Saft          |
| Mike Gibbons                     | Thomas Strong       |
| Amanda Huber                     | Bruce Sommers       |
|                                  | Eddie and Judy Walz |
|                                  | Sharon Warren       |



An investment in your **marriage** is an investment in your **children.**



Refresh your faith and invest in your family, Sept 27-29 in Farmington Hills, or Nov 15-17 at Weber Center in Adrian. Contact Chris & Darla Vinton at 269-953-8287 for more info.